

MEET KOBY – A SUCCESS STORY THANKS TO YOU

United Way of Siouxland works to better the lives of people in the community. We fund programs that work to fight for health, education, and financial stability in Siouxland. The services provided allow for success stories like Koby's.

October was a tough time for Little Brother Koby. He came into the Big Brothers Big Sisters office at age 13 and was turning 14 in a few short months. Time was quickly approaching to where he would age out of the program, but the Mentoring Specialist knew Koby needed a Big Brother. Koby walked into the office with his hood up, headphones in, and his head down. He wanted nothing to do with anyone in the room but the Mentoring Specialist knew that there was potential in him and she finally got him to start talking.

The Mentoring Specialist told Koby that she had the perfect Big Brother waiting for him. She told him that she knew he was a good kid that just needed some extra guidance. When Koby heard those words, he finally took his hood off, headphones out, and lifted his head up. He told the Mentoring Specialist that he would like to go on with the interview and get a Big Brother.

Koby's mother signed him up for the program in hopes to get him on a better path mentally, physically, and emotionally. Koby's father is on the road a lot so he was missing that male role model and someone that could steer him in the right direction. Koby was getting into fights at school and was receiving D's and F's. All Koby needed was someone to talk about 'guy things' with, have someone to turn to for advice, and have a male show him that he matters.

Five days before Koby's 14th birthday he was matched with his Big Brother, Scott. They instantly connected due to the hats that they were wearing; rival teams of the NFL. It was a great conversation starter for them and made the both of them feel in their element. Koby and Scott both love football and love to call each other up when one of their teams aren't doing too hot; Koby initiates the majority of those phone calls!

Scott said there have been some challenges during their first year but nothing that he hasn't ever dealt with before; he's always up for challenges. This past year, since being matched with Scott, Koby hasn't been in anymore fights at school and is exceling at sports.

Koby told his Mentoring Specialist that he knows he can always count on Scott when he has troubling times or needs some advice. Both Scott and Koby have mentioned that that they will forever be lifelong friends.

Koby is just one of the many people helped by your donation to United Way of Siouxland.

Thank you for **LIVING UNITED** | United We Fight. United We Win.

