

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Virginia Peninsula Planning 'Amazing Little Race'

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Virginia Peninsula is spreading its message of mentorship across Hampton Roads in a new signature event on Sept. 17.

"The Amazing Little Race" will challenge matches of "Bigs" and their "Littles" to complete a daylong race inspired by CBS's Emmy Award-winning reality contest, "The Amazing Race." Thirty teams will travel to five locations, from the Peninsula to South Side, completing challenges at each spot.

The event will begin at 8 a.m. at Great Wolf Lodge, where teams will compete in interactive activities, such as MagiQuest and arcade games. Next, they'll board a charter bus sponsored by Oleta Coach Lines and travel to the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport, followed by "pit stops" at the Virginia Air and Space Center, sponsored by NASA Langley, the Norfolk Zoo and the Hampton Teen Center. Each challenge is designed to encourage critical thinking, decision-making and cooperation, while strengthening the bond between Bigs and Littles.

The bus will be accompanied by the police forces of several localities on its journey through Hampton Roads. The James City County Police, Newport News Police, Newport News Sheriff's Department, Hampton Sheriff's Department, Norfolk Sheriff's Department and Virginia State Troopers have agreed to participate in a symbolic "hand-off" as the bus enters each locality.

The event will conclude at approximately 5:30 p.m. with a celebration featuring live entertainment at the Hampton Teen Center. Between 5 and 7 p.m., potential mentors can sign up to make a difference in the lives of children throughout Hampton Roads.

Food for the teams will be provided by Chic-fil-A of Mooretown Road, NASA Langley and Olive Garden, with support from the Hampton Fire Department.

BBBSGW Chief Executive Officer Elizabeth Chisolm said the event couldn't be possible without the generosity of the event's sponsors, community leaders and volunteers. "It has been a Herculean effort to coordinate the event, but what has been most amazing is that we haven't had to pay a cent to create a wonderful experience for our Bigs and Littles," she said.

For more information about The Amazing Little Race, visit <http://bigs4kids.org/>, "like" us on Facebook here <https://www.facebook.com/bigs4kids>, follow our tweets here <http://twitter.com/#!/AmzngLittleRace> or call (757) 253-0676.

Media members are invited to attend any leg of the race. Participant Anthony Dodson is available for interviews to discuss his experiences as a Big Brother to his Little Brother of two years, Trey Reese. He can be reached at (757) 303-8894 or at anthony1427@verizon.net. For press inquiries, contact Amber Kennedy at amazinglittlerace@bbbsgw.org or 757-565-1079, ext. 108.