



May 13, 2021

Honorable Mayor and
Esteemed Members of the City Council
City of Warrensburg, Missouri

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Social distancing has not slowed down Big Brothers Big Sisters' commitment to keeping their mentoring matches connected - socially and emotionally. On top of social isolation, many of the youth BBBS serve face societal barriers and opportunity gaps including poverty and discrimination. Facing these barriers together with their Bigs builds confidence and resilience, which I know you will agree benefits everyone in our community. We look forward to continued collaborations with other services that share our same passion for our youth.

2020 was a challenge for many of us however I am pleased to share that our number of matches increased and our retention rate during the pandemic was 100%. Our new Career Planning Program kicked off in November of 2020, I am confident that the effects will be long lasting. In addition, our 8th grade and beyond program is set to kick off this summer providing individualized academic and career development opportunities specifically designed for children in 8th grade and above. We enjoy partnering with the Warrensburg School District, Warrensburg Main Street, Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce and the Warrensburg Convention and Tourism Bureau and appreciate our collaboration with Johnson County United Way.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is beyond appreciative of the support by the City of Warrensburg financially and for our office location at Shepard Park. We are proud to call the Barnett House home to Big Brothers Big Sisters and know that our location serves the community very well. On behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Johnson County, I would like to request continued support from the City of Warrensburg in the amount equal to financial support quarterly of \$2000.00. The support made up of \$1800.00 for mentoring program support and \$200.00 reimbursement for funds spent on upkeep and services to the Barnett House. Please let me know if I can provide additional information. Thank you for your consideration of this matter and for severing our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dana'.

Dana Phelps
Executive Director, BBBS of Johnson County