

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



## *Cara & Charleigh*

Megan decided to sign Charleigh up at Big Brothers Big Sisters so that someone could help her with social skills and offer support when Megan might not be able to. After nearly one year of being matched, she has seen Charleigh grow and receive so much support from her Big, Cara: "I've seen her improve a lot, like with her social skills, especially with people she meets. She's more outgoing and has better talking skills. She used to be more shy, and I have seen her personality come out a lot more!"

She describes Charleigh as "bubbly, energetic, and talkative if she is comfortable with you. She is always friendly and tries to be considerate of everyone's feelings." In her spare time, Charleigh loves gymnastics, crafting and doing hands-on activities with Cara, going to the pool, and going on new adventures like visiting the pumpkin patch. Megan added, "Cara is just the best because they are both so in tune! Charleigh is always asking to see her Big. I couldn't have picked a better person myself... they are like two peas in a pod!"

Charleigh was excited to have a Big because her sister had been in the program and had a good experience. In her spare time, she loves crafting and jumping on the trampoline, especially at places like Velocity Trampoline Park. She shared that she would love to work with hair when she is older but is open to trying something else as well. Charleigh feels that Cara has helped her become more talkative and social when they are together. She looks forward to seeing Cara at every outing they plan and loves every activity they've done so far, including a hayride and swimming at the pool.

Cara applied to Big Brothers Big Sisters because she wanted to be more involved in her community. She has grown to admire how joyful Charleigh is: "She is always having so much fun and brings playfulness to so many things. She's also so kind and compassionate toward others." Cara has already seen Charleigh become more confident and much more approachable and talkative: "She'll approach a stranger and start a conversation with them!" There has also been a lot of progress in Charleigh's swimming skills and reading skills. Cara aims to be a great role model and source of guidance for Charleigh, and is always offering advice when she can. Her favorite memory with Charleigh is when they went to the arcade and played as many games as they wanted.