

Dear <<Short Salutation>>,

You can help make sure kids in our community have someone special in their lives all year long.

Right now, kids are facing big challenges. Many feel isolated and overwhelmed by stress at home, at school and on social media. This is making kids feel anxious and unsure about themselves. **But with your help, we can make a difference.**

Your year-end donation will help connect young people with a caring mentor—someone who believes in them and helps them feel supported.

Let me tell you about Aden.

Aden's parents moved to Omaha after living in a refugee camp in Kenya for several years. His family speaks three languages at home. Aden's father works long hours as a truck driver while his mom takes care of the five kids.

The family signed up for our mentoring program to help Aden and his siblings build connections and learn more about American culture. Aden and his sister have been matched with mentors who have quickly become a meaningful part of their lives.

Thank you for your past support which helped Aden connect with his mentor. Your continued support today will help provide even more kids with the steady support needed to grow and succeed. A gift of <ASK4>, <ASK3>, <ASK2>, or <ASK1>, or any amount that feels right to you can make a real difference.

Aden and Colby, his mentor, love playing soccer, going to the Gene Leahy Mall and attending local events. They've had fun at Vala's Pumpkin Patch, and they even baked together. Aden's family has enjoyed sharing their own culture, inviting Colby to meals and teaching him about Somalian traditions.

At school, Aden has faced the usual stresses of friendships and fitting in, especially as an eleven-year-old in a new culture. It's been helpful for Aden to have his mentor there, not only to encourage him with schoolwork but also to talk about friendships and how to handle the ups and downs.

Aden's mentor has become one of his biggest supporters—someone who shows up, listens and understands.

Aden's mentor plans to be there at his soccer games to cheer him on in the stands. Without a family vehicle, it's hard for Aden's family to make it to all of his games. Having his mentor there to support him means the world.

Aden and kids just like him are why I'm writing to you today. <u>Our</u> <u>community's youth need your help this holiday season.</u>

<<Short Salutation>>, your generosity has helped change the lives of countless people in our community – our youth, their families and the mentors who are there for them. A gift of <ASK4>, <ASK3>, <ASK2>, or <ASK1>, or any amount meaningful to you can help youth reach their true potential.

Will you help create more success stories like Aden's with your yearend gift today?

Kids like Aden and his siblings are the reason we're reaching out. With a mentor, Aden has learned new skills, built stronger relationships and gained the confidence to succeed. Aden's future is limitless!

Your support this holiday season will ensure that all young people know they have a place in our community and that their future matters. Help create lasting change by empowering the next generation to dream big and achieve their goals. Together, we can make 2025 a brighter year for youth in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. Aden and other kids waiting for mentors need community members like you who believe in them.

Your donation right now is not only investing in Aden's future—you're showing him he belongs, he matters and he's not alone.

Please join us in opening doors for Aden and others. With your gift of <<u>ASK4></u>, <u>ASK3></u>, <u>ASK2></u>, <u>or <u>ASK1></u></u>, you'll make a big impact on their journey toward self-discovery, success and a brighter future.

Thank you for being a part of this important work.

Your donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters makes it possible for kids here in our community to have safe, supportive and life-changing mentorship at no cost to families.

I'd love to hear from you! If you have feedback about our work, how we're communicating with you or if you simply want an update, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 402.505.4132 or nturgeon@bbbsomaha.org.

On behalf of our community's youth, their families, our mentors, volunteers, and staff at Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands, I wish you well. We all send our love and gratitude this holiday season.

With warm holiday wishes,

Nichole

Nichole M. Turgeon President/CEO, Mentor, Donor



You can give quickly and easily with your smartphone by scanning this code. **Or give online at BBBSMidlands.org/donate**