



Battle at the Ballpark Attracts 700 Attendees and Raises Nearly \$700,000

'Battle at the Ballpark' aims to raise \$750,000 for local youth

ST. LOUIS – June 18, 2024 – Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri (BBBSEMO) hosted the 3rd annual Battle at the Ballpark at Busch Stadium on June 15. This unique fundraiser brought over 700 caring community members, leaders, and 24 corporate sponsors who raised close to \$700,000 to support 900 lives – youth, families, and mentors.

\$750,000 toward Mentorship and Youth Development

“Our mission is to support the youth and families in our community. Saturday’s event demonstrates an army of caring individuals and companies who share and support this mission,” said Kristen Slaughter, BBBSEMO’s President & CEO. “We are so close to our \$750,000 goal, which will impact 900 lives, and I believe more people will step up in the next two weeks to help us get there.”

Great Fun and a Great Mission

The iconic Busch Stadium was a fitting backdrop and ambiance for this unique fundraiser. Mayor Tishaura Jones and St. Louis Cardinals President Bill Dewitt opened the evening in a head-to-head Rock, Paper, Scissors match in a boxing ring on second base. Shortly after, a 24-team single elimination tournament with celebrity judges King Scott, Shorty Da Prince, and St. Louis City Treasurer Adam Layne.

Between rounds, speakers shared their stories, some as mentees impacted by BBBSEMO and their “Bigs” and others blessed by the opportunity to learn from the “Littles” they mentored. BBBSEMO showed photos and graphics capturing critical moments from programs, events, and lives impacted by mentorship on the stadium screens as eventgoers watched, dined, and even wiped tears of joy and gratitude.

With full access to Busch stadium, community residents, mentors, and corporate executives slammed baseballs in the batting cage and hurled pitches in the bullpen.

Several generations of fans enjoyed an exclusive opportunity to meet Cardinals Alumni Al Hrabosky, Lonnie Maclin, Andy Van Slyke, and Bengie Molina in the Cardinals Clubhouse. It was indeed a night to remember

Donate to Help BBBSEMO Serve Youth, Families, and Mentors

The Battle at the Ballpark fundraiser concludes June 30, and donations are still needed to meet the fundraising goal of \$750,000, which impacts 900 lives – youth, families, and mentors. Donations can be made online at www.bbbsemo.org/battle.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri (BBBSEMO)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri (BBBSEMO), located at 501 N. Grand Blvd in St. Louis, has served youth and the community since 1914. Through BBBSEMO's 600 active matches in its one-to-one mentoring program and signature one-to-many efforts, youth outcomes are improved. BBBSEMO's initiatives encompass support for education and workforce development; these include ABCToday (in 16 schools, K-12), Big Futures (young people ages 18-25), and its newest initiatives in Group Mentoring for youth in middle school. The comprehensive work of the agency serves more than 8,000 people which includes children and families in St. Louis City and County; St. Charles and Jefferson Counties; and Cape Girardeau and Scott Counties. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri (BBBSEMO) is a proud member of the United Way.

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