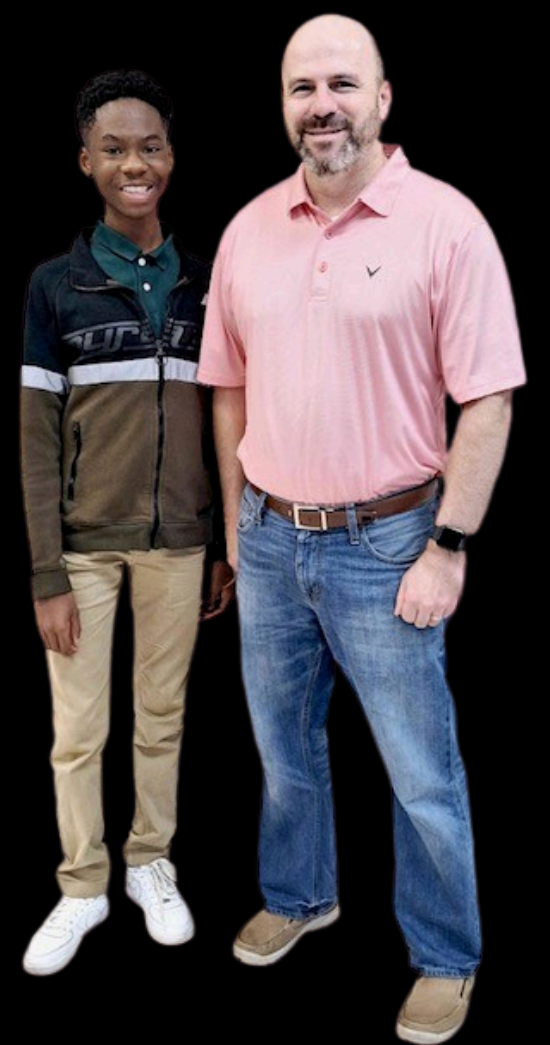


CORPORATE **BIG** OF THE YEAR

Big Brother Jeremy & Little Brother Runnel



Prior to becoming a Big Brother, I didn't know a whole lot about the program. I was introduced by a co-worker who asked if I would be interested. I was hesitant, but after hearing some of the positive impacts, I agreed.

Although I was very nervous at first, my Match Specialist did an amazing job of answering my questions. Additionally, they provided lots of ideas on how to plan my weekly visits. I left the meeting feeling empowered and hopeful I could make a difference in a young man's life.

I had the honor of becoming Runell's Big Brother when he was in 2nd grade. Runell and I hit it off right from the start! I began this program with the desire to be a positive influence for Runell. What I wasn't prepared for, was the impact Runell would have on me. I have learned more from him throughout this experience than I would ever have thought possible. He is filled with positive energy and has a willingness to serve others. His joyful outlook is such an inspiration to me and to others. I couldn't be more grateful that the Lord placed him in my life.

Runell is now in the 8th grade and I've appreciated watching him grow into the young man he is today. Being his mentor has taught me so much about life and perseverance. I would like for Runell to one day become a mentor himself and see his light continue to be a part of this wonderful program. Throughout my mission as a Big Brother, my wife and two sons have been very supportive. They look forward to hearing updates on Runell and are interested in how he is doing. I am a strong believer and supporter of Big Brothers Big Sisters.

My hope is for each and every child that wants to be in the program have the opportunity to be matched. Being a mentor has been a very rewarding decision and I look forward to many more years of service!

