
Abington Hospital Presents Career Exploration Seminar

To give high school students an opportunity to learn about preparing for and working in the fields of hospital administration, allied health, nursing, and medicine, Abington Memorial Hospital is presenting a series of four seminars in its **Career Exploration Seminar**. Hospital staff participate in their respective seminar areas, allowing students to hear directly and ask specific questions about their careers, tour their work areas, and know how to plan their courses and higher education. “Nursing” will be given Monday, March 11 and “Medicine” on Monday, April 8 at the Beardwood Classroom in the Widener Building. These free seminars are presented from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and include light dinner. For registration and information about these and future seminars on hospital administration and allied health, call 215-481-2490. Other Hospital offerings for the community include:

- ◆ **Babysitting Workshop** This six-hour program sponsored by Child, Home and Community, Inc. teaches children basic child care, age-appropriate activities, and how to handle family routines and emergencies. Call 215-481-2204 to register for the next workshop on Saturday, May 4.
- ◆ **Safe Harbor** This program provides a place for children, teens, and their family members to share their experiences as they move through the healing process after losing a loved one. Children and teens are assigned to age-appropriate support groups. Parents and guardians meet separately. Call 215-481-5983.
- ◆ **B.I.L.Y. (Because I Love You)** This support group for parents with challenging children of any age promotes structure, consequences, and consistency. Call 215-576-5216.

Big Brothers Big Sisters: Making a Difference

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Montgomery County has a goal of helping children and young people from 6 to 21 grow into responsible men and women through a variety of programs. In its well-known Core-Match Program, adults have the opportunity to form one-on-one mentoring relationships, becoming caring friends as they guide individual children in need. Many—but not all—of these children come from single-parent and low-income families. They need a dedicated adult to take an interest in them and help them learn to make good life decisions.

Volunteers come from a variety of economic, religious, and racial backgrounds and are matched to children for one-on-one mentoring through careful screening as well as the preferences of the child, parent, and volunteer. Not surprising, studies of this program indicate that children who meet regularly with their Big Brother or Big Sister are significantly less likely to skip school, use drugs and alcohol, and engage in violent behavior than other children from similar backgrounds.

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides

training and case management for mentoring relationships and offers a Group Activities Program so that adult volunteers can accompany unmatched children to monthly activities and special events. Other Big Brother Big Sister programs include the Teen Mother Mentoring Program and the School-Based Mentoring Program. Its newest endeavor, the Independent Living Program, teaches independent living skills to young adults from ages 16 to 21 in foster care.

Recently, Abington Police Chief William J. Kelly was among four honorees at the organization’s annual “Making A Difference” award ceremony for making a commitment to improve the lives of children in Montgomery County. There are many ways to become involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters. Perhaps you have a child who is a candidate for its programs. Or, maybe as an adult you would like to become a one-on-one mentor or a periodic volunteer for activities with unmatched children. For more information, contact Brad Smith at 610-277-2200.
