



You're making a difference.

Thank you!

BEST BUDDIES®





Message From Our State Director

Dear Friends,

All of us at Best Buddies in Virginia & DC extend our deepest appreciation to our wonderful participants, families, volunteers, donors, and corporate partners for such a successful 2025! Your support and dedication to our mission helps our programs grow, creating more inclusive communities throughout our state.

We are excited start 2026 with you and together build a more inclusive community together!

In Friendship,

Molly Whalen

State Director,

Best Buddies Virginia & DC



Here's what we've accomplished,
Because of your support in

2025



One-to-One Friendship Program

87

Total Chapters

10

Middle Schools

45

High Schools

13

Colleges

493

Citizens Participants

508

1:1 Matches

3,600

Total
Participants

44

Cities

29

Counties



One-to-one
Friendships

Meet Tucker and AJ

“

Best Buddies gave us more than shared experiences. It gave us a friendship built on laughter, growth, and showing up for each other. Through Best Buddies, AJ found meaningful employment and independence, and I found a lifelong friend who inspires me every day. Together, we have become better versions of ourselves.”

-Tucker



Integrated Employment Program

52

Participants

41

Employed
Participants



Integrated
Employment

Meet Ryan

“

Having a job has made a difference in my life. It made sure I'm living my best life and I found a great work family outside of my home.”

-Ryan

Leadership Development Program

83

Ambassadors
Participants

34

Transitions
Students, 2
new School
locations



Meet Abby

“ Best Buddies has brought the true meaning of inclusion to light, opening doors and opportunities for me that I never thought possible. My ability is stronger than my disability.”

-Abby

Leadership
Development

BEST BUDDIES®



IES
ALK



Inclusive Living Program

2

Best Buddies Living
Residences

.....
Washington, D.C.


18

Best Buddies Living
Residents

Meet Kendra

“I’ve learned since moving in how to cook and communicate. This experience has changed my life because of my friends and roommates.

-Kendra



Inclusive
Living



Best Buddies Homecoming Dance

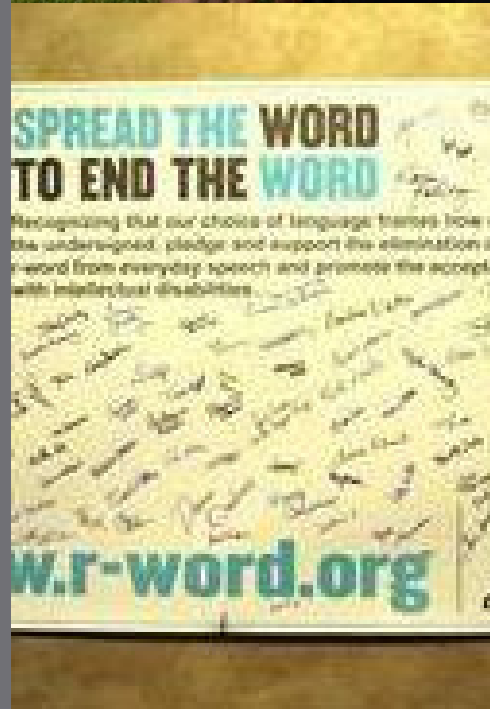
An unforgettable evening with
450 of our closest friends
from all over the state gathered at
the Ronald Reagan Building &
International Trade Center for music,
dancing, and friendship!

RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND
 **INTERNATIONAL
TRADE CENTER**
Setting the stage for tomorrow

TCMA
A DREW COMPANY



(STW ETW) is an ongoing movement to end the hurtful and demeaning use of the R-word. Chapters all throughout Virginia & DC held a STW ETW awareness event at their respective schools. Our Best Buddies participants raised the consciousness of their classmates about the dehumanizing effects of using the R-Word and encouraged people to stop using the word.





BEST BUDDIES
FRIENDSHIP WALK

Raised
\$458,900



Over 2,000 walkers, corporate partners and community members walked for inclusion for a record breaking year in Richmond, VA and Washington, DC!

BEST BUDDIES®

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

WICKEDLY
INCLUSIVE
#BBLC2025



In July, 51 leaders from all over Virginia & DC both with and without IDD, attended our 34th Annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference. They participated in personalized trainings that develop the skills needed to organize and lead a Best Buddies



Raised
\$318,000

Homecoming
20 YEARS VIRGINIA & WASHINGTON, D.C.
TWO PARTIES, ONE PURPOSE

BEST BUDDIES
CHAMPION
OF THE
YEAR
2025
VIRGINIA &
WASHINGTON D.C.

Nearly 800 supporters came together for our annual Homecoming: Two Parties One Purpose Gala in celebration of the collective efforts of our 16 Champions who raised funds and awareness to support our mission! We celebrated 20 years of impact across our Virginia & DC area!

Thank you to the corporate partners who helped make 2025 possible!





“Champions are made from something they have deep inside of them - a desire, a dream, a vision.” -Mahatma Gandhi

BEST BUDDIES



BEST BUDDIES. FRIENDSHIP WALK

WE LOVE OUR SPONSORS



Thank
you!

MAKE A FRIEND | DONATE | VOLUNTEER
BESTBUDDIES.ORG/VADC