

The Bottom Line

Last month, our newsletter featured part of a letter from Justine Morris to Big Brothers Big Sisters Ponoka. The first part of the letter dealt with how her son is thriving thanks to the program. This month, we'd like to bring you the second half of the letter – focusing on her daughter.

My daughter, she was a very shy a quiet little one. She was timid, always scared and very sad. She would tell me all the time about how she misses her dad. It's hard to see because there is nothing I can do to change him for her. Children need to have adults to show them they are important.

When she began this program she wasn't too sure about it. She started with a student from high school and it didn't take long for her to come home all bubbly. She absolutely loved her mentor and talked about her all the time. She found someone to confide in, and tell all her hurts and joys to someone trusted.

When this year's mentoring started, I told her that she was getting a new adult mentor. She was not too happy about that, she wanted to see her one from school. It has not taken her long at all to warm up to her new mentor. She adores her and gets so excited to see her.

This program has given my daughter someone she can be herself with. Before she was given a big sister it would take her months to feel safe around someone. Her big sister has helped her learn how to trust and know that she is important and that what she has to say is important. She is so happy all the time. She has a bubbly personality now and isn't afraid. She has begun to show her true colors -- a beautiful star shining bright.

Thank you for helping her find her shine.

When a Dad has let you down for many years it really hurts a child. I didn't know how to help them but then God placed mentors in my children's lives and helped my kids learn to love,

and trust again. When someone shows you how loved you are, and how important you are you feel it in yourself.

So the bottom line and what I am trying to say is THANK YOU SO MUCH. You have changed more than the kids' lives but also the lives of whole families. Through the compassion and love they are receiving, my two older children pass it down to their siblings.

My family and I are blessed to have so much love and compassion from our community.

Warm regards,
Justine Morris