

Share a
little magic



Big Brothers Big Sisters
Edmonton & Area



Relate

Winter 2007

Seasons Greetings!

We hope you can join us at our
annual Kids' Christmas Party!

When: Saturday December 8th
Time: 1pm to 4pm
Where: William Griesbach Training Facility
14310-109 Street Edmonton



It's a fun afternoon for the whole family! Come eat, play games, do arts and crafts, choose a gift for someone special, take a sleigh ride, have photos taken AND we can't forget presents from Santa!!!

Sign up for free bus service to and from the party. Buses will transport guests from West Edmonton Mall, South Heritage Mall and Mill Woods Town Centre. Space is limited, so sign up early!

To join in on all the fun please RSVP to 424-8181 Ext. 221 before November 30th. Look forward to seeing you there!



HEROS – they shoot, they score!!

Have you heard about HEROS? It's a hockey program where 32 students from three North East Edmonton Schools who might not have the opportunity to play the game get to play on a weekly basis! The program launch took place on October 17 at United Cycle on Calgary Trail where the children were outfitted in their brand new equipment, then it was off to the Russ Barnes Arena where they took to the ice for the first time as a team. HEROS is a national partnership with Telus, and locally with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton & Area and Edmonton Public Schools. Way to go HEROS!



Letter from Liz

A time to connect with loved ones

This year has certainly flown by. It seems like just yesterday that I was eagerly anticipating spring blossoms, and today they are talking about a pending snowfall.

And what a busy year it has been for our agency. While we are in the midst of a comprehensive strategic planning session to guide our agency in the years to come, we are also working hard to meet the goals we had established for 2007. As I write this letter in early November, it looks like we'll make our goal of serving 2,600 children, or certainly come very close. And while that is a very large number of children to serve with mentoring relationships, our focus is always on the individuals who make up each match. Whether you are a mentor in our Big Brother Big Sister program, the parent of a child matched in our In-School Mentoring program or one of our Youth in Care kids, we want to do our very best to ensure that your match is a success.

It's nearly time for our Christmas Party, and I know everyone is looking forward to a great event. For those of us, including

our Board, our staff and myself, it provides such a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with our volunteers, kids, families and funders. And a visit from St. Nick is a highlight for us too!

At this very special time of year, I hope each of you will have the chance to share time with those who are dear to you. It is our family and friends who enrich our lives and the holidays often provide us with some extra time to connect with them.. through sharing a small gift, a special meal or simply a short visit over a cup of coffee or tea.

From everyone at Big Brothers Big Sisters, our best wishes to you for the holidays and the New Year.

Sincerely,

Liz O'Neill
Executive Director



Welcome home climbers!



The Climb for Kids team at Big Brothers Big Sisters House with their certificates of appreciation.

On Friday September 21, our 2007 **Climb for Kids** climbers gathered for a small thank you event at Big Brothers Big Sisters House in Riverdale where they were presented with certificates of appreciation. Many of the climbers worked hard raising funds toward their trip up Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and for that we say thank you!

As Climb for Kids 2007 winds down, 2008's plan is taking off and it sounds like some of last years climbers will be on board for 2008's trip! This year, our climbers will summit Mount Elbrus – the highest point in Europe! All of Elbrus is in Russia with the Western summit standing 5642.7 meters. There are more than 50 glaciers on the mountain AND our climbers have the option to ski down the mountain – in July! Oh what fun! Stay tuned for more information and events.

Mentors & Moments

It's

a girl for our very own caseworker

Marieke and husband Scott.

Alexandra was born Wednesday, September 12th weighing in at 8 lbs, 12 ozs and was 21 inches long. Congratulations Marieke and Scott on the wonderful new addition to your family!

Congratulations go out to Big Sister **Andrea** who was recently engaged. Little Sister **Megan H.** is super excited about the 2009 wedding – in Jamaica!

Congratulations to Little Brother **Carlos** who won two movie passes for best dressed at the B-L-T Youth Leadership Group Halloween Party on October 15.



Meaghen and Sierra



Erin and Cecilia

BIG thank yous to Big Sister **Meaghen**, Little Sister **Sierra**, Big Sister **Erin** and Little Sister **Cecilia** for being our

featured Matches in the Edmonton Journal Special Occasions.

Everyone at BIGS would like to welcome **Gail Wallace** back to our office. Last December Gail and her husband Randy welcomed their first child, Savanna to their lives. Gail returns to us in the same position but will now be working out of our Riverdale Office. Congratulations again and welcome back!

Congratulations to In-School Mentor **Leanne L.** who was the lucky winner of two \$100 gift certificates from Ticketmaster! During the summer we held a contest for new Alumni and Leanne was our big winner! Keep your eyes open for future contests! And thanks to everyone who has already signed up for Alumni!

Child & Parent Personal Safety

All parents, children and youth registered to be matched in our Big Brothers/Big Sisters or TEAM (group) programs need to attend one of the following workshops before they can be matched. Please call 424-8181 Ext. 345 to register for one of the following dates:

Saturday November 24

Saturday January 19

Saturday February 23

Child & Parent Safety Sessions

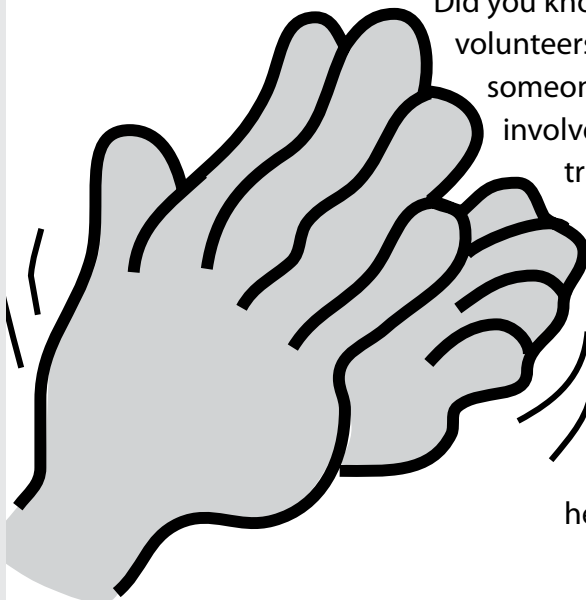
are from 11 am to 1 pm and are held at

Big Brothers Big Sisters House, 10135 – 89 Street in Edmonton.

Please note there is no session in December.

We're successful because of YOU

Did you know that 25% of our new volunteers contact us because someone they know is already involved with our agency? It's true! When we ask people why they contacted us, many of them say it's due to a friend, family member or co-worker. Others say they heard about us at their school or workplace. Thanks to all of you who help us help more kids!



A 'Big' Thank You!

We would like to extend a great BIG thank you to **Julie Bussiere** and the **BMO Employee Charitable Foundation** for their generous donation of \$1000.



BMO employees and BIGS caseworkers at the 2008 campaign kick-off.

Big Brother **Todd**, Little Brother **Julian** and BIGS caseworkers **Kari** and **Janice** were on hand for the 2008 Campaign kick-off at Big Brothers Big Sisters House on September 26. The Employee Charitable Foundation allows BMO employees to choose any registered charity in Canada to designate their donation to. Since its inception in 2000, employees have raised over \$50 million for more than 3,300 charities.

Thank you is also in order for **IBM** who graciously donated six brand new computers to our Parkdale, Norwood and Abbott In-School Mentoring Sites. These computers will make a world of difference – allowing our mentors and kids to explore the world online! Thanks so much IBM!

Many thanks to **Pizza Hut** for the generous donation of their delicious pizza for our monthly Youth Leadership Group meetings!

Huge thanks go out to the very caring bankers who participated in the **The United Way's Financial Day of Caring** – a special day held every October. We were thrilled to have employees from the **Bank of Montreal, CIBC, Canadian Western Bank, HSBC, Royal Bank, Scotiabank, and Servus Credit Union** come to **Eastwood** and **Ben Calf Robe Schools**. They got a taste of In-School Mentoring by reading and chatting with students.

Our sincere thanks to **Alberta Sustainable Resource Development** and the **Royal Alberta Museum** for inviting us to host a reading corner at the museum during National Forest Week in September. Thanks to Big Sister **Christine** and Little Brother **Michael**, Big Sister **Jocelyn** and Little Sister **Tahiyya**, and **Pat Semeniuk**, BBBS High School Teen Mentoring Caseworker for hosting our display and reading to children coming through the museum. We're so lucky to have you help us spread the word about mentoring!

Hats off to **Garneau Safeway** as they presented Big Brothers Big Sisters with a "larger than life" sized cheque for \$5,495.80. Thank you for this donation and your continued support of our organization!



Garneau Safeway staff and the 'big cheque'.

Three lucky kids will win a CINEPLEX movie pass worth \$10, good for admission and/or snacks at any Cineplex theatre, any movie, anytime. Colour the picture and send it to us at 10135 – 89 Street, Edmonton, T5H 1P6. Or, pass it on to your caseworker who will get it to us at Big Brothers Big Sisters House.

The colouring contest is open to any matched or wait list child or youth in any of our programs. **Entry deadline is Monday, February 11, 2008.**

Congratulations to entries selected from the last colouring contest:

Age Category 6 – 9: **Shy-Ann P.
Brayden**

Age Category 10 – 13: **Ashley L**

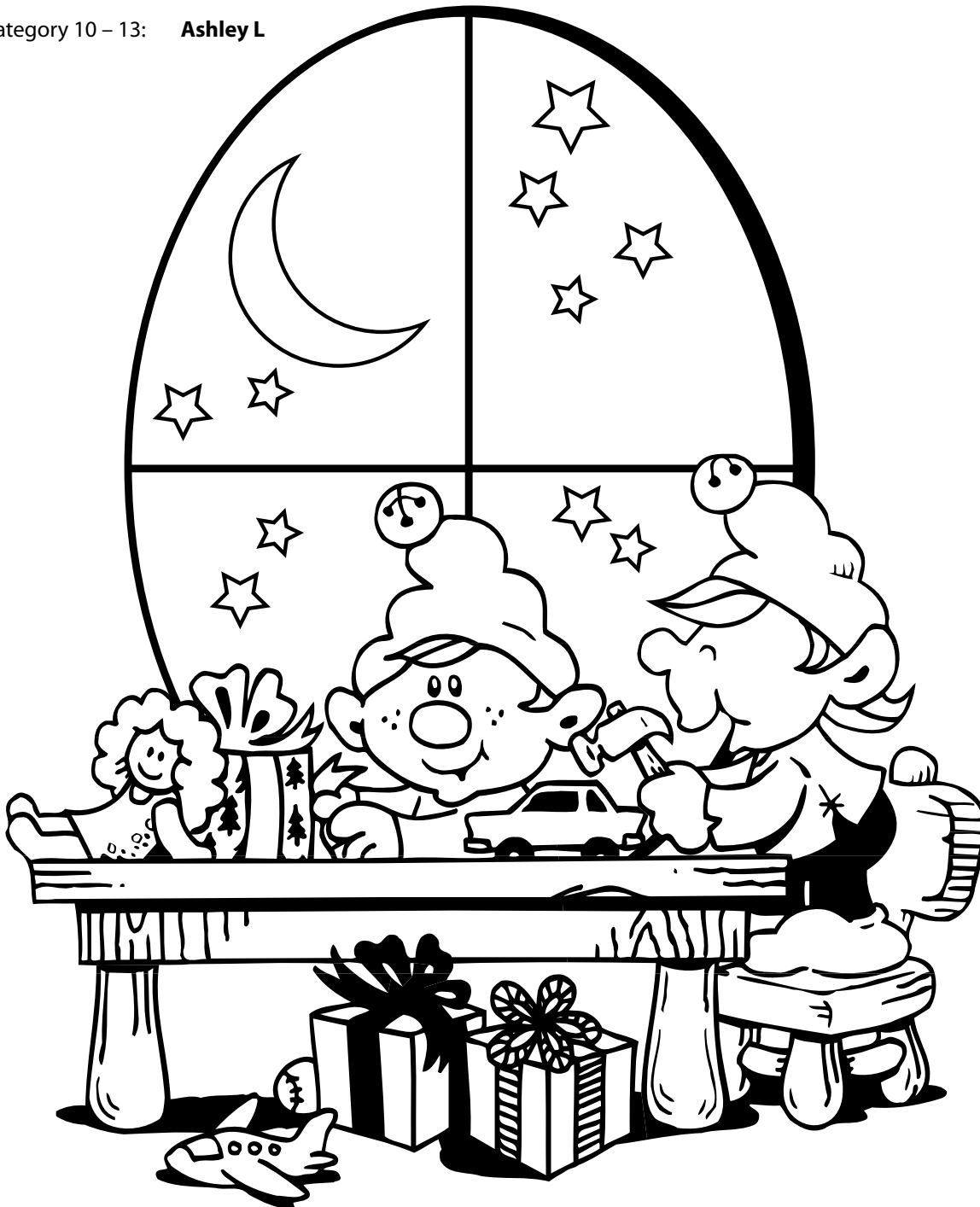
Your Cineplex movie pass is on its way to you! Just a note to all our entries, to make sure that the selection is completely unbiased, the names of the entries are covered when the judges make their choices.

Done by: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Age: _____



Colouring Contest

Anniversaries

December 2007, January, February 2008

Years Matched

Mentee

Jaslyn U
Lacey S
Ashlynn S
Megan P
Wendy H
Will G
Jessica B
Zaki D
Skylar H
Christine M
Kirsten B
Michael B
Sarah L
David T
Derek T
Alicia A
Michael E
Jeffry R
Santiago R
Julia E
Kennedy M
Darcee C
Nikel O
Kathy G
Chance S
Savannah S
Brendan F
Phoenix V
Ted Y
Julian B
Emil T
Brandee B
Tracie S
Joshua R
Simon A
Jaqueline F
Emily V
Savanna F
Zoe J
Brittany U
Rida F
Nathan L
Edan P
Calvin P
Cindy L
Brendon R
Kayla B
Penman M
Benjamin S
Falene L
Fanuel W
Diana S
Adam F
Jordan M
Maggie M
Sebastian A
Amy L
Julian S
Kaitlin B
Lara C
Jizzelle D
Brianna K
Pateana G
Zachary C
Kelton G
Kyle B
Alex W
Kyle K
Cathy P
Jimmie C
Zain S
Kathy N
Galee K
Arly C
Michelle L
Shyla G
Nicole M
Kyle W
Jenna C
Brittany O
Paiton P
Terri J
Derek N
Persephonie F
Taea C
Erynne H
Celina C
Andrew D

Mentor

Wendy C
Leah A
Meredith S
Tanja C
Debra W
Tyler Z
Alice M
Gabriel F
Gabriel F
Lauren B
Melissa M
Jillian C
Christine P
Howard Y
Kay H
Stephanie C
Veronique A
Veronique A
Veronique A
Cheryl A
Mandi R
Nicole T
Chris/Louise R
Joyce Z
Tanis T
Danielle L
Carissa L
Carla K
Caeleigh S
Ruth M
Todd I
Laura J
Randi Lynn R
Melissa W
Pikky A
Lynn D
Jessilyn W
Glenna G
Caylee W
Melissa C
Colleen H
Shannon S
Anne N
Chris F
Kerry B
Shelly B
Shauna B
Erin H
Marcy K
Melinda R
Brittany K
Emma K
Jodanna D
Adam D
Melissa N
Laura M
Michelle L
Becky A
Roslyn M
Elysa F
Gilda M
Lisa Ann R
Helena B
Bena K
Guy K
Kristen B
Kristi B
Aaron M
Brad M
Maxine S
Karen K
Suzanne C
Elaine J
Autumn L
Allison V
Chelsey H
Samantha L
Sara C
Joelle G
Trista A
Daniella S
Samantha V
Dorothee V
Julie A
Saranyam
Natasha B
Magda S
Randy R
Amber D

Eric M
Brandon P
Nathan S
Stephen M
Henry J
Reta K
Ryan P
Emelson B
Miranda S
Kayla S
Robyn B
Rayn S
Paul G
Destiny C
Luanne C
Dylan M
Kayla S
Morgen C
Cheyne P
Nicholas H
Jonathan B
Dustin P
Kirstyn C
Jesse S
Tiera G
Dominick B
Tamika P
Caisy S
Danielle L
Jordan L
Stephanie M
Abdulrashid A
Denon G
Chelsea E
Matthew M
Wing L
Dante L
Brandon P
Marianne B
Tiffany D
Micheal K
Jaylee K
Jillian H
Rita S
Sarah A
Abiar A
Ben R
Emelson B
Jesse P
Diego S
Sabrina R
Hong X
Aylin Z
Kristen S
Jessica T
Hanson B
Jade S
Joe B
Elizabeth M
Grace W
Heather S
Rida F
Guy B
Rylee D
John H
Tyler M
Austin W
Jaylene B
Payton S
Jordan F
Miranda G
Daylan M
Morgan H
Kristin G
Cuong V
Ryan L
Alexi C
Andrew M
Liam G
Irene S
Sean M
Cassandra S
Cassandra J
Kayla K
Emma S
David H
Calvin P
Cordelia C
Lisa V
Parvin S

Vanessa N
Carly and Jit M
Donna B
Chris A
Olga S
Jessica W
Deanna W
Jaimie I
Jaimie I
Stephanie C
Keith T
Breana M
Dianne G
Laura M
Joanne S
Amber J
Tricia D
Ashley D
Brett E
Sukhpal B
Alisha K
Jenelle J
Eric T
Kay H
Donald G
Angella W
Wendy R
Tamara W
Lindsay H
Kristin H
Nathanya S
Jenine F
Sean R
Bailee P
Turkan A
Justine B
Wing L
Travis M
Amanda B
Samantha W
Shannon R
Marc F
Anood K
Jillian H
Corrina W
Sarah M
Dannielle D
Arantza S
Nomin G
Norman S
Kaitlyn G
Michelle L
Bazilia D
Meagan S
Alysha C
Belinda S
Catherine M
Linda A
Linda A
Rayen C
Chaine D
Jessica W
Tianna G
Kris F
Julio H
Ruth S
Tracy H
Chris E
Alana D
Victoria C
Anthony S
Kimberly D
Cyle S
Anthony S
Omid A
Noah K
Kevin S
Eric N
Etienne H
Shania M
Dylan R
Zane C
Sheena H
Elysee G
Arielle B
Laura P
Karla E
Lenard S
Chelsea L
Ashley L
Ashley L
Maggie K
Jessie B
Tara S
Lisa V
Shreen I

Jussara J
Timothy H
Kyle C
Shadha A
Samantha M
Leahia P
Rabeka P
Brandin S
Sara H
Calen L
Amiran A
Coby H
John A
Avhijot B
Hassan I
Rania G
Megan T
Sheldon K
Cheyenne D

Lisa V
Marlaina P
Nidaa J
Alyssa S
Sara I
Shonna B
Kristen S
Derrick & Cheryl O
Jia Jia Y
Amy S
Safaa N
Alexander P
Pam G
Gibreal S
Anum T
Denise T
Joyce L
Jennifer W
Olivia W

Maria M
Bryce G
Kyla T
Andrew V
Nessa C
Jorja B
Daniel M
Sara K
Jacob B
Keiran T
Tristan J
Kendra W
Kylie S
Celine S
Kyra R
Jeremy C
Kara Lynn V
Alaina B
John Hunter R
Sarah W
Sierra S
Trent W
Terrell T
Jasmine L
Sheena H
Jessica N
Nathan N
Jeweria F
Vince F
Jacob V
Shy-Lynn S
Saeed D
Ryan C
Anh T
Augustine P
Christophere P
Liam T
Evan M
Katherine W
Dawson M
Destiny M
Jennifer C
Ashley D
Jordan W
Alexis B
Jamie M
Preston C
Samantha T
Zachary P
Branden K
Leeanna S
Joel D
Amy Y
Lillian L
Steven H
Ray B
Xavier B
Isaih M
Oanh N
Kevin C
Ronnie M
Jesse S
Aaron C
Tyra N
Diane L
Ayden F
Kyle L
Yasmeen K
Tiffany S
Jasmin M
Thomas L
Ross Lynne M
Ullyses N
Cheyenne G
Jennifer V
Jessica S
Cheyanna W
Kateri C
Shally Z
Brett T

Sarah P
Meghan D
Monya S
Cheryl D
Kate O
Amy B
Lauren W
Melissa W
Francois H
Bruce M
Laurie S
Matt S
Ellen M
Harry S
Casault J
Angela T
Angela H
Joanne S
Marta C
Charlotte G
Melba B
Amanda A
Donita L
Navneet P
Amanda H
Helen H
Ashley Y
Chris D
Wendy A
Mitchell D
Kim L
Cole S
Dalton L
Ian H
Julien M
Braeden D
Ben O
Jace A
Nastasha T
Logan M
Joel M
Melinda S
Gregory L
Charlie G
Dakota M
Amber V
Abraham F
Kyle W
Tori N
Lesley H
Heather S
Sean G
Jiaying W
Emily O
Simona Z
Douglas H
Jenna E
Vanessa P
Jing D
Matthew F
Shayla D
Chrystal L
Anastasia P
Samantha G
Lindy V
Gordon W
Darryl G
Lindsay C
Shaheen A
Lee S
Tannis S
Greg G
Laura D
Nathan S
Jonathon B
Haley M

Isaiah C
Jordan B
Margaret W
Dallas S
Tamica L
Kira Z
Brandon P
Rashaal B
Evelyn T
Laurie S
Justin H
Andrew K
Alek B
Kyla K
Jonathon T
Kristen D
Morgan S
Dalton B
Michelle S
Kirsten M
Kayla D
Charity A
Dorothy N
Danielle N
Naomi B
Adrianna T
Austin B
Nelson N
Dylan C
Jordan C
Cole S
Dalton L
Ian H
Julien M
Braeden D
Ben O
Jace A
Nastasha T
Logan M
Joel M
Melinda S
Gregory L
Charlie G
Dakota M
Amber V
Abraham F
Kyle W
Tori N

Lee S
Arnold W
Cindy M
Shelley K
Michelle Z
Judy L
Jennifer G
Alanna D
Elizabeth I
Carrie K
Keith C
Russel B
David S
Heather D
Tom B
Heidi K
Catherine F
John & Jennifer L
Kelley W
Sarah S
Cathy K
Deb W
Kayla M
Shawna C
Krista S
Dawn T
Jennifer D
John C
Darryl B
Andrew M
Samuel M
Joel/Carri-Ann T
Ben V
Cody E
Aubrey M
Jason C
Solange D
Merete O
Mario T
Brock M
Leslie B
Carly G
Heather M
Joe B
Amanda K
Kathy L
Jory B
Sarah D

Cody G
Shrey-Lean W
Kellie C
Stephen T
Adena B
Maria L
Tanya L
Sarah R
Jaylene G
Matthew G
Andy H
Michael B
Helena M
Belaynesh W
Joshua B
Gregory H
Michelle M
Lori R
Linda W
Joanna D
Camilla R
Jeralyn D
Diana B
Anna C
Mark B
Jeff&Jackie P
Cameron J
Carolina B
Rachelle L
Vicki C

Years Matched

Mentee

Maria L
Tanya L
Sarah R
Jaylene G
Matthew G
Andy H
Michael B
Helena M
Belaynesh W
Joshua B

Mentor

Camilla R
Jeralyn D
Diana B
Anna C
Mark B
Jeff&Jackie P
Cameron J
Carolina B
Rachelle L
Vicki C

Years Matched

Mentee

Christopher M
Angel L
Sarah B
Merissa S
Tanisha L
Joshua E
Bailee P
Turkan A
Justine B
Wing L
Travis M
Amanda B
Samantha W
Shannon R
Marc F
Anood K
Jillian H
Corrina W
Sarah M
Dannielle D
Arantza S
Nomin G
Norman S
Kaitlyn G
Michelle L
Bazilia D
Meagan S
Alysha C
Belinda S
Catherine M
Linda A
Linda A
Rayen C
Chaine D
Jessica W
Tianna G
Kris F
Julio H
Ruth S
Tracy H
Chris E
Alana D
Victoria C
Anthony S
Kimberly D
Cyle S
Anthony S
Omid A
Noah K
Kevin S
Eric N
Etienne H
Shania M
Dylan R
Zane C
Sheena H
Elysee G
Arielle B
Laura P
Karla E
Lenard S
Chelsea L
Ashley L
Ashley L
Maggie K
Jessie B
Tara S
Lisa V
Shreen I

Mentor

Michelle C
Lorraine H
Martha I
Caitlin E
Gordana D
Sean R
Kayleen S
Melissa F
Anna K
Verlynn W
Robert G
Erika R
Sakina G
Denise C
Amy C
Cortney G
Christopher K
Gail A
Larry C
Anneliese K
Louise D
Marcy H
Carrie F
Christopher M
Goodings P
Leanne C
Wendy A
Kimberly D
Leigh R
Ray B
Xavier B
Isaih M
Oanh N
Kevin C
Ronnie M
Jesse S
Aaron C
Tyra N
Diane L
Ayden F
Kyle L
Yasmeen K
Tiffany S
Jasmin M
Thomas L
Ross Lynne M
Ullyses N
Cheyenne G
Jennifer V
Jessica S
Cheyanna W
Kateri C
Shally Z
Brett T

Years Matched

Mentee

Tabitha P
Courtney M
Tamarara P
Kaylita H
Matthew F
Shayla D
Chrystal L
Anastasia P
Samantha G
Lindy V
Gordon W
Darryl G
Lindsay C
Shaheen A
Lee S
Tannis S
Greg G
Laura D
Nathan S
Jonathon B
Haley M

Mentor

Erin B
Jill S
Lese S
Danielle B
Chris P
Joanne C
Kate H
Lese S
Nycol D
Tawnyya C
Shirley N
Taylor A
Coralee T
Brandi R
Pauline P
Jane C
Susan H
Phyllis V
Andrew L
Vanessa O

Years Matched

Mentee

Talia L
Maxem D
Anita H
Michelle B
Kaitlyn R
Joshua D
Zafira B
Priya G
Ayden R
Simon C
Jackie S
Steven R
Ben V
Cody E
Aubrey M
Jason C
Solange D
Merete O
Mario T
Brock M
Leslie B
Carly G
Heather M
Joe B
Amanda K
Kathy L
Jory B
Sarah D

Mentor

Anita C
Ursula U
Colleen Q
Jessica S
Tamera G
David M
Lisa B
Tasha G
Helen Ann G
Ariana B
Valerie W
Graham B

Years Matched

Mentee

Jessica B
Victoria P

Mentor

Melanie M
Laurie M

Years Matched

Mentee

Cai-Gi W
Megan O

Mentor

Forcados W
Cheyenne P

Years Matched

Mentee

Nathan W

Mentor

Michael C

Years Matched

Mentee

Jolene S
Aaron P
Tyler V
Heather D
Katherine M
Cassandra K
Luwen S
Ashley J
Carmen R
Trina S

Mentor

Teena T
Gregg H
Perry A
Charlotte B
Sara B
Natasha S
Kim K
Joanne F
Erin S

Years Matched

Mentee

Dina L
Ashley V
Taylor C
Paris V
Jennifer A
Jade E

Mentor

Leela R
Christine T
Adrian S
Susan H
Ashley J
Carmen R
Trina S

A bouquet of memories



A few

moments after being asked about her most memorable moment with her Big Sister Heidi, Kristin smiles slightly and responds "they're all memorable!"

January 2008 will mark the 3rd anniversary for Heidi and Kristin and another colorful, fuzzy, embroidered flower will be in order. For their 1st anniversary together Heidi gave Kristin a fuzzy flower with "Heidi and Kristin - 1 year" embroidered in the middle, year number two produced the same with Heidi's intentions that after so many years together Kristin will boast a large bouquet.

In amongst the many movies the two enjoy together, and the hundreds of Smartie cookies they bake, the pair always find time to practice their bowling skills. Kristin raves about her Big Sister's skills claiming that every time they bowl "Heidi always breaks 100!"

When we asked what each of them like best about being matched, Kristin emphasized how much she loves having someone to talk to while Heidi says being matched with Kristin forces her to slow down and make time for the small things. The connection between the two energetic ladies became really apparent when asked how long they had been involved in our Youth Leadership Group. In unison both girls replied "since it started," which was followed by Kristin's quick witted "Oh jinx!"

A 'Little' Bit of Fun!

Winter 2007



January Ice Skating

Come brave the snow and ice for some outdoor skating at Hawrelak Park! Hot chocolate will be provided and skates are available.

Please meet at main building at 11:30am on Saturday, January 12th for skate fittings and sharpening.

February Valentine's Day

On Saturday February 9th from 1:00 until 4:00, celebrate Valentine's Day at the Riverdale House (10135 - 89St.) with fun crafts and baking.

News from Youth In Care

The YIC group and mentoring program is off to a fine start as we set new and exciting goals for ourselves. This year, we're committed to **The Duke of Edinburgh Awards Program** and our aim is to achieve our personal best in the areas of service, expedition and exploration, skills and personal fitness. Our mentors and many others are a big support to us in our efforts to reach a bronze, silver or gold level of achievement. A special Thank You to the Canadian Tire Jump Start Program who was named the '06-'07 YIC recipient of our Dream Catcher's Award.

THE TEENS: A BIG welcome to new teens **Giorgio D., Chris R., Harvey A., Dixie, Riley F., Jowell D., Erik S., Joey S., Kayla K.** and **Brittany G.**

Ruby D., Chris R., Cheyenne M., Trevor D., Morgan K. and **Harvey A.** are all in semi or independent living programs ... **Jason C.** is working hard in the SKY program

at YESS ... **Jacob K.** on his High School volleyball team ... **Amanda D.** playing floor hockey ... **Kelly K.** had a blast in the junior golf program at the Royal Mayfair over the summer with plans to stay involved ... **Amanda K.** won a barrel racing challenge at summer camp ... **Trevor D.** is involved with the Millwoods Youth Action Team ... **Liz M.** volunteered at Shiloh Youth Camp for two months as a junior camp leader while **Aiyana** did the same for one month at Brightwood Youth Ranch ... **Brittany G.** volunteered with the City running summer day camps for kids aged 3 - 7 ... **Chris R.** continues to volunteer with The Pride Center and the Art gallery ... **Arianne C.** volunteers with the Sunday School program at her church ... **Morgan, Kelly, Jacob, Aiyana, Ruby, Trevor D., Trevor S., Jason, Melinda, Jaylene, Victoria, Liz** and **Cheyenne** are all working part-time jobs ... All the teens are working hard in school and doing

their best to improve their lives. GOOD WORK!

THE MENTORS: A BIG welcome to new mentors **Tania, Katie** and **Dale.**

Karen is soon to be a certified Yoga Instructor ... **Teena** volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and says she learned a lot ... **Crystal** is teaching in England for the year but maintains a mentoring friendship via e-mail ... **Jody** is off to Ghana for six weeks to work as a missionary with her church ... **Andrea** with her sister, mentor **Jill**, enjoyed a fabulous three week hiking expedition to India ... **Marc** and **Becky** have moved to their new home and are excited about their upcoming wedding in Mexico ... **Kelly** and wife **Andrea** are excitedly expecting their first child in December ... **Suzanne, Jena, Teena** and **Leanna** have all returned as group facilitators ... Thank you all for your commitment to all our teens!

Games to Grow On ...

Tongue Twister Treat

Ready:

- To emphasize initial sounds in words.

Set:

- Pencil
- Books
- Graph paper

Go:

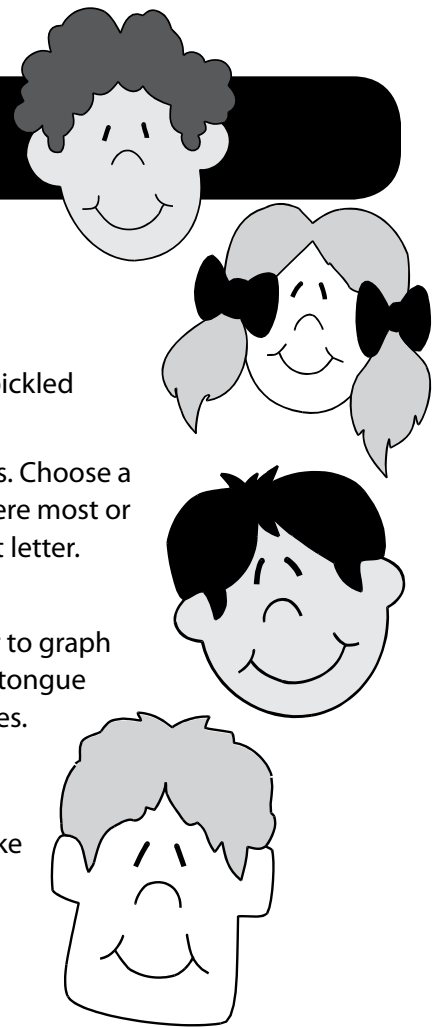
1. Search the library together to find some books of tongue twisters.
2. Find the tongue twisters that have "alliteration" (repeated consonant sounds, like "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.")
3. Add more words that fit the sentence. For example, the word "purple" could be added to the above tongue twister to make "Peter

Piper picked a peck of purple pickled peppers."

4. Write your own tongue twisters. Choose a letter and write a sentence where most or all of the words begin with that letter.

Go Further:

1. Time yourself. Use graph paper to graph how quickly you could say the tongue twister without making mistakes.
2. After you've tried making the sentences with single consonants, try using blends like "th," "sh," "cr" or "pr."
3. When you get really good, you can try using three consonant blends like "str" or "thr."



The Children's Circle is a group of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton and area friends who are committed to the future of the agency and our mentoring programs for future generations through our new endowment fund.



The Province Will Make Your Will!

The Province? Yes, unless you do it for yourself and your family.

Only 35% of all individuals have Wills. It is estimated

that many millions of dollars goes through probate courts each year without benefit of a Will. These dollars represent hard-earned dollars, and probably many sacrifices made to accumulate them.

There is no doubt that those of you who accumulate an estate, whether large or small, have specific ideas about what you would like to do with your estate and to whom it should be distributed. But the Province of Alberta does not know your desires. So, unless you have your own Will, the Province will

write one for you, after you have gone, to cover the situation.

Do not assume there is plenty of time, and put off making a Will. Do it now! Not doing so can hurt your family, not just financially, but in other ways.

And, while you are writing your Will, we hope you might include those organizations that have had meaning in your life including The Edmonton Big Brothers Big Sisters Endowment Fund. This inclusion could be for a percentage, fixed dollar amount or remainder interest. Including BBBS for any amount qualifies for membership in our Children's Circle.

If you are interested in discussing this matter further with us, please call Ruth McIntyre at (780) 424-8181 Ext. 231.

News from B-L-T's Youth Leadership Group!

We got to sit down with our very energetic and charismatic youth leadership group during one of their monthly meetings and this time we asked them

"Hey B-L-T's, what do you like about Youth Leadership?"

Here are some of the responses:

"We love the pizza. We also like the people. It is a fun environment. We like the chance to volunteer. We like playing the games and we love to bring in outside guests. We get to learn about other people."

- Erin and Kayla

"We all made new friends and we get to hang out together and eat lots of good pizza. We love to hear Meaghen laugh. We talk to each other about problems and we learn to trust each other."

- Ronece, Jussara, Carlos and Carol

"We like it because of all the things we get to do like the picnic, golf tournament and the volunteer opportunities. As well it's great to get a chance to meet other matches around the same age and see them regularly. The various topics we cover at our meetings are also a great opportunity for littles."

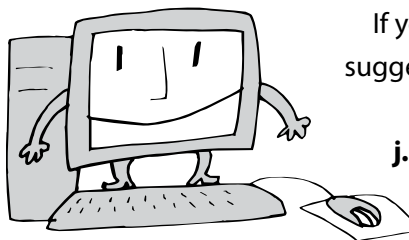
- Kristin and Heidi

Interested in Joining Youth Leadership Group?

It's free! We meet once a month at Big Brothers Big Sisters Riverdale House (10135 - 89 St.) where we share pizza, pop, projects, crafts and stories together! Meet some new friends, and maybe just learn something along the way. Our next hang out time is November 19th and we will be volunteering at the Christmas Party!

E-mail Meaghen at m.taylor-reid@bbbsedmonton.org or call 424-8181 Ext. 234 to join in the fun!

We would love to hear from you!



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for our newsletter please e-mail our newsletter editor (Jaimie) at j.porterfield@bbbsedmonton.org.



Big Brothers Big Sisters

of Edmonton & Area is proud to be a member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada and receives funding from:

Alberta Advanced Education & Technology

Alberta Children's Services - Region 5

Alberta Children's Services - Region 6

Alberta Orange Foundation for children

Camrose & District Support Services
Canadian Tire

Edmonton Community Foundation

Edmonton Community Lottery Board

Family & Community Support Services -
Edmonton, Strathcona County,
Lac la Biche

JUMPSTART

Justice Canada

Region 6 Child and Family Services

The Family Center

The Muttart Foundation

The National Crime Prevention Strategy
(Government of Canada)

The Stollery Foundation

The United Way, Alberta Capital Region

The Wild Rose Foundation

Volunteer Alberta

West Yellowhead Child & Family Services

Wild Rose Foundation

Thank you!

Phone (780) 424-8181

Fax (780) 426-6689

Email bbbs@bbbsedmonton.org
www.bbbsedmonton.org

FREE TICKETS FOR VOLUNTEERS, FAMILIES & KIDS!

We get tickets...lots and lots of tickets...to great events like *Citadel Theatre, Edmonton Eskimos, Edmonton Oilers, Movies*, etc etc. If you'd like us to email you when we have free tickets...please send your email address to Jaimie at j.porterfield@bbbsedmonton.org

If you don't have email, please provide your caseworker with your name and phone number and the type of tickets you would like to receive, and they will be happy to add you to their call out lists.

We often get tickets at the very last minute, so we give them out on a first-come, first-served basis. All kids, matched or unmatched, volunteers and families in any of our programs are eligible, unless otherwise specified by the donor.