January is National Mentoring Month

In 2002, National Mentoring Month was created to raise awareness and increase the number of mentors to promote a positive outcome for the young people in our communities.

Our Big Brothers Big Sisters (BB/BS) program provides mentors for boys and girls living in the Greater New Bedford Area. “National Mentoring Month is important to Big Brothers Big Sisters because it helps to promote the need for mentors, not only nationally but for local programs such as ours,” said Deanna Bodeau, program coordinator for Big Brothers Big Sisters. “Our program currently has 68 boys and 22 girls seeking mentors, so raising awareness is a great way to start the new year.”

“I have come to realize that there are very few things in life as rewarding as helping a young person grow into the potential which they deserve and this program has become, in a way, a life changer for me also,” stated Jack, a mentor at our Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Mentors come from all types of backgrounds. There is one common bond they share and that is the willingness to make a positive difference in a child’s life.

For more information on becoming a mentor please contact Deanna Bodeau at 508-990-0894.

Tabor Academy Students Lend A Helping Hand

On December 3rd, students from Tabor Academy dropped by the Holiday Hope Project site to do some cleaning and preparations for the coming week. The site which houses the week-long project where gifts are dropped off by sponsors and picked up by families needed some TLC. Luckily for CFS, Ms. Lauren Boucher, Director of Community Service at Tabor Academy, had a team of girls ready to do the job.

Many thanks to Molly Little, Julia Pardo, Maddy LaCasse, Lily Coleman and Hannah Strom for their hard work!
Giving Hope for the Holidays

Child & Family Services wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the 365 Days of Hope Gala and Holiday Hope Project. Once again, the great people of this community came together to help children and families have a brighter holiday season. Whether you purchased a ticket, sponsored our event, bought a gift for a child, shopped for an entire family, or volunteered your time, YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE! We are truly grateful for your kindness and support and wish you a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!

Sponsors
Leader
Patrick & Lillian Carney

Underwriters
Paul & Donna Downey
Macy’s
Rockland Trust

Benefactors
BankFive
BayCost Bank
Dick Mellon Youth Foundation

Friends
Anthony F. Cordeiro Insurance Agency
Clean Uniforms and More!

Restaurants Providing Food
Cobblestone Restaurant
Fay’s Restaurant
Frontera Grill
Hawthorne Country Club
Morton’s Fork Catering
Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub
Not Your Average Joe’s
Panera Bread
The Edge Restaurant
Tia Maria European Cafe
Waterfront Grille
Wok Magic

Gala Committee
Nick Petronelli | Chair
Anne Arsenault | Co-Chair
Julie Lariviere
Fatima Simas
Lenore Tavares

Holiday Hope Project Committee
Fatima Simas | Chair
Nona Shordone | Co-Chair
Karen Almeida
Maureen Harrington

The following groups, along with many individuals and local families, contributed to helping children and families this holiday season:
All Saints Catholic School
Alphographics
Anthony F. Cordeiro Insurance Agency
Babbitt Steam
BankFive
Cardi’s Furniture Customer Service
Charlton Memorial Hospital
Congregational Church S. Dartmouth
Daniel & Jennifer Schlitzer
Dartmouth High School
Dartmouth Total Fitness
East Fairhaven Elementary School
First Bristol Corporation
First Citizens’ Federal Credit Union
Friends Academy
Gail & Roger Dahlberg
Glaser Glass
Hadley Insurit Group
Hawthorn Medical Associates
Helene Kelly
Highland Pediatrics, PC
Holy Name Church
Horizon Marine, Inc.
Jack Conway Realtor
Joseph DeMello Elementary School
Ken & Sue Gormley
Kerrin & Ernest Thompson
Linda Goncalves
Lockheed Martin
Lorraine & Louis Travers
Lyles & Nancy Bourgault
Massachusetts State Police (Dartmouth D-3)
Mattapoisett Laundromat
Michael & Susan Kramer
Nancy Braitsmayer
New Bedford Yacht Club
Panera Bread (Dartmouth)
Prince Henry Society
RA Mitchell Co., Inc.
Smithers Viscient
Tabor Academy
The Yoga Studio (Mattapoisett)
Transit Services, Inc. (Yellow Cab)
Truchti’s Supermarket (New Bedford)
Unitarian Memorial Church (Fairhaven)

MANY THANKS TO:
Douglas Wine & Spirits,
Hawthorne Country Club,
and Nellie’s Phototentainment.
Thank you to all the restaurants and businesses that provided gift certificates and silent auction items for the Gala.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT: WWW.CHILD-FAMILYSERVICES.ORG
Adoption Program Takes Home MARE Awards

On November 4th, Child & Family’s adoption staff from Fall River and Lawrence attended the 17th annual MARE (Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange) awards held in Worcester. Established in 1998, this event recognizes the exceptional work done by agencies and individual social workers to accomplish our common goal of finding permanent families for waiting children.

This year, we were recipients of the following awards:

- Outstanding MARE Adoption Party Attendance: Lawrence office
- Outstanding use of MARE Media Campaigns: Fall River office
- Outstanding Number of MARE-Assisted Placements: Lawrence office and an individual award to Jacelyn Gauron from the Lawrence office

We were also the recipient of the ultimate award:

• Outstanding Agency Collaboration with MARE: Fall River office

Congratulations!

The Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) was founded in 1957 to find a “permanent place to call home” for children and teens in foster care in Massachusetts. MARE is able to do this by recruiting, educating, supporting and advocating for families through the adoption process.

Hometown Heroes

The Greater New Bedford Community
for their continued support and generosity

The Carney Family
for providing much needed space for the Holiday Hope Project

Mattapoisett Laundromat and Trucchi’s Supermarket New Bedford
for donating warm winter coats, gloves, hats, and scarves

Tabor Academy
for sponsoring 33 FAMILIES for Holiday Hope

BJ’s Wholesale Club, Hawthorne Medical Associates, Healthtrax, Holy Name Church, Prince Henry Society, and the Massachusetts State Police D-3 along with Ret. Lt. Jose C. Gonsalves
for holding toy drives to benefit the children of our Holiday Hope Project

Get Social.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE AT: WWW.CHILD-FAMILYSERVICES.ORG
Lanes are filling up fast. Register Now!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Child & Family Services presents its 11th Annual Bowl For Kids’ Sake!

This is a great event for family, friends, and coworkers to get together for a fun afternoon of bowling to benefit the children in our Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Not a bowler?
Pledge someone who is, or be a Lane Sponsor. There are many ways you can show your support!

Learn how you can get involved. Contact Deanna at: (508) 990-0894 dbodeau@cfservices.org