



Media Contact:
Brenda Frachiseur, Executive Director
530.626.1222
Brenda@bbbsns.org

Media Alert

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Sierra (BBBSNS) Announce Big Brother and Big Sister of the Year

Cameron Park, CA-- Congratulations to Big Brother Phil and Big Sister Michelle who have been named the 2020 "Bigs" of the Year by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Sierra (BBBS-NS).

"The selflessness in the time and commitment these two outstanding volunteers have shown throughout their service to BBBS is something to admire and aspire to", said BBBS-NS Executive Director Brenda Frachiseur. "Our Bigs are at the heart of what we do, and Phil and Michelle embody the spirit of our mission to create and support one to one relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth."

Big Brother Phil, matched with his Little Brother Karson for nearly 4 years, has developed an impactful bond. The two enjoy spending their time together working on projects, building and learning new things, going on adventures, kayaking and playing virtual reality video games. Karson looks forward to spending time with Phil each week and often saves things he wants to do until they are together. Phil has guided and supported Karson with his peer interactions at school and has contributed to Karson's overall growth and development as he transitions from childhood to his teen years.

"As Karson grows and develops, Phil has been able to help and guide Karson to learn and grow by teaching him about respect, how to work outside and do chores and offer good advice for situations only "boys" can truly relate to," said Karson's Mother Sherry. "I am grateful that I reached out to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Sierra and fortunate for Phil overall. He has been a great role model and support system for Karson. A true friend and one whom we both have grown fond of. Phil feels like an extension of our family."

Big Sister Michelle has been matched with her Little Sister Lizbeth since 2010, when Lizbeth was six years old. Lizbeth was quiet, shy and already struggling in school. Lizbeth and Michelle focused on Lizbeth's schoolwork, going to the library nearly every week. Michelle and Lizbeth soon realized they wanted and needed to see each other outside of the school environment. They have shared lots of fun—movies, picnics, sleepovers, birthday celebrations, even trips to the ocean and Disneyland. Lizbeth experienced many changes in her life including several sibling additions and moves. Michelle was there every step of the way to support and advocate for Lizbeth and her

family. Today, Lizbeth's goal is to become an FBI agent. She is now empowered to speak up and say what's on her mind.

"Lizbeth is funny, kind and probably one of the most selfless children I have ever met, said Big Sister Michelle. "I think, through BBBS and our match, we both have found our way."

"Lizbeth and Michelle have intertwined their families", said Franchiseur. "It is no longer just a 'relationship to help with school', it is a relationship for life."

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Sierra's waitlist is continuing to grow with children in need of volunteers. Currently, there are 48 kids waiting to be matched. If you know of anyone that would be a good Big, encourage them to check out our website or have them call our Enrollment Manager, Chelsea, for more information: 530- 556-5015. BBBS-NS has served the youth of El Dorado and Nevada Counties since 1977.

#Defenders of Potential