



# TOGETHER, WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL



Big Brothers Big Sisters of East Central Ohio began allowing Community-Based Matches to have in-person meetings on June 1, 2020 following Governor DeWine lifting the Stay at Home Order. This decision was made after consulting with our local public health departments for guidance on how to keep our Littles, their families, and our Bigs safe. Agency leadership has continued to consult with public health officials to ensure the safety of all participants. At this time, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- **In-person meetings are not required. Matches may still meet virtually.**
- **The parent/guardian, Little and Big all need to be comfortable meeting in-person.**
- **Bigs should keep a log of when and where outings take place as well as who was present.**
- **We ask that all participants conduct a temperature check prior to each match outing. If your temperature is 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, the match is not permitted to proceed with the scheduled outing.**
- **If the Big, Little or any family member is ill, you are not permitted to meet.**
- **A Big and Little are permitted to ride in the same vehicle together.**
  - **The Little must be seated in the backseat on the opposite side of the vehicle.**
  - **Masks are to be worn in the vehicle at all times.**
  - **If weather permits, open the windows in the vehicle.**
- **Safety measures include that all match activities must follow social distancing recommendations:**
  - **Activities take place outside (weather permitting)**
  - **Refrain from physical contact (no hugging, high fives, etc.)**
  - **Wash your hands frequently**
  - **Use hand sanitizer if you are unable to wash your hands**
  - **Avoid touching your face**
  - **Wear a mask if possible**
  - **Stay 6 feet apart**
- **If Bigs and Littles met in-person and develop any concerning symptoms, or a member of their household does, please report this to your Mentoring Specialist, as soon as possible.**

Thank you so much for continuing to be a vital part of Big Brothers Big Sisters. We know that these uncertain times are causing extra stress. Please know that I, along with our entire team, are here for you and for your match. We've been here for 47 years and will still be here on the other side of this pandemic. In the meantime, we'll get through it together. Please also know if another Stay at Home Order is put in place, matches should stop meeting in-person and resume virtual outings. We will continue to consult with local public health officials to provide matches with updated guidelines and precautions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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