

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE LOWCOUNTRY MATCH SUCCESS STORY



“Avery and Dominek”

When Untara sought a Big Sisters for her daughter, Dominek, eight months ago, she hoped for someone who could provide a different perspective on being a young woman. She describes Dominek as “outgoing, full of questions, open-minded, and outspoken.” Fast forwarding to the present, it is clear Untara’s wish came true. Recently, she shared that her daughter has formed a strong bond with her Big Sister, Avery, and is “always asking about [her]” and “loves spending time with her!”

Since being matched, Untara has seen a remarkable change in Dominek’s confidence. “She can have a career where she is outspoken and has a voice to lead others,” explained Untara. “She excels when there is an opportunity to be a leader. She might become a lawyer or a teacher.” Dominek’s mother credits this newfound ambition to the impact of the mentorship program and to Avery’s positive influence.



Dominek remembers wanting a Big “because it sounded fun!” In her spare time, she likes drawing, reading books, dancing, and singing. She and Avery also both enjoy doing outdoor activities. Dominek loves spending time with animals and has visited the local animal shelter with Avery. Recently, Dominek shared that Avery has helped her improve her grades and helped her do her homework. When asked about her goals, Dominek shared that she would like to be a makeup artist when she is older. Recounting a favorite memory with Avery, Dominek shared a time when they went to the pool and walked Avery’s dog. “She has a pit bull,” explained Dominek.

Avery was interested in becoming a Big due to her passion for working with children and her desire to help children grow through new opportunities. She has seen Dominek's confidence skyrocket in the match. “She was reserved at first, but now she expresses her likes and dislikes and has little fear introducing herself to others,” shared Avery. Avery supports her Little Sister by celebrating all her wins, including the small ones. She admires Dominek's confidence, respect for others, and passion to succeed.

Both share common interests. Avery studied criminal justice, and Dominek also wants to be a police officer. A favorite memory of Avery's is from a boat ride. Avery explained, “It was Dominek's first time on a boat, and a smile did not leave her face the entire time! She was shy at first, but then she got up and danced to the cha-cha slide with others. She invited me to dance with her, too! Dominek is amazing, and I am happy for the opportunity to be a part of her life.”