

Nicole and AnnCatherine, Best Buddies Living residents



MISSION PILLARS

One-To-One Integrated Leadership Inclusive Friendships Employment Development Living

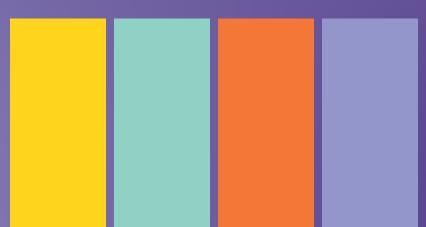


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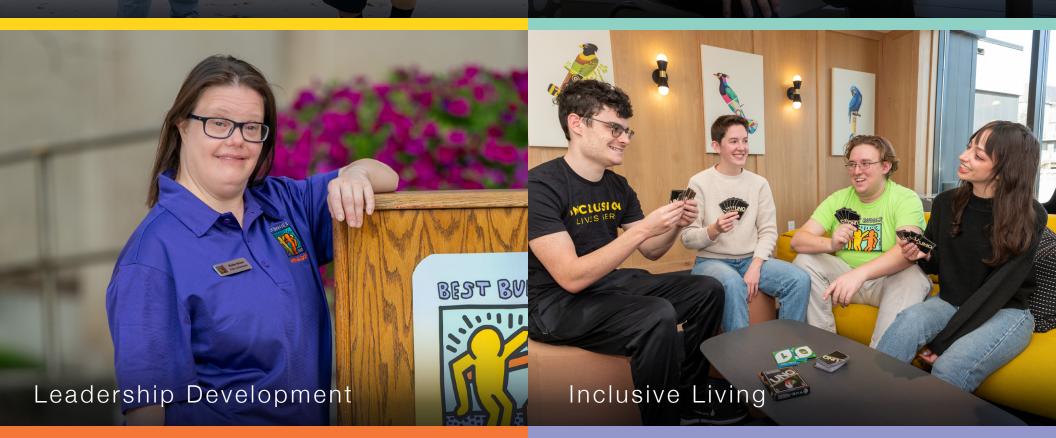
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Integrated Employment





Message From Our Chairman

Dear Best Buddies family,

In the face of significant challenges worldwide throughout 2022, Best Buddies events and programmatic activities returned stronger than ever nationwide and globally. As the year concluded, we became even more certain of the critical and transformative role that Best Buddies programs play in fostering connections and building a more inclusive world for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Reflecting on the past year, I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together through the power of one-to-one friendships, meaningful jobs, leadership training, and inclusive living opportunities. With your unwavering support, Best Buddies reached thousands of participants with IDD, equipping them with the resources to feel included, confident, and optimistic about the future.

As we contemplate the global reach of Best Buddies' mission and the lives impacted, I extend my deep gratitude to each of you who has supported this organization, making our mission a reality. Thank you for contributing to a better world for individuals with IDD.

Your continued support will be vital as we strive to propel our mission forward, recognizing that there is still much work to be done. Together, we will rise to the occasion to change lives through the transformative power of inclusion.

In Friendship,

Anthony K. Shriver, Founder, Chairman & CEO, Best Buddies International

Anthony K. Shriver, Founder, Chairman & CEO, Best Buddies International

Why We Matter

Society has made undeniable progress in improving the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Yet, we still have a long way to go. Many people with IDD remain unemployed and do not experience the simple joys of genuine friendships and a significant portion of the IDD community still faces access barriers, pervasive social isolation and discrimination.

This is where Best Buddies International plays a vital role as a model of inclusion and catalyst for change. Best Buddies is the world's largest organization committed to ending the social, physical and economic isolation that 200 million individuals with IDD often experience. For those within the IDD community, Best Buddies represents a pathway to forging lifelong friendships, securing gainful employment, achieving independent living and gaining the skills and confidence to advocate for themselves.

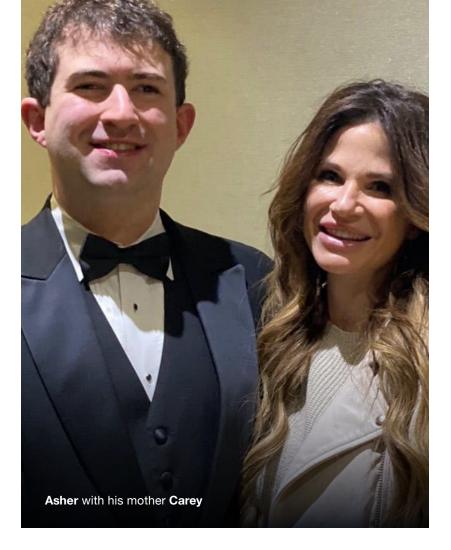
An estimated 81%* of adults (18+) with IDD do not have a paid job in the community. This is where the Best Buddies' Jobs program steps in. The Best Buddies' Jobs program helps participants with IDD prepare for and secure supportive employment. This is a mutually beneficial venture for job candidates with IDD, businesses offering employment and society as a whole: not only do participants have the potential to garner substantial benefits and earn a cumulative income exceeding \$900,000 over a 30-year period, but these individuals can also contribute up to \$153,000 in tax revenue and diminish the need for nearly \$895,000 in federal SSI and Medicaid benefits during the same span.

This is just one of the countless ways Best Buddies improves the lives of individuals with IDD while simultaneously improving whole-of-society outcomes. Through the cultivation of meaningful one-on-one friendships, the pursuit of integrated employment, the provision of inclusive living arrangements and the nurturing of leadership skills, Best Buddies is fostering a world that is full of opportunity for individuals with IDD.

For more information, please visit **BESTBUDDIES.ORG**

Together, we can build a world where everyone belongs.





A Parent's Perspective

Carey Larkin is a passionate advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), like her son, Asher. She became involved in Best Buddies after attending a Best Buddies event in California and returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma, determined to bring Best Buddies to her home state.

And she did just that.

In 2022, Asher was named the national *Best Buddies Champion of the Year*, raising over \$123,000 through his campaign with his mission partner and stepsister, Alyssa Larkin.

"When I chose the name Asher, I did so because the name means 'happy and blessed," Carey said. "It brings me so much joy to say that it perfectly describes Asher in who he is. In all my worries with his diagnosis, I have learned that Asher is the most welladjusted, independent person. He can do anything he sets his mind to. To see Asher thriving as an advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and knowing him the way that I do, I would not expect anything less."

"The greatest gift people with IDD possess is their incredible ability to teach us a better way to see the world...Supporting Best Buddies is a rewarding experience, no matter your role with the organization." - **Carey Larkin**

"Best Buddies is all about friendship and helping people; I want to be a part of that. Everyone deserves to feel included and have friends. Being a Champion is an awesome opportunity to spread the word about Best Buddies. The more people know about Best Buddies, the better our world will be!" – Asher Ward



2022 Highlights

Launches

- Best Buddies opened new state offices in Georgia and South Carolina. Georgia, which opened in September, serves the Atlanta and Savannah markets. The South Carolina office, which opened in October, hired two local staff members to directly serve Greenville.
- Best Buddies in North Carolina opened a Jobs program in Charlotte, and Best Buddies in California (BBCA) opened a Jobs program in San Diego.
- The Jobs program helped 300 participants secure employment with TJX companies, bringing the program to over 1,000 total placements nationwide.
- Internationally, new offices were opened in Costa Rica, Dominica, El Salvador and Portugal, and the Jobs Program expanded into Costa Rica, Ecuador and Serbia.
- The Best Buddies Elementary Schools program launched, utilizing teaching tools to help young students form accepting and inclusive mindsets.
- Best Buddies launched the Transitions program to help students ages 14-21 identify career ambitions, develop employment and leadership skills, explore post-secondary education options and prepare for independent living.
- Best Buddies Living expanded, opening a location at the University of Miami in Coral Gables to join the pre-existing locations at Georgetown University and Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Partnerships

- Best Buddies Jobs, in partnership with Accenture, created the Train the Trainer campaign, a comprehensive training program for Accenture's staff to become supportive colleagues and managers to people with IDD. On June 27, Best Buddies Jobs hosted the first Train the Trainer event, an in-depth and interactive learning experience for 13 new members of Best Buddies in Chicago.
- Best Buddies Jobs additionally launched a national partnership with Shutterfly and its affiliated brands: Snapfish, Spoonflower, and Lifetouch. Throughout the year, the Shutterfly team attended a virtual event to learn about the organization, participated in Best Buddies' programs, volunteered as event photographers and created a photography journal for Best Buddies program participants.



Milestones

2008

- 666

- In 1987, Anthony Kennedy Shriver launches BEST**BUDDIES**® Colleges by founding the first Best Buddies chapter at Georgetown University.
- In 1988, the iconic Best Buddies logo was donated to Best Buddies by legendary pop-artist, Keith Haring.
- On January 19, 1989, Best Buddies is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, becoming America's first national, unified, social and recreational program for people with IDD.
- In 1992, Best Buddies Global Headquarters office moves to Miami, FL.
- In 1993, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® Citizens to pair adults with IDD in one-to-one friendships with their working peers who do not have disabilities.
- In 1994, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® Jobs, a supported employment program targeting high-paying, corporate jobs for people with IDD.
- In 1995, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® High Schools to pair special education students in one-to-one friendships with high school volunteers.
- In 1996, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® Middle Schools to pair students with IDD in one-to-one friendships with middle school volunteers.
- In 1998, Best Buddies hosts the first Best Buddies Miami Gala.
- In 1999, Best Buddies launches e-**BUDDIES**_®, a cutting-edge online friendship program.
- In 2000, Best Buddies holds the inaugural *Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port*, a 100-mile bike ride from Boston to Hyannis Port.
- In 2003, Best Buddies has participants in all 50 states on the US.
- In 2004, Best Buddies launches the nationally televised inaugural Volvo Best Buddies Challenge: Hearst Castle, a 100-mile bike ride along the Pacific Coast Highway.

- In 2009, Best Buddies launches Best Buddies Friendship Walk.
- In 2010, Best Buddies has programs in 50 countries around the world.
- In 2011, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® Ambassadors to teach participants with IDD communication and self-advocacy skills.
- In 2012, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**[®] Promoters, the first Best Buddies program open to elementary schools; the inaugural of the *Best Buddies Challenge: Miami* takes place and the first *Best Buddies Champion of The Year Gala* is hosted.
- In 2014, Best Buddies celebrates its 25th anniversary and also celebrates 25 years of the *Best Buddies Leadership Conference*.
- in 2017, Best Buddies holds the first *Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Malibu* and hosts the inaugural *Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers* in Malibu, CA, with Global Ambassador Cindy Crawford and her daughter, Kaia Gerber.
- In 2019, Best Buddies launches its fourth mission pillar, BEST**BUDDIES**[®] Inclusive Living, to provide individuals with and without IDD an opportunity to live independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow and thrive.
- In 2020, Best Buddies introduces BESTBUDDIES_® Ventures, with the first launch being BESTBUDDIES_® X Rosetta Bakery in Miami, FL, creates jobs for individuals with IDD and operates as a profit center via a bakery and coffee shop partnership.
- In 2022, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® Transitions to help prepare young adults with IDD for independence and inclusion in their communities as they move from school into adulthood.
- In 2022, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES_® Elementary Schools to teach inclusion to a younger age group to create a lasting effect on societal norms for the next generation.

2020 - Current

2019

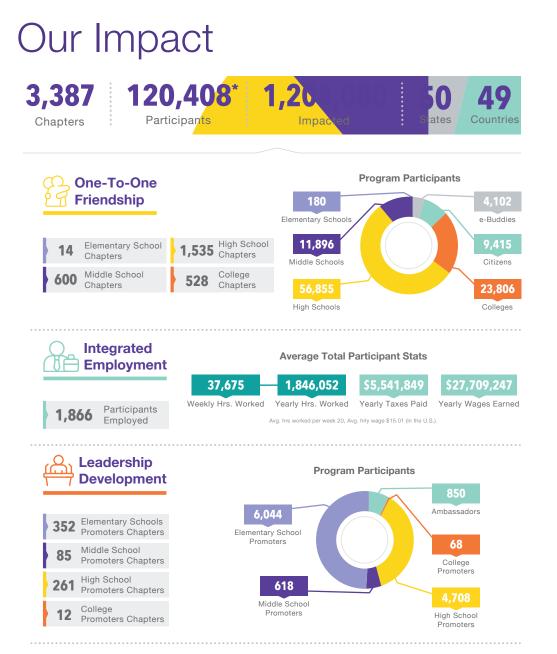
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2009



Best Buddies has been an integral part of my life for many years. I have done it since high school and it has given me friends and many opportunities to grow that I wouldn't have gotten anywhere else. Catherine and I have actually been friends since the 5th grade but Best Buddies gave us something that we could still do together when our schedules started to change in high school. Catherine is my best friend and I hope we stay friends forever. My life is better with her in it." - Allison

Best Buddies participants; Alex, Sean, Amber, Allison, Catherine and, Carol



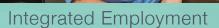
Inclusive Living

4 Four residences in Washington, D.C. (2), Miami, FL and Los Angeles, CA

All program stats are as of 12/31/2022, and reflect the most recent Best Buddles program year (July 1, 2022 – June 30,2023) *Total number of participants does not include residents in Living location(s) and participants in the new pre-ETS curriculum, not listed



One-To-One Friendships



_eadership Development

A CARD

Inclusive Living

We are BESTBUDDIES.

Best Buddies International is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Our programs empower the special abilities of people with IDD by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communication skills, and feel valued by society.

Mission

Best Buddies International is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development and inclusive living for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Vision

To put Best Buddies out of business. Best Buddies envisions a world where people with IDD are so successfully integrated into schools, workplaces and communities that its current efforts and services will be unnecessary. Until that vision becomes a reality, the organization will continue to educate middle school, high school and college students, community members, corporations and employers about the emotional, functional, and natural needs and abilities of people with IDD.

Who We Serve

The IDD community that Best Buddies serves includes, but is not limited to, people with Down syndrome, autism, fragile X syndrome, Williams syndrome, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and other undiagnosed disabilities.

Programs

Best Buddies programs sit on the four key mission pillars below:

One-to-One Friendships, Integrated Employment, Leadership Development and Inclusive Living.

One-To-One Friendships

Builds friendships between people with and without IDD, offering social mentoring while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion for a population that is often isolated and excluded.

BEST**BUDDIES**. Middle Schools, High Schools, Colleges, and Citizens

Creates an inclusive community for students and adults with IDD, helping them become socially integrated with their peers at every age.

e-BUDDIES.

Provides opportunities for participants with and without IDD to develop one-to-one friendships online and create connections using the power of technology.

Integrated Employment

Secures jobs for people with IDD, allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and continuously and independently support themselves.

BESTBUDDIES. Jobs

Matches skilled, qualified individuals with IDD with businesses seeking enthusiastic and dedicated employees. Through the Jobs program, Best Buddies develops partnerships with employers, assists with the hiring process and provides ongoing support to the employee and employer.

An estimated 81% of adults (18+) with developmental disabilities do not have a paid job in the community. The Best Buddies Jobs program strives to place participants with IDD in supported employment, with the potential to receive benefits and earn a total income upwards of \$900K over 30 years. In turn, these individuals will contribute \$153K in taxes back into the economy, rather than receive nearly \$895K in Federal SSI and Medicaid benefits during that time period.

Leadership Development

Educates and empowers people with and without IDD to become leaders, public speakers and advocates.

BEST**BUDDIES** Ambassadors

Offers people with and without IDD the opportunity to gain the public speaking skills, self-esteem and confidence needed to successfully advocate for themselves, their peers and Best Buddies in communities and workplaces.

BEST**BUDDIES** Promoters

Empowers youth to become advocates for people with IDD and help open new Best Buddies chapters and programs by organizing special events that promote awareness to the disability rights movement.

Inclusive Living

Provides an integrated experience in which people with and without IDD are active, contributing citizens – living independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive.

BEST**BUDDIES**. Living

Provides individuals with and without IDD an opportunity to live together in a vibrant, educational community that supports all residents in advancing their employment, financial literacy, continued education, and life skills as they work to achieve their personal goals.

Emily and Courtnei, Friendship Program buddy pair

One-to-One Friendships

Without love, support and friends, life may feel isolating – this is a reality people with IDD have faced throughout history. Best Buddies offers people with IDD the chance to have a friend, gain self-confidence and self-esteem and share interests, experiences and activities that many other individuals enjoy.

BESTBUDDIES. Elementary, Middle, High Schools & Colleges

Best Buddies offers students with IDD the opportunity to have a friend and enjoy common interests, experiences, and social activities in the Middle School, High School, and College programs. Each friendship pair commits to speaking and spending time together every week throughout the year. These programs create lasting friendships and help facilitate an environment of inclusion throughout the school and in the community.

BESTBUDDIES. Citizens

For people with IDD, the absence of meaningful friendships extends into adulthood. Best Buddies Citizens pairs adults with IDD in one-to-one friendships with adults without IDD in corporate and civic communities. Citizen buddy pairs commit to a one-year friendship in which they will talk once a week and see each other twice a month. These relationships commonly grow into friendships that last a lifetime.

e-BUDDIES.

This program creates social inclusion and friendships for people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in a virtual space. Technology is an integral part of society and by participating in e-Buddies, participants can develop the skills needed to communicate across a variety of platforms.

In 2022, e-buddies served 4,102 total participants. These participants exchanged more than 50,000 emails. e-Buddies was also used as a teaching tool in the classroom by more than 100 special education teachers and other professionals across the country.



In all my years of doing this, I have never seen a friendship like Ryan and Timothy's." - Chapter Advisor

Timothy & Ryan One-To-One Friendships

Tesoro High School, Las Flores, CA

Ryan was introduced to Best Buddies as a freshman in high school. Throughout high school, he developed a deep appreciation for the Best Buddies mission and what it can do for individuals with and without IDD.

"I could not have known how much I would learn from students with IDD," Ryan said. "They have made me more outgoing, and I now not only look after myself but after the new friendships I have made as well."

One of the most meaningful catalysts in Ryan's transformation was his buddy, Timothy. Two years ago, Ryan was matched in a one-to-one friendship with Timothy. They instantly hit it off and became significant parts of each other's lives.

"I love hanging out with my buddy, Ryan," said Timothy. "We go bowling and play basketball together...he is just an all-around awesome guy."

"I love Timothy's energy," Ryan said. "He is the kindest soul I've ever met and shows love towards everyone he meets."

Their genuine connection has not gone unnoticed.

"In all my years of doing this, I have never seen a friendship like Ryan and Timothy's," their chapter advisor said. "Ryan will come to my room every day to hang out with Timothy for lunch, and he consistently makes an effort in their friendship."

Ryan and Timothy's meaningful friendship has inspired a culture of inclusion at their school. Ryan is now the chapter president and has had an active role in growing their presence on campus. Ryan and Timothy demonstrate that so much can be learned from individuals of all abilities when we have integrated classrooms, peer groups, and communities.

Gillermo, Best Buddies Jobs participant Best Buddies X Rosetta Bakery

Integrated Employment

Best Buddies Jobs assists participants in finding meaningful employment, earning a competitive income, receiving benefits, and working alongside others in the community. The program offers people with IDD the opportunity to become financially independent, removing the need for government assistance or parental support. A focus on competitive, professional opportunities is what sets the Best Buddies Jobs program apart from other employment services.

BESTBUDDIES. Jobs

Best Buddies Jobs furthers the integration of people with IDD into the community through supported employment. The focus is on facilitating competitive, integrated job placements that allow participants to earn an income, pay taxes and work in an environment alongside their peers in the community, leading to full inclusion and independence. Coaching is provided in essential job interviewing skills, and once employment is secured, there is assistance with on-the-job training.

The Jobs program prides itself on developing employment opportunities in professional environments and focuses on whitecollar jobs such as receptionist, mail room assistant, file clerk, office assistant, front desk assistant, and retail associate. Employers range from some of the top law firms and talent agencies to well-known retail businesses and luxury hotels.

There is 34 cities in 18 states with active Best Buddies Jobs program as of December 31, 2022.

Elaina, Best Buddies Jobs participant kubik

> The office is a very comfortable environment. Plus, it is dog-friendly, and I love dogs." - Elaina

Elaina Integrated Employment

kubik, Odenton, MD

Elaina had long been searching for meaningful and inclusive employment in a role that would allow her to use her friendly personality and organizational skills. She landed an interview with kubik, an event management agency.

Upon entering the interview, it became immediately apparent that this would be an excellent place for her to work: kubik was passionate about Best Buddies' mission and was excited to hire inclusively.

Elaina aced the interview and was hired as a receptionist in May 2022. She began working part-time and instantly identified her first goal: full-time employment.

Within a month, Elaina achieved that goal.

Elaina's new full-time salary is over \$66,000 per year, and she has also earned vacation and retirement benefits.

Elaina's coworkers have been wowed by her work ethic and seamless fit into the company culture. Elaina welcomes everyone into the office, assists with paperwork for many staff, orders office supplies, monitors shipping, and creates and files documents.

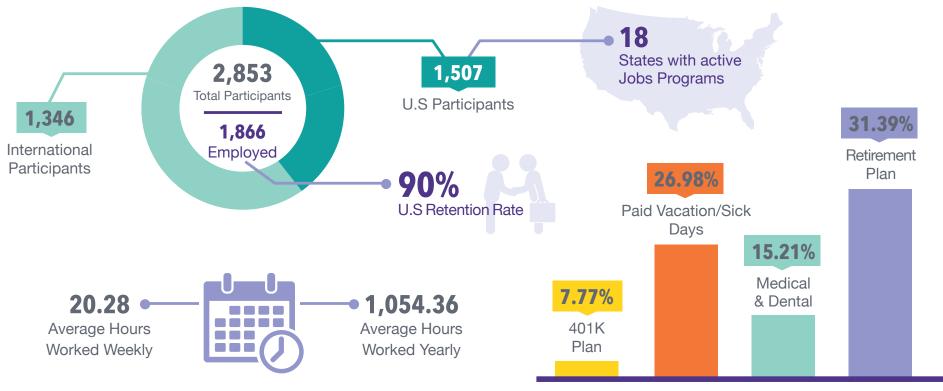
Elaina now has a new goal: to transform this opportunity from a job into a career.

"The office is a very comfortable environment," Elaina said, "Plus, the office is dog-friendly, and I love dogs."

Elaina continually seeks to improve her skills, a goal that kubik is helping her achieve by slowly expanding her responsibilities.

The culture that kubik has created for individuals with IDD, in no small part due to Elaina's success, has created the exact workplace culture that the Jobs program is built to develop. This change in workplace culture, spearheaded by employing Elaina, has brought about kubik's desire to employ more individuals with an IDD.

Key Jobs Program Stats



Receiving Benefits**

Top 5 Jobs Participants Highest Salaries With Benefits

Salary	\$66,560	\$62,400	\$62,400	\$62,004	\$61,588
Name/ State	Elaina C. Maryland	Jessica S. California	Nathaniel M. California	Denzel A. Illinois	Anthony S. California
Benefits	Vacation Pay, Retirement Plans	Dental Care, Medical Care, Retirement Plans, Sick Leave, Sick Pay, Vacation Pay, Vision Care	Vacation Pay, Holiday Pay, Medical Care, Fitness Center, Dental Care, Sick Leave, Sick Pay	Vacation Pay, Holiday Pay, Retirement Plans, Sick Pay	Wellness Programs, Company Discount, Free or Reduced Meals



Top 5 Jobs Participants Highest Hourly Rates

Harvest Sensations



Leadership Development

Best Buddies educates and empowers people with and without IDD to become leaders, public speakers and change agents. Through the Ambassadors and Promoters programs, participants inspire their communities to build a more inclusive world for people with IDD.

BESTBUDDIES. Ambassadors

Best Buddies Ambassadors is a program that provides training for participants with and without IDD in speech writing, public speaking, and self-advocacy. Ambassadors develop the skills to share their life stories, promote Best Buddies programs, network, and, most importantly, advocate.

Ambassadors participate in trainings focused on the art of public speaking and advocacy. Once trained, they share their stories and become more involved and empowered as citizens. Ambassadors are encouraged to speak about opportunities for people with IDD, present at recruitment fairs and Best Buddies events, and develop partnerships in the community.

BESTBUDDIES. Promoters

Best Buddies Promoters empowers youth to become advocates for people with IDD by organizing and attending special events that promote inclusion. Students attending a school without a special education program can join a Promoters chapter to develop connections with people with IDD or can start one by contacting their local Best Buddies state office.

Each Promoters chapter is led by a chapter president from the student body and a faculty advisor and is assigned a Best Buddies staff person who offers regular support and guidance. Once formed, Promoters chapters host events, activities, and fundraisers where they advocate for people with IDD, and promote the Best Buddies mission.



Never be afraid to make a name for yourself, to stand up for what is right, to be a light, to use your voice, achieve your goals through hard work and positivity, and most importantly, know that you are loved, valued, and accepted. " - Hunter

Hunter Leadership Development

Ambassador, West Palm Beach, FL

"Hello everyone! My name is Hunter Huff, and I've been a proud member of Best Buddies for nine years. My life before joining this organization was very challenging. It was hard for me to make friends. I had issues socially connecting, and I only interacted with people at lunch, school events, birthday parties, and other social gatherings. One big reason I didn't have a lot of friends is that not everyone understood who I was and that I was just a normal human being who just happened to be on the Autism spectrum.

During my sophomore year in high school, I attended a match party for Best Buddies, and I met my best buddy, Stefany . I also got to meet so many new people in that chapter as well. That same year, I danced all night at my first-ever Friendship Ball and enjoyed participating in the Friendship Walk. My buddy and I were able to develop a true friendship.

Since joining this organization, my life has changed immensely. I attend the *Champion* of the Year Gala, activities in the Citizens program, and volunteer for Best Buddies events such as the *Best Buddies Friendship Ball*. I also serve on the *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* Committee, speak at events and other presentations, and today, I am an official Best Buddies Global Ambassador. I enjoy helping others learn about our incredible mission and working to ensure that people like me are included in the community. It has opened so many doors for me and allowed me to have a social life.

Best Buddies creates opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live out their dreams and goals. Most of all, it changes attitudes by making sure people see me for my abilities and understand the importance of inclusion.

No doubt, Best Buddies has made an impact on my life. It has empowered me to be a better friend and has encouraged me to inspire others like me to be part of this global movement. Never be afraid to make a name for yourself, to stand up for what is right, to be a light, to use your voice, achieve your goals through hard work and positivity, and most importantly, know that you are loved, valued, and accepted.

Thank you for supporting Best Buddies. You have made an impact on my life! I can't wait to see how many other people will be able to experience the power of friendship because of your efforts today. My name is Hunter Huff, and on behalf of our entire Best Buddies family, THANK YOU. Go Best Buddies!"

- Hunter, Best Buddies Ambassador

Inclusive Living

Supporting and empowering individuals with IDD to live as integrated, contributing members in the larger community is the next frontier in the movement to create a more inclusive society. Best Buddies Living fosters a dynamic environment where people with IDD can learn, grow and thrive.

BESTBUDDIES. Living

The Best Buddies Living program encourages people with and without IDD to live together in a vibrant community that focuses on supporting residents in accomplishing their life goals and dreams.

The Best Buddies Living program supports inclusion by:

• Developing programs that foster an opportunity for residents to experience living with friends and colleagues. Programs include weekly shared meals, fitness classes, cultural events, holiday parties, social activities, and sports.

• Offering an environment that encourages the development of independent living skills, life-changing relationships, and educational pursuits in connection with a college or university. Through an affiliation with a nearby school, all residents can immerse themselves in campus life, attending sporting events and enjoying fitness and dining facilities alongside their student peers.

• Matching people with and without IDD in a residential experience, and providing a supportive environment that encourages full-time or part-time employment.

As of December 31, 2022, Best Buddies operated four Living residences; two in Washington, D.C. (Georgetown and Union Market), one in Miami, FL and one in Los Angeles, CA.



Nicole and AnnCatherine, Best Buddies Living residents

Best Buddies Living is more than just a place to live. It's a community filled with wonderful people who have become my family. I enjoy attending group events and dinners, where I get to meet and connect with others who understand me on a deeper level." - AnnCatherine

AnnCatherine Best Buddies Living Resident

Georgetown, Washington D.C.

Anne Catherine, also known as AC by her friends, joined the Best Buddies Living program in Georgetown in September 2022—a decision that would shape her future in ways she never imagined.

AC's story serves as a testament to the profound impact of our Best Buddies Living program and showcases the power of friendship, independence, and a supportive community.

"Being a resident at Best Buddies Living: Georgetown has been an incredible experience. One of my favorite parts is having the opportunity to learn and practice independent living skills. I've learned how to clean my apartment, do my laundry, and handle everyday tasks with confidence. These skills may seem small to some, but they have given me the independence I've always wanted. With every step, I feel a sense of pride and accomplishment, knowing that I am capable of taking care of myself.

Best Buddies Living is more than just a place to live. It's a community filled with wonderful people who have become my family. I enjoy attending group events and dinners, where I get to meet and connect with others who understand me on a deeper level. We love activities like watching *The Bachelor*, working out together, and having movie nights. These experiences have created bonds that will last forever. The support and friendships I've found within this community have brought me lots of joy and happiness.

In addition to personal growth and connections, Best Buddies has also helped me in my professional journey. I work as an office specialist at Holland & Knight law firm, and it has been an incredible experience. It gives me a sense of purpose and an opportunity to make a difference in my own unique way.

Every day, I wake up knowing that I have a community of friends who support me, celebrate my successes, and stand by me during challenging times. Best Buddies has become a second family—a place where I am accepted, understood, and loved for who I am.

Being a part of Best Buddies Living has taught me that it is possible to live on your own and discover a whole new world of possibilities. You will find a sense of belonging in a community that celebrates you."

- AnnCatherine, Best Buddies Living resident

International Programs

2022 was a year of remarkable growth and achievements for Best Buddies' International Programs (IP).

Key Updates

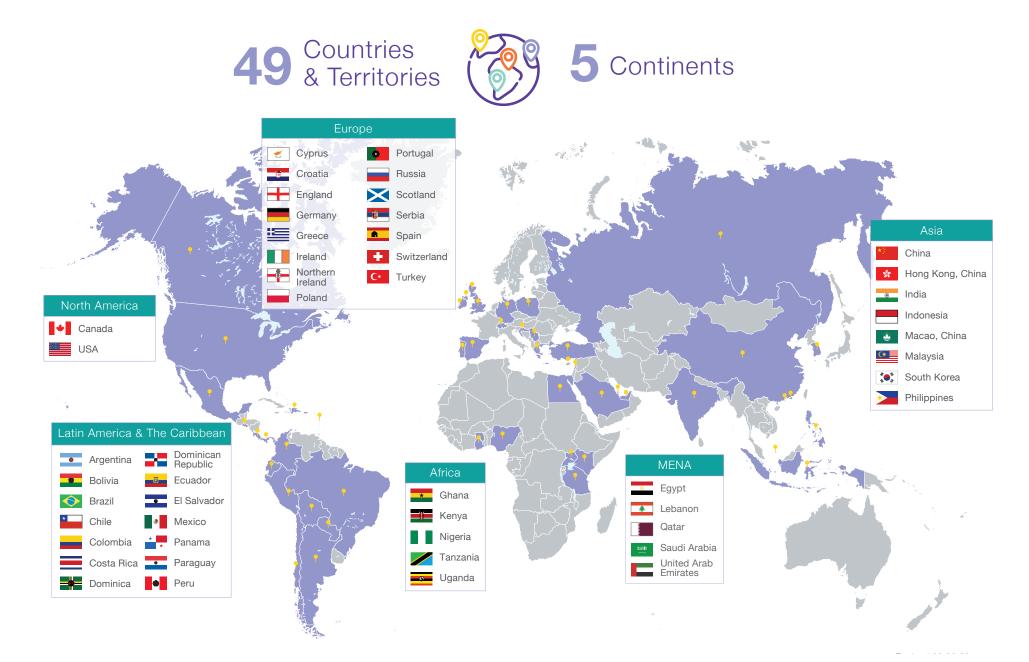
- Streamlined country accreditation and enhanced the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization's global programs
- Hosted an in-person staff forum in Santiago, Chile, that promoted worldwide engagement and collaboration.
- Hired a new program manager to introduce new perspectives and to help further our initiatives.
- Translated all leadership conference materials into Spanish.
- Expanded Best Buddies' programs into the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Portugal, and we also expanded the Best Buddies Jobs program into Costa Rica, Ecuador and Serbia.

Looking ahead to 2023, IP aims to establish new regional government, corporate and foundation partnerships, strengthen current programs in operation, and successfully launch Best Buddies in Abu Dhabi, which is scheduled to be completed in the fall.





Best Buddies Around The World



Signature Events

Cyclists at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: California, presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation

The purpose of special events is to garner support, funds, and awareness for the Best Buddies mission. There are numerous ways to get involved with Best Buddies events including attending, volunteering, and pursuing sponsorship opportunities.

BEST BUDDIES CHALL



Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port

June 3-4, 2022 | Boston to Hyannis Port

The Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port, presented by Core Hydration and Shaw's and Star Market Foundation returned to Massachusetts for its 23rd year. The Challenge weekend kicked off Friday, June 3 with a dinner reception at John F. Kennedy Presidential Museum & Library. On Saturday, June 4, hundreds of riders took to the start line at the JFK Library for the picturesque 100-mile ride portion of the event, from Boston to Hyannis Port. The Challenge concluded with a New Englandstyle clambake and live musical entertainment by the Manhattan Band.

Best Buddies Challenge: California

October 15, 2022 | Marin County, CA

The Best Buddies Challenge: California presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation returned for its 19th year at a new host location: the picturesque Summit Skywalker Ranch.

Hundreds of cyclists, advocates, and celebrity supporters alike attended the event and took to the start line to ride 70 miles down the majestic coastal vistas and beautiful countryside in Marin County, California. Safeway Northern California Division President Karl Schroeder presented a \$560,000 check presentation to Best Buddies International during the opening ceremonies, hosted by Best Buddies celebrity supporter Jason Lewis. Event participants enjoyed a VIP reception and dinner on Friday, followed by a luncheon on Saturday, to celebrate their efforts in advocating for inclusion.



Anthony K. Shriver with Best Buddies Ambassadors Matthew, Jermoe, Paul, and Stacey at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: California, presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation



Cyclists at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: Miami Chaired by Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund and presented by Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation, Core Hydration and Mack Cycle & Fitness

Best Buddies Challenge: Miami

November 18, 2022 | Miami, FL

Four-time *Tour de France* winner Chris Froome joined professional cyclists Magnus Sheffield and Cam Wurf for the *Best Buddies Challenge: Miami Chaired by Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund and presented by Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation, Core Hydration and Mack Cycle & Fitness* in South Beach. The world-class 80-mile cycling event took over closed roads with a motorcycle police-escorted peloton. The Challenge was followed by the *Best Buddies Miami Gala* that evening.

Best Buddies Miami Gala

November 18, 2022 | Miami, FL

The 24th Annual *Best Buddies Miami Gala* celebrated Best Buddies' programs in Qatar and honored Global Ambassador Cindy Crawford with the 2022 Spirit of Friendship Award, Best Buddies' highest accolade presented to distinguished luminaries who have shown great leadership, generosity and spirit in supporting the organization's mission. The event also featured a fabulous cocktail hour, a gourmet dinner, live and silent auctions, and a live performance by DJ Khaled.



Best Buddies Global Ambassador **Cindy Crawford** with Global Ambassador **Delaina** and her brother **Jaime** at the 2022 Best Buddies Miami Gala



Best Buddies Breakaway Camps

Best Buddies Breakaway Camps provided athletes with an elite-level, pro experience that aimed to offer participants a holistic approach to training. Special attention was given to riding more efficiently, proper rider nutrition, post-training recovery, and leaving with the foundations for a sustainable healthy lifestyle. The camps used Tour de France wisdom to craft a healthy training program applicable to the mature or the amateur athlete.

Malibu, CA

March 30 - April 3, 2022

Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Malibu Presented by Core Hydration offered cyclists a world-class, fiveday riding experience through the scenic canyon roads and rock-studded hillsides of the Santa Monica Mountains overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Base camped at the world-renowned Four Seasons Hotel Westlake Village, cyclists ended each ride focused on recovery with daily massages and gourmet meals handcrafted by sports nutrition experts.

December 7 – December 11, 2022

The second Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Malibu Presented by Core Hydration offered cyclists another opportunity to once again take to the familiar but beautiful training roads just north of Los Angeles.

Asheville, NC

September 21 – September 25, 2022

Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Asheville Presented by Core Hydration offered riders a once-in-a-lifetime cycling experience, taking the cyclists to the top of Mount Mitchell, the highest point in the US east of the Mississippi River, and all throughout the iconic Blue Ridge Mountains.

Sonoma, CA

May 25 - May 29, 2022

Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Sonoma Presented by Core Hydration was based out of the Farmhouse Inn in Forestville, CA, and brought participants through the wine country and redwoods of Sonoma County.



Institute for Corporate Productivity, being honored as Mother of the Year at the 2022 Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers

Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers

May 7, 2022 | Malibu, CA

The 5th Annual *Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers* honored the gifts of love and friendship that mothers give to their children, especially the amazing mothers of our Best Buddies participants. The celebration also featured sumptuous cocktails, food, live performances, a special award ceremony honoring the Mother of the Year, Madeline Borkin and fun activities for the entire family. Rima Fakih, Former Miss USA/ Best Buddies Talent Relations Board Member & Volunteer since 2010, presented a special award to an outstanding Best Buddies Ambassador, dancer and actor Joshua Felder.

Best Buddies Balls & Proms

Best Buddies Balls/Proms are an exciting way for Best Buddies' state offices and chapters to celebrate friendship. Best Buddies participants are the stars of the show, and local program leaders help create a night that attendees will never forget.





Best Buddies Champion of the Year

Best Buddies Champion of the Year is a competitive fundraising campaign that unites and recognizes leaders of inclusion in local communities across the country. Champion candidates commit to raising funds and awareness for their local Best Buddies programs. At the end of the campaign, a *Champion of the Year* celebration takes place to honor the nominees and name the ultimate *Champion* of the Year: the person who raised the most funds in the designated region.

Champion of the Year continues to see rapid growth and 2022 was a record-breaking year. In total, 48 events were held nationwide, over 365 Champion candidates were recruited, and \$7.7 million was raised for Best Buddies, surpassing the fundraising goal by \$1.2 million. The 2022 national *Champion of the Year*, Asher Ward, raised over \$123,000 for Best Buddies in Oklahoma. Asher is the first national *Champion of the Year* with an intellectual or developmental disability.

Champion of the Year events not only raise critical funds for Best Buddies but also create opportunities for community leaders to become advocates for the mission of inclusion.

Best Buddies Friendship Walk

The *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* continued to grow and expand, raising awareness and funds to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). The *Best Buddies Friendship Walks* are fundamental in supporting local Best Buddies programs dedicated to ending the social, physical, and economic isolation of the 200 million people worldwide with IDD.

In 2022, over 32,000 participants in more than 61 cities walked to move Best Buddies' mission forward. Collectively, over \$5 million was raised as participants, sponsors, volunteers, and public figures joined the movement that celebrates friendship, inclusion, and unity. Over the years, *Best Buddies Friendship Walks* have profoundly impacted communities nationwide, providing a platform for participants to showcase the Best Buddies mission. Each walk provides an atmosphere for new friendships, promising opportunities, and, most of all, inclusion for all people.



Best Buddies Leadership Conference

The 2022 Best Buddies Leadership Conference (BBLC) was hosted locally by each Best Buddies state office as an in-person experience this summer and brought together leaders in their communities to learn about the Best Buddies movement. For the first time since 2019, student leaders, volunteers and staff were reunited inperson to participate in leadership development training and create connections with their peers. Conference events were hosted throughout July and included 46 unique training experiences, including two virtual global forums, with over 2,250 Best Buddies leaders participating.

Attendees participated in a robust educational experience that included keynote presentations, interactive sessions, and peer-to-peer connections. Several Best Buddies offices provided team building activities as part of *BBLC*. Best Buddies in Wisconsin hosted a scavenger hunt at the Milwaukee County Zoo, Best Buddies in Florida held an overnight experience in Fort Lauderdale at the Museum of Discovery and Science, and Best Buddies in Maryland created a camp-themed event at a local outdoor center. The incredible connections made at *BBLC* highlighted the commitment of Best Buddies leaders around the world during a critical time in the organization's history as it reemerged from pandemic programming.

The *BBLC I See You Awards Celebration* was hosted on Facebook on July 13 to celebrate the outstanding leaders, chapters and volunteers who make Best Buddies a global movement. During the virtual awards ceremony, the following schools and individuals were recognized:



2021-2022 Outstanding Chapters of the Year:

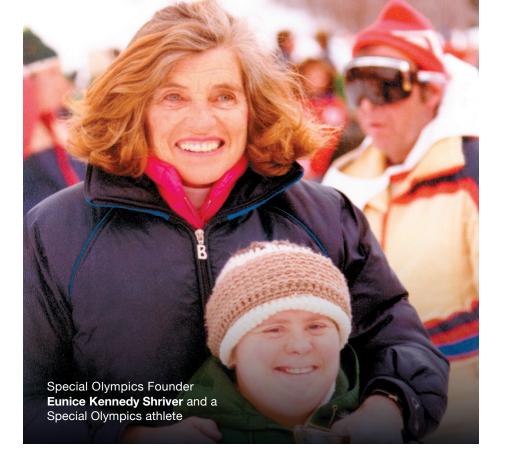
- Elementary School Chapter of the Year: Bixby West Elementary School, Oklahoma
- Middle School Chapter of the Year: Kahler Middle School, Indiana
- High School Chapter of the Year: Lehigh Senior High School, Florida
- College Chapter of the Year: University of South Carolina-Beaufort, South Carolina

Jobs Employee of the Year: Zach Smith, NFL Network

Outstanding International Country: Best Buddies in Mexico

Spirit of Courage: Margo Meley, Connecticut

Best Buddies looks forward to the return to the Indiana University campus and an in-person conference experience in 2023!



EKS Day

Created in 2010, *Eunice Kennedy Shriver (EKS) Day* serves as a unique opportunity to celebrate her legacy, indomitable spirit and life-long commitment to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Even during a time when society did not, Eunice Kennedy Shriver believed in the abilities of people with IDD and led the effort to end the physical and social isolation they endured.

EKS Day promotes a global call for individuals to commit to actions of change, inclusion, and acceptance for people with IDD. Across the United States and in 100 countries, EKS Day is celebrated with love, justice, faith, hope and courage – her five key values. Activities included sports clinics, picnics, leadership trainings and disability rights awareness efforts.

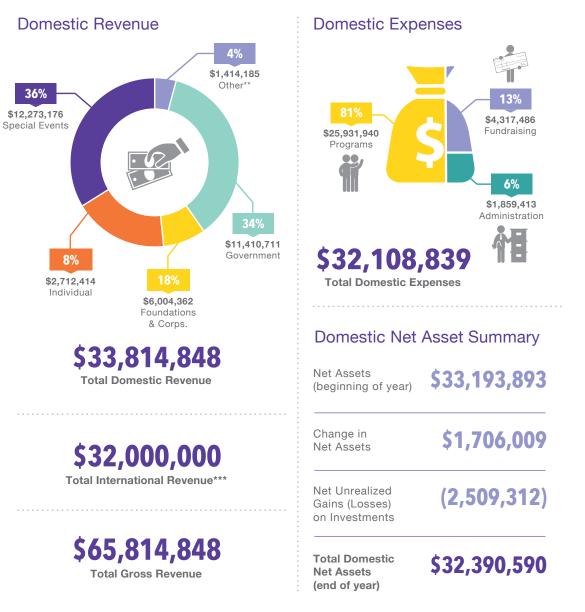
March Best Buddies Month

What began as a one-day celebration of the Best Buddies mission evolved into a month-long festivity to reflect on the importance of inclusion and acceptance for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities every March. In 2022, the celebration began with the annual *Spread the Word: Inclusion campaign* that encouraged participants to showcase how they promote inclusion in their communities. Throughout the month, participants hosted virtual chapter parties, awareness activities, and engagement campaigns to honor their unity in advancing opportunities for friendship, employment, leadership development, and inclusive living.



Financials

Consolidated Statement of Activities* (as of 12.31.22)



* Statement of Activities for calendar year 2022 based on Best Buddies International's Form 990

** "Other" represents revenue generated from a collection of sources including; Chapter Dues, Annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference, Investment Income and Cause-Related Marketing.

*** Gross consolidation of International Licensees that operate as their own NGOs.

Financials

Balance Sheet (as of 12.31.22)

Assets

Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents		\$7,313,045
Investments		\$19,507,969
Accounts receivable		\$59,382
Contributions receivable, net		\$1,156,818
Grant receivable		\$3,199,445
Inventory artwork		\$58,359
Prepaid expenses		\$523,258
	Total Current Assets	\$31,818,276

Property and Equipment

Computers		\$461,645
Furniture and equipment		\$85,105
Auto		\$24,000
Land		\$1,152,473
	Total Property and Equipment, Cost	\$1,723,223
	Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$555,250)
	Total Property and Equipment, Net	\$1,167,973

Right-of-Use Assets

Financing lease right-of-use, net of amonization	\$78,288
Operating lease right-of-use, net of amonization	\$3,529,660
Total Right-of-Use Assets	\$3,607,948

Other Assets

Long-term contributions receivable, net		\$871,212
Security deposits		\$91,665
Investments - Rosetta Bakery x Best Buddi	es	(\$66,160)
Investments - deferred compensation plan		-
	Total Other Assets	\$896,717

Total Assets \$37,490,914

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$655,830
Deferred revenue	\$606,706
Compensated absences payable	\$125,948
Current portion of financing liabilities	\$31,540
Current portion of operating liabilities	\$1,069,510
Total Current Liabilities	\$2,489,534
Long-Term Liabilities	
Security deposit	\$22,660
Deferred compensation plan liability	-
Long-term portion of financing liabilities	\$47,239
Long-term portion of operating liabilities	\$2,541,191
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$2,611,090
Total Liabilities	\$5,100,624
Net Assets	
With donor restriction	\$5,425,751
Without donor restriction	\$26,964,539
Total Net Assets	\$32,390,290

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$37,490,914



Board of Directors



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Olivia Culpo Actress



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Tamsen Fadal TV Anchor, Executive Producer & Author



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Professional Football Player

Atlanta Falcons

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Anthony Kennedy Shriver Founder, Chairman & CEO Best Buddies International



Founder Lumber Liquidators



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Founder

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Eunice K. Shriver II



Tom Sullivan





Corestate Capital Group

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Michael Collins

Vice President,

Jessica Schwartz

Vice President

Keith Allen Haring Pop Artist, Creator of the Best Buddies Logo

Our Supporters

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\$500,000 and Above CORE Hydration Safeway Foundation

\$250,000 to \$499,000

Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation Ansin Foundation/Channel 7 Foundation & WSVN/WHDH MOD Pizza Pratt Holdings, Inc. Rolex Watch U.S.A., Inc. Shaw's & Star Market Foundation The TJX Companies, Inc. Wedu, Inc.

\$100,000 to \$249,999

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SGII Inc

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\$25,000 to \$49,999

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Stanford Health Care

TD Bank



Anthony K. Shriver with ambassadors and actor Jason Lewis (far right), receiving a check donation from Karl Schroeder, Safeway Northern California Division President, at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: California, presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation

Teddie Peanut Butter Texas Mutual The Ferraro I aw Firm The GivenGain Foundation The Leavitt Corporation The Morrison & Foerster Foundation The Tom Sullivan Foundation UNUM Group UBS Financial Services, Inc. Vertex Pharmecueticals Vanguard Charitable Volvo Car USA Walmart Inc./Foundation Walt Disney World Resort Waymo LLC Webcor

5 \$10,000 to \$24,999

ABC Promotions Unlimited Inc. Altria Group Inc. American Equity Investment Life Ins. Co. Ansys, Inc. Arc Stores Arizona Coyotes Foundation Atlantic Management Corporation BankUnited, N.A. BlackRockFinancialManagement.Inc. Bloomberg L.P. **BNY Mellon Buffalo Sabres Foundation** Canon Channel RE LLC Chesire Half Marathon

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The Advance Financial Foundation The Bellamy Companies LLC

The Comcast NBC Universal Foundation The Driven Group LLC The Meltzer Group The National Football League Foundation The PNC Charitable Trusts The Town of Golden Beach The U.S. Charitable Gift Trust The Walt Disney Company TheraPeeds Inc. TUUCI I C United Phoenix Firefighters Association, Inc. Universal Music Group - Santa Monica Value Store It Management, Inc. Vegas Golden Knights Foundation Inc. Boeing Company Warren Averett Companies LLC Weamans Food Markets, Inc. Wood-Bitterman Charitable Lead Trust Equitable Trust

\$5.000 to \$9.999

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Chevron Products Company

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The J.M. Smucker Company Timothy E. McNutt, Sr. D.D.S. Total Wine & More TTextiles I I C **TUV Investments LLC UMPC** Changing Medicine Umpgua Bank Charitable Foundation Manpowergroup Foundation Inc. United Food And Commercial Workers Union **UNM Hospitals** Variety - the Children's Charity VvStar Credit Union Wasabi Ankeny WHAS Crusade For Children, Inc.

FOUNDATIONS

\$250,000 to \$499,000 Taft Foundation

\$100.000 to \$249.999

Fundacion MAPFRE May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust Stavros Niarchos Foundation The Frederick A. Deluca Foundation The Golisano Foundation

\$50.000 to \$99.999

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\$25.000 to \$49.999 AbbVie

Achelis and Bodman Foundation CenterPoint Energy Foundation Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust

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\$10.000 to \$24.999

Anne L. and George H. Clapp Charitable and Educational Trust APT Family Charitable Activities Bank of America Charitable Foundation. Inc. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas Community Foundation of Central Georaia Connelly Foundation Donald B and Dorothy L Stabler Foundation DuPage Foundation Fairfield County Community Foundation George Kaiser Family Foundation Greater Milwaukee Foundation Harper Family Foundation **IPA** Foundation Jack Buncher Foundation Jana Foundation Inc. June Rockwell Levy Foundation Karpus Family Foundation KOVAR Libra Foundation Maine Community Foundation Marr-Anderson Family Foundation Merrill Family Foundation Inc

New Mexico Oil and Gas Association Nusenda Foundation Nora Roberts Foundation Inc. Nordson Corporation Foundation Old National Bank Foundation OrthoIndy Foundation Peter and Elizabeth Tower Foundation Richard R. & Karen Bertrand Rochester Area Community Foundation Depository, Inc. Speedway Children's Charities Suncoast Federal Credit Union Foundation

TD Charitable Foundation Tempe Diablos Charities, Inc. Texas Women's Foundation The Dresher Foundation Inc. The Eamon Foundation The Feigenbaum Foundation The G.R. Lincoln Family Foundation The George C. Marshall Foundation The Graham and Carolyn Holloway Family Foundation The Laffey McHugh Foundation The Sorenson Legacy Foundation The Thomas W. Bradlev Foundation Inc. The Irene E. & George A. Davis The Wawa Foundation Inc. Valley Kids Foundation Vanguard Charitable Wells Fargo Foundation

\$5.000 to \$9.999

Commonwealth Edison Company Cralle Foundation Inc. Crosser Family Foundation Field Family Foundation Freeman E. Fairfield Foundation George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation **GN Wilcox Trust** Greater Washington Community Foundation International Paper Junior League of Indianapolis Kelley Foundation Major League Baseball Players Trust Matthew A. and Mildred Hunter Foundation Maui United Way, Inc. McInerny Foundation Million Dollar Round Table Foundation Networking to Help Children Inc Nicor Gas

Phillips Charitable Foundation Inc Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation PNC Foundation PNM Resources Foundation Charitable Fund **Roles Family Foundation** Rotary Club of Deerwood Charities. Inc Sandia National Laboratories Shutterfly Stackner Family Foundation Inc State Farm Companies Foundation Target Foundation Tesori Family Foundation Inc The Albert and Ethel Herzstein Foundation The Bloedorn Foundation The Carolina Panthers Charities The Charro Foundation The Fuller Foundation. Inc. The Gheens Foundation The Glens Falls Foundation Foundation The James & Juli Boeheim Foundation The John E. Fogarty Foundation The Katharine Matthies Foundation The Lindy Loo Foundation The National Football League Foundation The Silicon Valley Bank Foundation The William & Sheila Konar Foundation Umpoua Bank Charitable Foundation

GOVERNMENT

\$500,000 and Above

Valley Community Foundation

Variety - The Children's Charity

California Department of **Developmental Services** Florida Department of Education Illinois Department of Human Services Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Texas Education Agency U.S. Department of Education

\$250.000 to \$499.000

Florida Division of Vocational

Rehabilitation New Mexico Public Education Department

\$100,000 - \$249,999

Boston, Massachusetts Public Schools Fairfax County, Virginia California Department of Rehabilitation Central Valley Regional Center Connecticut Department of **Developmental Services** Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Servics Indiana Department of Education Marvland Department of Health Maryland State Department of Education Massachusetts Department of **Developmental Services** Miami-Dade County, Florida Office of Management and Budget New Jersey Department of Workforce Development New York Office of Persons with **Developmental Disabilities** Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

\$50.000 to \$99.999

Arizona Department of Economic Security Delaware Legislature Harbor Regional Center Indiana Division of Disability and **Rehabilitative Services** Maui County, Hawaii Department of Housing and Human Concerns Mecklenberg County, North Carolina Miami-Dade County, Florida Public Schools New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation New York Adult Career & Continuing Ed Services, VR Regional Center of Orange County Rhode Island Office of the Post-Secondary Commissioner Social Security Administration

State of Kentucky Texas Workforce Commision Utah Department of Human Concerns

Westside Regional Center

\$25.000 to \$49.999

Alta Vista Regional Center Cuyahoga County, Ohio Iowa Department of Education Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Human Services Peoria Care and Treatment Board. Illinois

Regional Center of the East Bay San Andreas Regional Center U.S. Department of State

\$10.000 to \$24.999

Anne Arundel County, Maryland Bernalillo County, New Mexico College of New Jersey Golden Gate Regional Center Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities Lanterman Regional Center Maricopa County, Arizona Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services Polk County, Iowa Shelby County, Tennessee St. Louis. Missouri. Office of **Developmental Disabilities** Resources Tempe, Arizona Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

\$5.000 to \$9.999

BlueCare Tennessee Butler County, Ohio City of Gilbert, Arizona City of Peoria. Arizona Community Services Board Fairfax County, Virginia

Fairfax County, Virginia Franklin County, Ohio Indiana Division of Developmental **Disabilities Services** Montgomery County, Pennsylvania Scottsdale, Arizona

TOP FUNDRAISING TEAMS

\$250.000 and Above Team Silicon Valley Bank (SVB)

\$100.000 to \$249.000

Team Eaton Vance/MSIM/Parametric Team Guardino Team King James Buddies Team MACK Cycle Team Natixis

\$50,000 to 99,000

Team Steptoe

\$25.000 to \$49.000

Team Current Builders Team Kates & Barlow Team MAG Team Mals Pals Team Miami Country Day Upper School Team New York Life NH Team Real Fun Content Team ServiceNow Team Smart & Horford Team Snvk Team Sunshine Team Volvo Team Webcor

\$10.000 to \$24.000

Team \$ GOAT \$ Team 603 Pride Team Academy of the Holy Names Team Ashlee Coffman Courage

Cyclists on **Team SVB** at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port, presented by Core Hydration and Shaw's and Star Market Foundation

Team Best Buddies Citizens Team Bike Zone of Cape Cod Team Blazing Saddles Team Blue Brook Management Team Bobcat Buddies Team Boeing Team Bonjay & The Funky Bunch Team Citizens Catch 'Em All Team Cliff's Crew Team Creekside High School Team Cruzin' 4 Inclusion Team Danielle & Coley's Buddies Team Dylan's Dominators Team Gallo Team Greenberg Traurig Team Gunnison Consulting Group Team Henry Team Holland & Knight Mission:Possible Team Jacksonville Citizens Group Team KIDS 360 Team Macon Friends for Makin' Friends Team Mali Team Malo Team Marks Buddies Team Marlowe Team Meg Team Merck - North Jersey Team Nové p/b PROthirteen Team Pirtle Construction Team Plant High School Team Ratchet and Clank Team Ravenwood High School Team RockDJ Team Seminole Ridge High School Team Tavistock Team Ten Pins - Cape Cod Cruisers Team The James Gang Team THS Best Buddies Team Tom Team UF Best Buddies Team Wyatt - Domestiques Team Xcitebike Racing

PARTICIPATING EMPLOYERS Kornit Digital

Aariculture Devil Mountain Nurserv

Empower Farms

Animal Services Bark Public

Barking Bad Camp Bow Wow

Doggie Daycare and More Olde Towne Pet Resort Paw-some Dog Pet Resort Dallas Pet Supplies Plus Petland Kendall PetSmart Pompano Pet Lodge Urban Paws Zionsville Country Vet Clinic

Arts & Culture

Aurora Hill Library Bryant Park Capital One Hall Houston Museum of Natural Science Lyric Opera of Chicago Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth Museum of Contemporary Art Old Sturbridge Village Pinspiration Sacramento Childrens Museum Shedd Aquarium

Automotive

Advance Auto Advance Auto Parts ATCS PLC Evanston Subaru Findlay Toyota Koons Tysons Toyota Lightbourn Equipment Company Lithia Subaru of Fresno Miami Lakes AutoMall Ocean Mazda South Bay MINI / BMW

Communications

ActiveCampaign Atema Partners Civic Edge Consulting Conill Advertising Dupree Miller & Associates Gannett Company, Inc Kel & Partners kubik Participant Media Team One Williams Lea WSVN News Construction

Consor

Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson Mas Tec Whiting Turner

Education

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Alcott Elementary School Alexandria City High School Alpine Elementary Ben Davis University High School Big and Tiny Bishop Moore Catholic High School Boston University Bright Horizons Newton Catholic University City of South San Francisco-Siebecker Center Clark County School District Coleen Hoose Elementary Curlev Academy Dana Middle School Dean College The Children's Museum of Indianapolis Dunlap High School Unit 323 Genesee Community Services Good Hope Tutoring Services Gordan Jewish Community Center Harvard University Health Services Holy Spirit School ISP Management at Northeastern University Ivy Prep Early Learning Academy JRE Lee Educational Center -Miami-Dade County Public Schools Kerman Unified School District KinderCare Miami Dade County Public Schools Montessori School in Holmes Run Montgomery County Public School-New York Public Library - 5th Ave Port View Preparatory Promise Child Development Center **Richardson ISD** Robert Morgan Educational Center Scottsdale Unified School District

Shorelight Education

Assumption University

Springstone Montessori

The Learning Experience

UCLA Career Center

The Work Family Connection

UCLA Department of Intercollegiate

Sodexo @ Anna Maria College &

Athletics UMASS Lowell Virtuous Inc. Wachusett Regional School District Waxahachie Family YMCA Worcester Child Development Head Start Worcester Public Schools

Employer

Department of Rehabilitation Menlo Park **Disnevland Resort** H-E-B Kroger Oakland/Normal Lionsgate Michael Page Office Depot-820 **Restoration Pizza**

Facilities Management

ABM Facilities Accenture Dallas Ally Universal Security Anderson Security ARCA **CBRF** Microsoft Cushman and Wakefield District Private Security ESFM @ Google X Ibis Golf and Country Club JH Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center North East Security **PHD Services** SBM Service Systems Associates-Zoo Miami Sodexo @ Merck The Bay Club

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Fitness

Blink Fitness Club Sport Fit Franklin Family YMCA Northwest YMCA YMCA

Food & Beverage

99 Restaurant Amazon Amazon Fresh AMC Dine In Theater Anise Apple Bees ASM - Aquarium of the Pacific Bahama Buck's Bertucci's Italian Restaurant Best Buddies X Rosetta Bakery **Bickford Senior Living Home Bia Bowl** Bishop Moore Catholic High School BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse BJ's Wholesale Blaze Pizza Disney Springs Bon Appétit at Google Bosque Brewing Company Cafe Blu Capital One Restaurant Associates Carrabba's Italian Grill CAVA Centerville Pies - Sandwich Chartwell's Cheesecake Factory Chick-fil-A Chili's Clean Juice Compass Group

Compass Group - Morrison Healthcare, Long Beach Medical Center Constellation Culinary Group Cousins Subs Culinart @ Brentwood School Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse Dignity Health Sports Park/Levy Restaurants Fancv's Market Fazenda Coffee Roasters Fiii Water Five Guys Flagship at Facebook Flik Flik Hospitality Group Friends Marketplace Fruit Center of Milton Fry's - Signal Butte Mesa Fry's Food - Tempe Fry's Marketplace - Val Vista Golden Pride Gundalow Gourmet Hannaford Harvest Sensations H-E-B Hermitage Steakhouse HMS Host Hojas Tea House Jersey Mike's Subs Jimmy's Famous Seafood Katella Bakery Kroger Kwik Star Ladv Baker Levy Lidl Lost Dog Cafe' Mahoney's Bar & Grill Main Event - Gilbert Market Basket Mata G Vegetarian Kitchen McDonald's Milam's Markets Misha's Cupcakes Mod Pizza Moes Southwest Grill Morrison Healthcare at Saint John's Hospital New City Microcreamery NexDine Nicky's Coal Fired

Nouria Energy Corporation Pamilla Senior Living Pancho & Lefty's Panera Papa Johns PDQ Pick N Save Pieology Pilo's Street Tacos Pilo's Tequila Garden Pizza Hut Price Chopper Publix Rail Trail Flatbread Co. Rallv's Ralphs (Culver Center) Ralph's Fresh Fare - Wilshire Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Brews Restaurant Associates @ Google Rita's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard Rosetta Bakerv Safeway Salud Juice Shaw's Supermarkets Shooter McGee's Smoothie King Sodexo @ Dana Farber Sonny's BBQ Alafaya Spago Sprouts Star Market Starbucks Stone Creek Dining Company Stop & Shop Sunsof Corporation Taziki's Tedeschi Food Shops Texas Road House The Boathouse The Cake Bake Shop The Market The Paramount Group Thomas Cuisine Thunderbird Inn Miltary Dining Tom Thumb TouchPoint Trader Joe's Uncommon Grounds, Students of Georgetown Inc (The Corp) Val's Restaurant Vons

Wawa Wegmans @ Capital One Center Wendv's Whitsons Culinary Group Whole Foods Wild Eggs Zalat Pizza

Government

Accenture Federal Services-DC Alexandria Library - James M. Duncan Branch Library Arlington Central Library City of Bal Harbour Citv of Baltimore City of Coral Gables Adult Activities Center City of Hialeah City of Indianapolis City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity City of Miami Beach Citv of New York City of South San Francisco-REAL Program Community Redevelopment Agency Omni DDS Department of Rehabilitation - Fresno Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital **Employment Development** Department (EDD) Exchange Nellis Air Force Base Federal Aviation Administration MAG Aerospace Marion County Prosecutor's Office Massachusetts Developmental **Disabilities** Council Miami-Dade County Parks. Recreation & Open Spaces - Zoo Miami MVA- Annapolis Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Hospital Paramus Borough Hall Social Security Administration State's Attorney's Office

Health Care

Addgene Advent Health Auberae Autumn Oaks of Corinth Bay Area Community Health Blaire House of Worcester **Boston Smile Clinic**



Brandon Oaks Retirement Brio Assisted Living Cambridge Nursing & Rehab Center Cape Cod Hospital **CB** Orthodontics Cecelia Place Assisted Living Cleveland Clinic Community Regional Medical Center UMass Memorial CVS - FLW Scottsdale Department of Rehabilitation Dr. Patricia L. Carolan, DMD, General Verus Healthcare Dentistrv edgeMED Enos Residence EverSource/Horizon Pharma Eve Associates of Somerville Funtastic Dental and Orthodontics Greater Boston Long Term Care Healthstream Honeybee Health IU Health-North & University Hospital Kaiser Permanente South Bav Medical Center Lake Country Landing - Northshore Healthcare Lifepoint Lomita Post-Acute Care Center Morrison Healthcare at Saint Vincent North Mountain Medical and Rehabilitation Center, Northwell Health NSpire Healthcare One HomeCare Solutions Palm Beach Dermatology PharmaLink **Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled** Care Center Roudebush VA Medical Center

Sodexo-UTMB

Somerby Takeda Pharmaceuticals UCLA Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland UMASS Chan Medical School United Health Care UNM Hospital Wickshire Senior Living

Hospitality

Block By Block Century Rio 24 Chatham Bars Inn Courtyard by Marriot Elior North America (Trio Community Meals) **Embassy Suites** Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott Flik Hospitality @ Citi Franklin Marriott Cool Springs Harvard Maintenance @ Google Holiday Inn Express Homewood Suites Jani King Cleaning La Quinta Marriott MGM Resorts International PinStack **Restaurant Associates** Saint Kate - The Arts Hotel Seaport Hotel SeaWorld Texas Star Community Management, LLC The Buckingham Hotel The Gardens of Bellaire The Ritz-Carlton Coconut Grove UCLA Housing & Hospitality W Scottsdale (Marriott Hotel)

Law Firms

A Legal

Barket Epstein Kearon Aldea & LoTurco Harbor Regional Center Bielinska Law Chasen and Boscolo Elder Law Firm of Kirson & Fuller Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson Second Muse Gelfand, Rennert & Feldman Holland & Knight Kates & Barlow Latham & Watkins Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP Pacific Workers' Compensation Law Center Ravas Law Sevfarth Shaw Shuffield Lowman Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, P.A. The Ferraro Law Firm

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Non-Profit/Foundations

Best Buddies Central Park Conservancy Chicago Park District Dave & Mary Alper Jewish Community Center **Developmental Disabilities Service**

Organization (DDSO) Goodwill - ROC Institute for Community Inclusion Los Angeles Habilitation House QSAC Special Olympics Northern California Doug Russell Marine St. John XXIII Catholic Community Support for Families of Children with Disabilities The Mentor Network Westside Regional Center YMCA

Real Estate

Capital Properties JLLNetwork Community Management Starwood Capital Group, L.L.C. Tavistock

Recreation

Amelia Earhart Park - Miami Dade County Busch Gardens- Tampa Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center Learning Tree Daycare Luckv Strike Marcus Theatre-2521 Maryland Farms YMCA Mt Pleasant Ice Arena National Aquarium Presidio Golf Course Princeton University Athletics Sloomoo Institute

Retail

99 Cent Only Store 99 Cents Only Store (#266) AEG/Merchandising- Staples Center Aventura Mall Bargains In A Box Barnes & Noble Cool Springs Bath and Body Works Bia Lots Big Y BJ's Wholesale Club Boot Factory Outlet Bristol Farms-Santa Monica Build A Bear (Store 9) Burlington **Confidence Shoppe** Cost Plus World Market Costco Crate & Barrel

CVS Dick's Sporting Goods Dillard's **Discount Welds Disney Store Divine Flowers** Dollar General El Super Finish Line Goodwill - Fresno (Blackstone / Sierra) GoodWill Land of Lincoln Goodwill Whitestown Goodwill-Greater East Bay Hallmark Gold Crown H-E-B Home Deport Home Depot Home Goods HomeSense Hot Topic Hunters Creek- Once Upon a Child Hv-Vee Jewel-Osco Jondie Kessler's Diamonds Kohls Kroaer LEGOLAND Discovery Center Boston Lowe's & Lowe's Home Improvement Lululemon Mack Cycle Macv's Furniture Gallerv Market 32 Marshalls Michaels MOMs Organic Market Nike Nordstrom- Espresso Bar

Nouria Energy Office Depot Office Max Once Upon a Child Pavilions Pemberton Farms Marketplace Primark Publix Ralphs Sam's Club Sav A Lot Scentsational Shoppe Sephora Sierra

Smart & Final Stop and Shop - Edison T. J. Maxx Target The Fresh Market - Delray The Home Depot Thrift on Blackstone (MCC Thrift Shop) Walt Disney Television Under Armour **UNTUCKit** Vector Marketing Vons Walgreens Walmart Wawa Weis Market Wild Cat Tees LLC

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Kellv Kelly Services Kelly Services - Kirts Building Managed Career Solutions - Los Angeles Sodexo @ Sanofi William Morris Endeavor

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Warehousing & Storage

Amazon Amazon- Baltimore D.S. Hull Company, Inc. First Class Vending Imperial Freight Brokers Iron Mountain - Cerritos Leadpoint Park West Gallery Sebco Books TDS Logistics LLC Value Store It Wawa







Arizona Year in Review

Best Buddies in Arizona (BBAZ) went into 2022 with gratitude and appreciation: gratitude for being able to provide our exceptional programs to our participants through the pandemic and gratitude for being able to return to in-person activities.

We continued to focus on our motto: "Five to Forever." BBAZ is available for people with IDD from as early as five years old and will be available to them forever. Our elementary school Friendship program creates an inclusive environment during the early stages of child development. Our middle school, high school and college Friendship programs create genuine one-to-one friendships that last beyond their school years. Our Citizens program matches adults in one-to-one friendships. Our Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) program takes place in high school to teach students with IDD the skills to prepare for the working world. Many students go on to our Jobs program and gain meaningful employment.

Our Friendship programs are currently in 58 schools, and our Citizens program has made 28 adult friendship matches. This year, the Pre-ETS program trained 134 young adults from six schools. Our Jobs program has placed 19 individuals with IDD in competitive and integrated careers with 18 companies. Our Leadership program grew to 18 Ambassadors who learned skills to self-advocate and, in turn, built the confidence to lead a happy and full life.

The incredible funds raised through our two signature events, the *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* and the *Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala*, have been critical to BBAZ in providing a lifetime of inclusion for people with IDD. Once again, we exceeded our *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* fundraising goals! With a strong event committee and over 700 participants, the *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* raised \$140,000, which was \$15,000 more than our goal! With ten dedicated *Champion* candidates and over 400 guests, the *Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala* raised \$500,000!

On behalf of our advisory board, junior advisory board and the staff at Best Buddies, I would like to thank our generous sponsors, volunteers and selfless donors for your support. We look forward to another year together!

Lisa Cleary, State Director, Arizona

Arizona Office 4527 North 16th Street, Suite 106, Phoenix, AZ 85016 P 602.253.6463



One-To-One Friendships Key Program Stats AZ

Elementary Schools Middle Schools		High Schools
10 171 Chapters Participar	ts Chapters Participant	40 960 Chapters Participants
Colleges	Citizens e-Budd	ies
4 64 Chapters Participar	9497ParticipantsParticipants	nts

Diane & Mario One-To-One Friendships

Citizens, Phoenix, AZ

Diane and Mario were matched through the Best Buddies Citizens program in Phoenix in January 2022. Diane desired more support, love and inclusion in her life. She moved to Phoenix with few friends, resulting in limited social interaction. She longed for a lifelong friend to encourage her personal development.

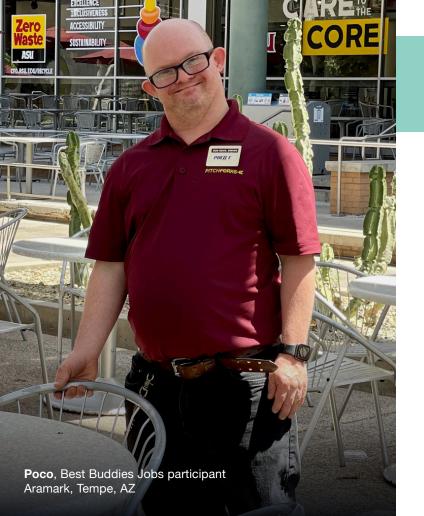
Having recently left the Navy, Mario struggled to find his place at work and adjust to being a student again. He had a friend in the Citizens program and knew that was the place to make long-lasting friendships.

Diane and Mario engage in various activities such as coffee outings, studying together, bowling, museum visits and lunch dates, often indulging in burgers. Mario's easygoing nature and unwavering support create a comfortable environment for Diane. She cherishes their connection, appreciating his laughter, people skills and positivity.

Joining Best Buddies has boosted Diane's self-confidence significantly. Mario's support has been instrumental in her excelling as a student and becoming more independent. Diane has sourced joy and motivation from leaving her home, using public transport and enjoying time at a local restaurant. She attributes this to Mario's support and encouragement. Best Buddies introduced Mario to a meaningful friendship during a critical phase in his life. Diane's kindness and unique perspective helped Mario overcome his depression and refocus on gratitude. Her ability to find joy in challenging circumstances motivated Mario to adopt a similar mindset. Both are solely involved in the Best Buddies Citizens program, but Diane is beginning the process of joining the Jobs program as she is a recent college graduate.

"The support and compassion we offer one another form the cornerstone of our friendship," Mario said.

Diane's compassion and actions have inspired me to explore other advocacy opportunities." - Mario





Jobs

19 24 Participants Participants Employed

Poco Integrated Employment

Aramark, Tempe, AZ

Poco's journey with Best Buddies began in high school. Previously, he had worked ten years at Safeway and five years at a hospital processing recyclables. But during the COVID-19 pandemic, he experienced unemployment and spent much time isolated in his room. Unfortunately, he could not assist his mother with the bills and felt he lacked the support needed to gain employment again. However, his enthusiasm for life was reignited when he learned about the Best Buddies Jobs program.

With assistance from Sandy Lizik, his employment consultant, they took his love for Arizona State University (ASU) and helped him gain employment at Aramark in ASU's Pitchfork's Dining Hall. The work environment has been incredibly positive, with supportive coworkers and supervisors often engaging in lighthearted banter with him. He has forged many friendships and aspires to work at the pizza station someday.

"Since beginning my employment, I have made progress in my personal and financial life," Poco said. "I have contributed to the household bills and even saved enough money to purchase a plane ticket for a two-week visit to California, where I will reunite with my wife."

Poco's job has provided him with financial stability and encouraged him to pursue an active lifestyle. He takes pride in surpassing his daily Fitbit step goals and enjoys walking around the dining hall, assisting the students and staying vigilant about restocking items. Poco's position has taught him valuable skills, such as time management and communication.

"I hope to remain a part of the ASU Pitchfork's Dining Hall team for a long time."

I have contributed to the household bills and even saved enough money to purchase a plane ticket for a two-week visit to California, where I will reunite with my wife." - **Poco**





AmbassadorsPromoters3216315

Ambassadors Chapters Participants

Transitions

55 Participants

Zigy Leadership Development

Ambassador, Gilbert, AZ

"Before becoming involved with Best Buddies, school was hard. Making friends and meeting new people was hard because I can be shy. I joined the Best Buddies club while I was at Higley High School. It was a way for me to meet friends and have fun. After high school, I knew I wanted to get a job, so my parents talked to me about joining a new program where I could learn job skills. I went to the Higley Transition and Access Program (HTAP). When I was there, I joined the Best Buddies Pre-Employment Transition Services program (Pre-ETS), where I learned new skills that helped me get ready for a job. I completed the Pre-ETS program in 2022, and after graduating in May, I joined the Best Buddies Jobs program. With the help of Best Buddies, I got a job at Main Event.

Joining Best Buddies has changed my life. I have made great friends through my high school, HTAP and at Main Event. I have learned to be more independent and take pride in earning my own money. In November 2022, I was honored to receive the Spirit of Courage Award at the Best Buddies Gala. This award showed me that my hard work had paid off and made my parents proud.

To others with disabilities, you should try new things and never give up. By trying new things, I have made new friends, found a job I love and felt more independent. I know you can do it too! I am grateful for the support from people like my employment consultant, Sandy, my Pre-ETS teacher, Nicole and my HTAP teacher, Ms. Yanov, who have helped change my life."

I have learned to be more independent and take pride in earning my own money. In November 2022, I was honored to receive the Spirit of Courage Award at the Best Buddies Gala. This award showed me that my hard work had paid off and made my parents proud." - Zigy

Thank You!

The Communications, Marketing and Strategic Development Department thanks Best Buddies International Headquarters, state offices, and International Programs staff for their collaborative effort in creating this report. Individuals listed below played a major role in its development:

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