Introducing Best Buddies Citizens

 ✓ Ready to take your DEI efforts to a whole new level?
 ✓ Looking for meaningful ways to make an impact?
 ✓ Need a fresh take on employee team building?

If you answered yes to those questions, then Best Buddies Citizens might be the right fit for you!

The Best Buddies Citizens program creates one-to-one friendships between adults with and without intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) in workplaces and in the community. These opportunities for friendship and inclusion are especially important for adults with IDD, who often have limited opportunities for social connections.

Developing a citizen’s chapter is a great way to engage employees in a rewarding experience that can boost morale and strengthen connections within your company. Host inclusive events that bring members together for some fun and fellowship and make one-to-one matches to foster friendships that have the power to change lives. Build a culture of belonging within your workplace where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

Getting started is simple and Best Buddies will support you throughout the process by providing the tools you need to promote the opportunity and help you make connections in the community to build your membership.

Here’s How It Works

• Identify Leadership: Select one or more employees to coordinate and lead the chapter.

• Host an Interest Meeting: Share information about the opportunity to build interest and recruit members.

• Partner Up: Work with Best Buddies staff to establish a partnership with an organization that serves those with IDD to recruit members to join your chapter.

• Sign Up & Screen: All prospective members complete and submit membership applications through the BB360 chapter management platform and complete a background screening.

• Match: Match employees with a buddy based on common interests, availability, and compatibility.

• Mix & Mingle: Provide opportunities for social connection by hosting events throughout the year.

• Engage: Encourage buddy pairs to communicate weekly and connect monthly to foster meaningful friendships.

Get started by contacting your local Best Buddies office today!