

For immediate release: January 15, 2015 CONTACT: Wayne Marlow 573 434 4043 <u>waynesm2@yahoo.com</u> <u>http://www.ozarkcoastkiwanis.org</u> PO Box 1245, Lake Ozark, MO 65049

Big Brothers Big Sisters grows program to 61 students with Kiwanis help



Jenn Hoose, Missy Martinette & Lindsey Ellerman present a check to Susan Creel BBBS coordinator



Jason Hynson, Ozark Coast Kiwanis, President, presents another check to Susan Creel, BBBS coordinator

For more information about being a BIG or donating to support BBBS kids please check out <u>http://www.lakebbbs.org/</u> In the last 5 years the Lake Area Big Brothers Big Sisters program has grown from 20 kids to over 60 under the guidance of Susan Creel.... Kiwanis and Christmas for Kids presented checks totaling almost \$5,000 to help continue and grow the BBBS program in 2015.

Susan presented an update on program growth to Kiwanis members on January 15th. She told us about activities in weekly school visits as well as recent extracurricular outings including a Zip-Line picnic and Christmas party at Golden Corral for Littles and Bigs.

National statistics as well as local counselors report improved grades and behavior for kids with mentors that care. Ozark Coast Kiwanis is one of the largest service organizations at the Lake. All funds raised go back to the Lake Community to support dozens of children focused programs that depend on Kiwanis to fund and run their programs.

Kiwanis fundraisers that you might recognize as sponsored by Kiwanis include :

Annual Peanut Day Duck Drop & Duck Drop Golf Tournament 2nd Chance Bikes Christmas for Kids 5K Run/Walk to the Beach over the Community Bridge

Plus we provide volunteer support to many community wide events.

Some of the groups that we support/sponsor include: Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boy & Girl Scouts, CADV, Feed The Children, Hope House, Lake Regional Hospital, Parents as Teachers, Share The Harvest, Wonderland Camp, YMCA...Key Club, Key Leader, Builder's Club, College Scholarships.

Kiwanis Club of Ozark Coast was organized in 1988. We have proudly served Lake Community children for 26 years.

We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable foundation. Our club members are service-minded men and women from all segments of the community. We meet every Thursday, at **Ozark Yacht Club**, 12 noon to 1:00 pm for lunch, fellowship, discussion of club business, and a program presented by community business people on topics of interest such as community issues, public affairs, service, or entertainment. (Members do not have to attend every week...just when you can and be willing to help volunteer).

We'd love for you to join us for good times as we work together to better the lives of the children in our community. Please join us at our next meeting or contact our Club President for more information.