

Leadership Training Day is an opportunity to connect chapter leaders with regional officers and advisors. This training, led by Best Buddies staff or volunteers, shares best practices, tools, resources, and networking so that chapter leaders feel empowered and prepared to guide the Best Buddies mission on their campus.

This training should take place in the fall before the friendships and activities get underway. The most important goal of the Leadership Training is that officers and advisors are provided time to understand their role and feel confident to advance the mission. This can happen during a day's training, during online connection, like a Skype meeting, or during a Town Hall-like discussion over the phone.

Below is an agenda that can be used by volunteers to ensure their officers and regional chapter leaders understand their goals to meet chapter success this year.

Sample Agenda

EVENT SCHEDULE & ASSIGNMENTS

Registration

Have student sign-in sheets and distribute any materials to students

Suggestion: provide nametags and have students write their name, officer role, and chapter. Keep an active record of who has attended.

Welcome and Staff Introductions: 30 minutes

- Introduce schools
- [Icebreakers](#)
- Testimonials/highlights from those that attended the annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference (use the [Best Buddies YouTube](#) channel for videos)

Why One to One: 60 minutes

Use the Why to One to One training and PPT in the [Volunteer Training](#) section on BBU.

- Personal reflection on friendship
- AAIDD Facts
- Discussion on importance of one-to-one
- Brainstorm how to address challenges
- Involving associate members
- How to develop a healthy friendship

Sharing the Mission: 45 minutes

- Being an ally in the disability rights movement
- Goals of a chapter in promoting the mission
- Communication and awareness tools and ideas
- How to share the Best Buddies vision

Building Your Foundation: 30 minutes

- Activity for students to review their values and goals for coming year
- Activity debrief in small groups
- Students share

The Big Picture: 30 minutes

Invite BB Jobs participants or Citizen participants (based on state programs) to share their involvement in their respective programs and to highlight the life cycle of involvement with Best Buddies.

For states without adult programs, invite trained ambassadors or parents to talk about purpose, goals, and needs of staying involved in Best Buddies beyond school

Using Your Resources: 45 minutes

- BBO Review (MAs, Friendship Updates, Making Matches, Calendar)
- Best Buddies University
 - Share tools and resources available on site; ensure all leaders are comfortable accessing
- Review dates to choose leaders, match, and share friendship highlights on BBO

Communication and Leadership Development: 45 minutes

- Successful communication
- Conflict resolution
- Communication with PM and advisors

Suggestion: Have students participate in short pre-arranged skits on how model effective and ineffective communication styles

Community Engagement: 30 minutes

- Review Best Buddies 2020 initiative
- Review importance of community engagement
- Students plan different ways to engage the community this year

Suggestion: Have chapters share successful community engagement activities they have hosted. Include a video or other interactive tool to show importance of community engagement.

Wrap Up

- Group Picture
- Upcoming events/reminders
- Available event survey