

# **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE LOWCOUNTRY: MATCH SUCCESS STORY**



## *Brendan & Ramone*

Sabrina enrolled Ramone in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program because, as he is the only boy in the family, she wanted to ensure he had a positive male role model. Ramone is described as "quiet, but very playful once you get to know him," and he loves to have fun. He's a big fan of sports, especially football and baseball. Sabrina believes Brendan has been instrumental in helping Ramone step out of his shell, introducing him to new activities like pickleball. "Ramone and Brendan are always watching games, attending events, or just catching up and discussing sports," Sabrina shared. Brendan also recently helped Ramone discover pickleball. They also played golf and tennis together. As for Ramone's future, he dreams of becoming a football player or a realtor, and he knows Brendan will support him no matter which path he chooses.

Ramone was thrilled to be matched with Brendan, as he had been looking for a positive male role model in his life. He enjoys spending time with Brendan, especially bonding over their shared passion for sports. "I love football, and we watch a lot of games together! We also go out to eat sometimes...I just always enjoy chilling with him!" Over the past year, Brendan has also helped Ramone stay focused on his schoolwork and homework. While Ramone doesn't currently need assistance, he knows Brendan will

always be there if he does. One of Ramone's favorite memories with Brendan was when they attended a baseball game together.

Brendan was inspired to join the Big Brothers Big Sisters program after meeting someone involved in a similar youth outreach initiative. When he first met Ramone, Ramone he was very shy, but over time, he's become more outgoing. Brendan has helped him with small things like shaking hands and introducing himself, which has made a big difference in his social confidence. Brendan goes out of his way to support Ramone, attending his games because he knows it means a lot to him. "I try to go to his games. Having someone in the stands makes a big difference," Brendan says. He also exposes Ramone to new experiences he might not have otherwise. Brendan finds Ramone incredibly inspiring, noting, "Despite lacking certain things in his life, he's always positive, happy, and grateful. Little things go a long way with him—he's full of positivity!" One of Brendan's favorite memories with Ramone was when they left the aquarium for lunch. They didn't want seafood, so they went to a coffee shop instead, only to find a pop-up serving seafood—Ramone ended up having fish after all!