

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, President

BALTIMORE

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MEDIA ADVISORY:

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CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE ANNOUNCES MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland Tailors Program to Encourage More City Employees to Mentor Baltimore City Youth

BALTIMORE—Today at City Hall, Council President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake joined with city agency heads to announce new mentoring opportunities for city employees with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the oldest and largest youth mentoring organization in the United States. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland currently serves 550 Baltimore City youth with an additional 255 youth awaiting mentors, 136 of whom are young men.

“During the holiday season, it is not only important to be thankful for what we have, it is also a time to think about giving back,” said Rawlings-Blake. “Taking the time mentor a young person is a rewarding and enjoyable activity that has the power to change a child’s life forever.”

Approximately 50 Baltimore City employees are currently matched with a young person or are in the process of being matched as part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring program. With more than 15,000 employees in City Government, Council President Rawlings-Blake believes there is an opportunity for more City Employees to take part in the program. The new mentoring opportunity will complement recent efforts by Mayor Sheila Dixon to increase mentorship programs in Baltimore.

“I have never underestimated the generosity of our city employees,” Rawlings-Blake continued. “There is a real opportunity here to fill the need for mentors with quality volunteers from our city’s dedicated workforce, especially if we do a better job getting the word out.”

Rawlings-Blake announced a series of measures to encourage more city employees to explore mentoring opportunities with Big Brothers Big Sisters including hosting informational/sign-up sessions at City Hall. The sign-up sessions will be held on December 3rd and 4th from 11:00am to 2:00pm in the Curran conference room. Rawlings-Blake also launched new a webpage at www.baltimorecitycouncil.com for city employees to learn more about mentoring with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Maryland.

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