

# BEST BUDDIES



#### MISSION PILLARS

Friendships Employment Development

One-To-One Integrated

Leadership

Inclusive Living

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# 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

## 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.

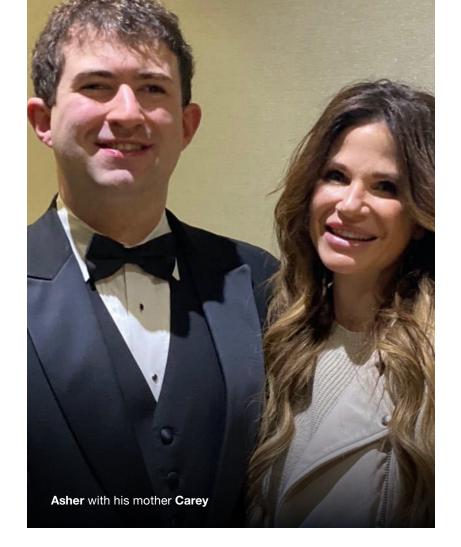
An estimated 81%\* of adults (18+) with IDD do not have a paid job in the community. This is where the Best Buddies' Jobs program steps in. The Best Buddies' Jobs program helps participants with IDD prepare for and secure supportive employment. This is a mutually beneficial venture for job candidates 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 well-adjusted, 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

- In 1987, Anthony Kennedy Shriver launches BESTBUDDIES® 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<sub>®</sub> 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<sub>®</sub> Jobs, a supported employment program targeting high-paying, corporate jobs for people with IDD.
- In 1995, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES<sub>®</sub> High Schools to pair special education students in one-to-one friendships with high school volunteers.
- In 1996, Best Buddies launches BESTBUDDIES<sub>®</sub> 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<sub>®</sub>, 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.

# 2009 - 2019

- 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 BESTBUDDIES<sub>®</sub> Ambassadors to teach participants with IDD communication and self-advocacy skills.
- 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, BESTBUDDIES<sub>®</sub> 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<sub>®</sub> Ventures, with
  the first launch being BESTBUDDIES<sub>®</sub> 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<sub>®</sub> Elementary Schools to teach inclusion to a younger age group to create a lasting effect on societal norms for the next generation.



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

# Our Impact

3,387

120,408\* 1,204,080

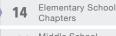
Chapters

**Participants** 

Impacted

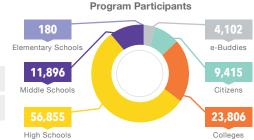
Countries

One-To-One **Friendship** 



Middle School Chapters

1,535 High School Chapters College Chapters



#### Integrated **Employment**

37,675

1,846,052

\$5,541,849

\$27,709,247

Weekly Hrs. Worked

Yearly Hrs. Worked Yearly Taxes Paid

Avg. hrs worked per week 20, Avg. hrly wage \$15.01 (in the U.S.).

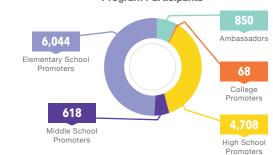
Leadership **Development** 

Participants Employed



**Program Participants** 

**Average Total Participant Stats** 

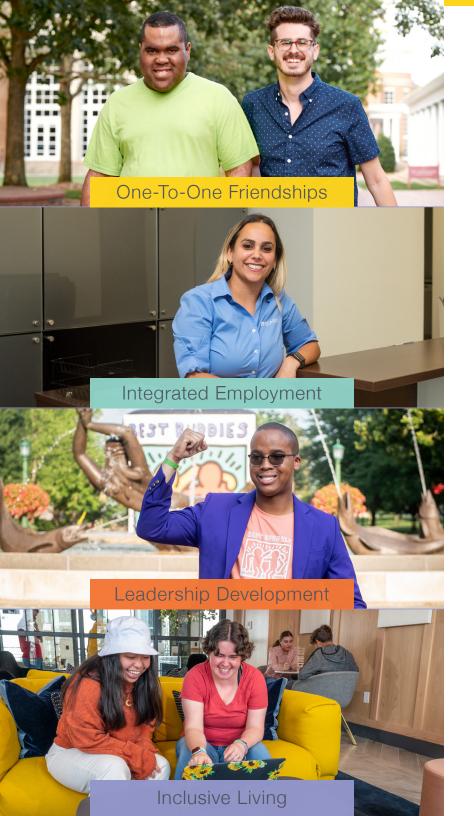






All program stats are as of 12/31/2022, and reflect the most recent Best Buddies program year (July 1, 2022 - June 30,2023). \*Total number of participants does not include residents in Living location(s) and participants in the new pre-ETS curriculum, not listed.





#### 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**<sub>®</sub> 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**<sub>®</sub> 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**<sub>®</sub> 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.



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.



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 white-collar 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.



# 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.

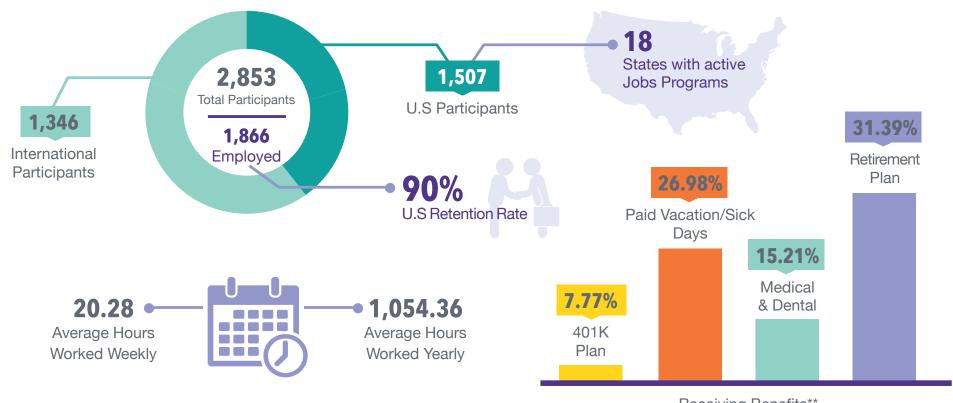
Elaina now has a new goal: to transform this opportunity from a job into a career.

"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\*\*

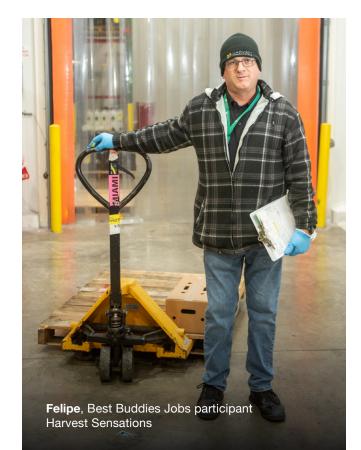
#### Top 5 Jobs Participants Highest Salaries With Benefits

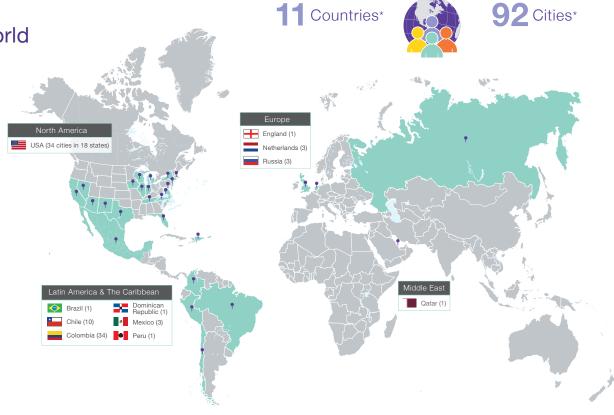
Salary	\$66,560	\$62,400	\$62,400	\$62,004	\$61,588
Name/ State	Elaina C. Maryland	<b>Jessica S.</b> <i>California</i>	Nathaniel M. California	Denzel A.  Illinois	<b>Anthony S.</b> California
Benefits	Vacation Pay, Retirement Plans	Dental Care, Medical Care, Retirement Plans, Sick Leave, Sick Pay, Vacation 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



#### Best Buddies Jobs Around The World





<sup>\*</sup> Global jobs stats are calculated based on total jobs participants and U.S. Average hours and wages.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Represents benefits received by US BB Job participants.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> All Jobs Program stats are as of 12/31/2022



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.

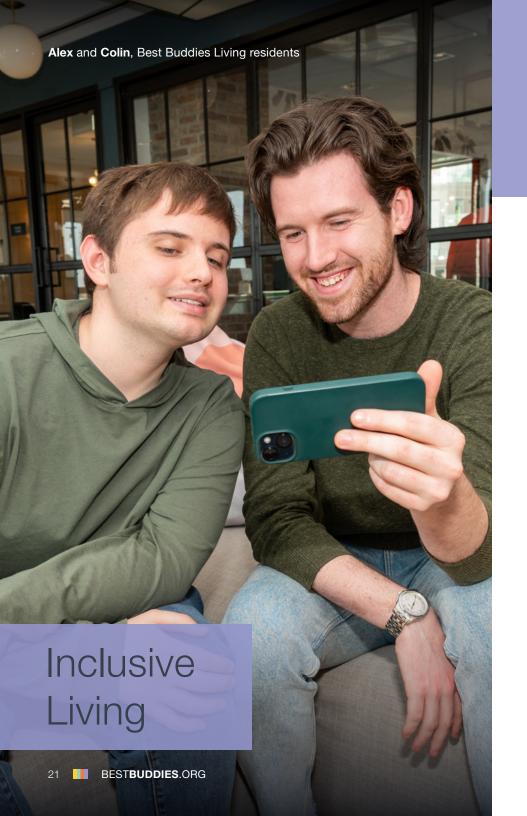
During my sophomore year in high school, I attended a match party for Best Buddies, and I met my best buddy, Stefany . I also got to meet so many new people in that chapter as well. That same year, I danced all night at my first-ever Friendship Ball and enjoyed participating in the Friendship Walk. My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



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.



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

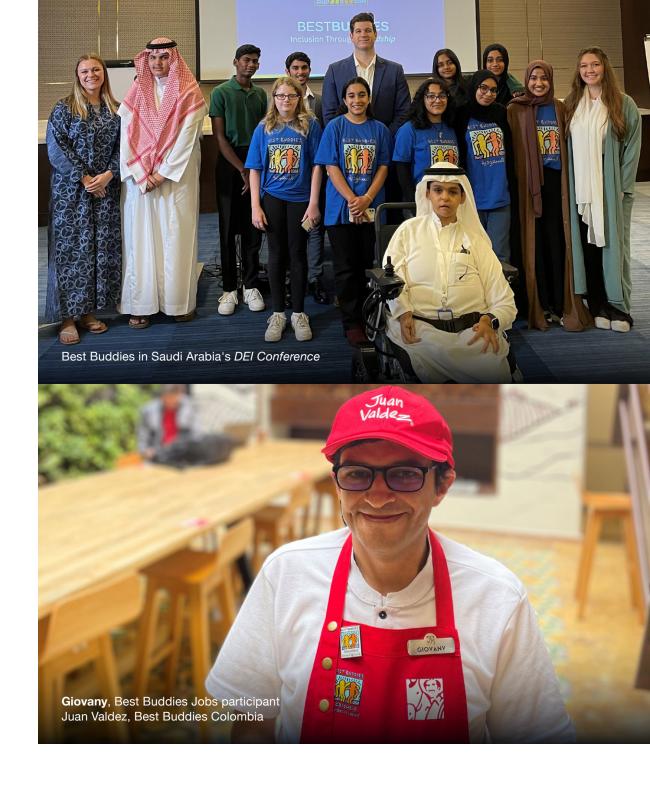
# International Programs

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

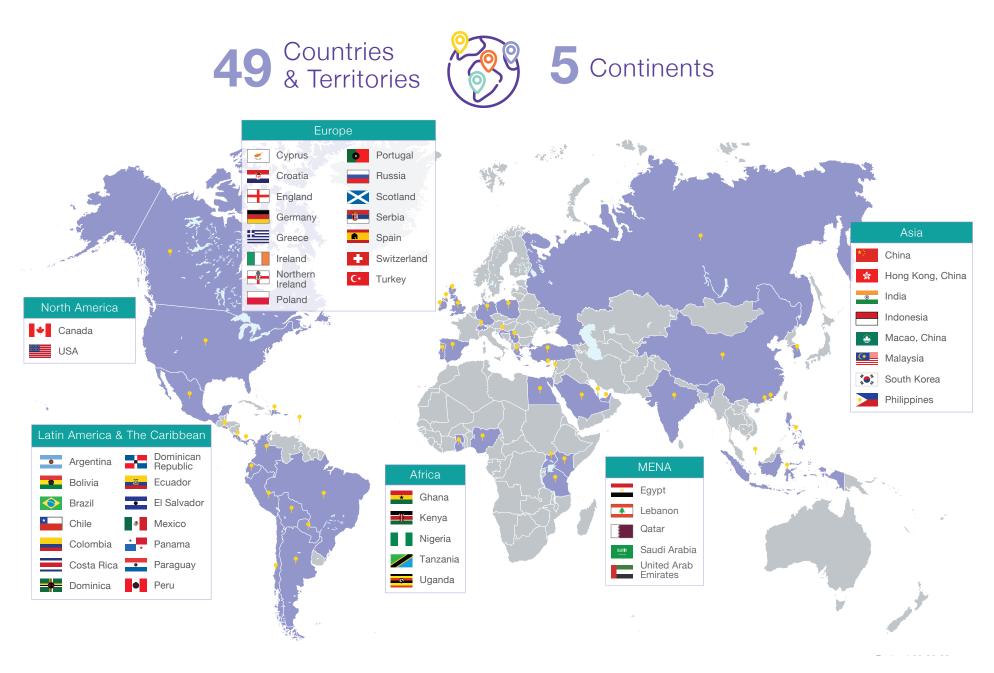
#### **Key Updates**

- 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



Buddies events including attending, volunteering,

and pursuing sponsorship opportunities.

BEST**BUDDIES**.ORG

Cyclists at the 2022 Best Buddies Challenge: California,

presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation

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

# 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.



# 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 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, five-day 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.

# Madeline Borkin, Disability Rights Advocate and Executive at the 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:**

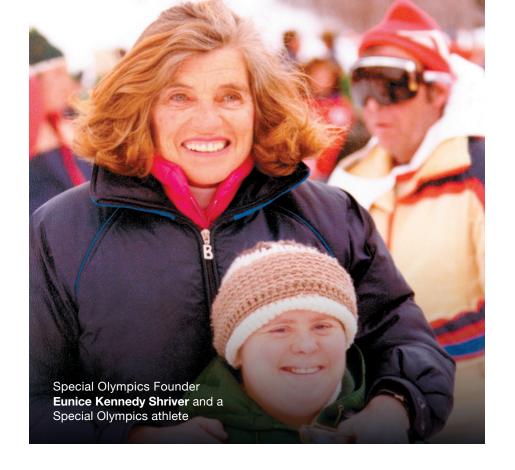
- Elementary School Chapter of the Year: Bixby West Elementary School, Oklahoma
- Middle School Chapter of the Year: Kahler Middle School, Indiana
- High School Chapter of the Year: Lehigh Senior High School, Florida
- College Chapter of the Year: University of South Carolina-Beaufort, South Carolina

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.

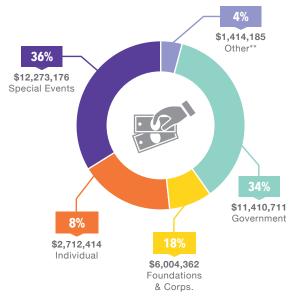




### **Financials**

#### Consolidated Statement of Activities\* (as of 12.31.22)

#### **Domestic Revenue**



\$33,814,848

**Total Domestic Revenue** 

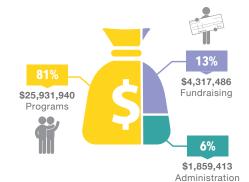
\$32,000,000

Total International Revenue\*\*\*

\$65,814,848

**Total Gross Revenue** 

#### **Domestic Expenses**



\$32,108,839
Total Domestic Expenses



-

#### **Domestic Net Asset Summary**

Net Assets (beginning of year) \$33,193,893

Change in Net Assets \$1,706,009

Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investments (2,509,312)

Total Domestic Net Assets (end of year) \$32,390,590

<sup>\*</sup> Statement of Activities for calendar year 2022 based on Best Buddies International's Form 990

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

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Gross consolidation of International Licensees that operate as their own NGOs.

## Financials

#### Balance Sheet (as of 12.31.22)

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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 Ass	ets <b>\$31,818,276</b>
Property and Equipment	
Computers	\$461,645
Furniture and equipment	\$85,105
Auto	\$24,000
Land	\$1,152,473
Total Property and Equipment, C	ost <b>\$1,723,223</b>
Less Accumulated Depreciat	ion ( <b>\$555,250</b> )
Total Property and Equipment, I	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 Ass	ets <b>\$3,607,948</b>
Other Assets	
Long-term contributions receivable, net	\$871,212
Security deposits	\$91,665
Investments - Rosetta Bakery x Best Buddies	(\$66,160)
Investments - deferred compensation plan	-
Total Other Ass	ets <b>\$896,717</b>

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	\$2 480 534

#### Long-Term Liabilities

Long-Term Liabilities		
Security deposit		\$22,660
Deferred compensation plan liability		-
Long-term portion of financing liabil	ities	\$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



Total Assets \$37,490,914

## **Board of Directors**



Brad Blank
President/Attorney
Brad Blank & Associates, Inc.



Olivia Culpo Actress



Mark DeVincentis Managing Director Crescent Capital Group LP



**Tamsen Fadal** *TV Anchor, Executive Producer & Author* 



**Joshua Felder** Global Ambassador Best Buddies International



Robert Friedman
Partner
Holland & Knight



Aaron Gershenberg Managing Partner SVB Capital



Todd Michael Glaser Developer



Evan Hainey
Partner
Untitled Entertainment



Stephen T. Hearst VP & GM of Western Properties The Hearst Corporation



Alexander
Hernandez-Dessauer
VP, International Programs
& Special Projects
Best Buddies International



Jamie Hintlian Partner/Principal Ernst & Young



Gerard A. Klingman, CFP
President
Klingman & Associates



Carl Lewis U.S. Olympic Gold Medalist



Chris Lindstrom
Professional Football Player
Atlanta Falcons



James Lintott
Chairman
Sterling Foundation
Management



William V. Powers Founder and Chief Executive Officer Cambridge Mobile Telematics



Thomas Quick Philanthropist



Anthony Kennedy Shriver Founder, Chairman & CEO Best Buddies International



Eunice K. Shriver II



Tom Sullivan Founder Lumber Liquidators



Garett Tomasek Young Leaders Council Chair Best Buddies International



Ralph Winter Founder Corestate Capital Group



Bernie Yuman President Bernie Yuman Mgmt.

### **Executive Team**



Jeremiah Angel Vice President Web Operations



John M. Carlin Senior Director Major Gifts & Planned Giving



Michael Collins Vice President, Best Buddies Challenges



**Lisa Derx** Vice President Government Relations



Alexander Hernandez-Dessauer VP, International Programs & Special Projects



Mark Lewis Senior Vice President Development, Marketing & Technology



Nicole Maddox Vice President Communications



Stephanie Moore
Vice President
State Operations &
Mission Advancement



**Lori Penaloza** Senior Vice President Finance & Operations



David Quilleon Senior Vice President Global Mission, State Development & Operations



Jessica Schwartz Vice President Marketing & Partnerships



Anthony Kennedy Shriver Founder, Chairman & CEO Best Buddies International



Julie Torres Vice President Human Resources & Operations



Scott Tracy Vice President Challenges, National Events & Special Projects



Mark J. Wylie Vice President Talent Relations

### **Honorary Board Members**



**Eunice Kennedy Shriver**Founder, Special Olympics Int.



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

## Our Supporters

#### **CORPORATIONS**

\$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

Accenture Hearst Corporation/Steve & Barbara Hearst John Drew/Crossover Ventures Klingman & Associates Live Nation Worldwide, Inc. Sterling Foundation Management/ Jim Lintott & May Liang PLAN - Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of MA & RI Silicon Valley Bank Sun Capital Partners Foundation/ Marc Leder The Albertsons Companies Foundation The GEO Group Foundation, Inc./ George & Donna Zoley The Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund Mosaic Global Sales LLC

#### \$50,000 to \$99,999

Wells Fargo & Company

Absolute HCBS LLC Anthem, Inc. Bader Philanthropies, Inc. Bank of America Citizens Bank Corporate Giving Program E. & J. Gallo Winerv Janssen KFORCE Meelain Enterprises A.V.V. MoneyGram Foundation Sephora USA, Inc.

SGII Inc Wealth Management & Trust Wilmington Trust

AbbVie

North America

Massachusetts

Braman Motors

Brauer Material Handling Crescent Capital Group

Dart Group Foundation Inc

Stanley/Parametric Enterprise Holdings

Holland & Knight LLP

Kelly Services

Lawrence A. Moens Associates. Inc.

Mark Edward Partners LLC

Match Group

Merck - HQ

Company

Pantheon Venture

Sevita

Sevfarth

Sony Music Entertainment

TD Bank

\$25.000 to \$49.999

Admiral Transfer & Rigging AETNA INC.

Allianz Life Insurance Company of

Bank of Hawaii

Blue Cross Blue Shield of

Eaton Vance Management/Morgan

Fifth Generation Inc.

Insight Global

Mack Cycle & Fitness MALS PALS

Mercedes-Benz

Midland National Life Insurance

Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club. LP

National Philanthropic Trust

Pfizer. Inc

**PWG Charitable Foundation** 

Race Roster

Raymond James Financial, Inc. **Rubin Family Foundation** 

Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits State Street Corporation, State Street

Global Markets, LLC Stanford Health Care

Texas Mutual Headquarters The Ferraro Law Firm

presented by Core Hydration & Safeway Foundation

The GivenGain Foundation The Leavitt Corporation

Teddie Peanut Butter

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

\$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 Climatec, LLC

Compass Group - National

Cooper's Steel Fabricators, Inc. CSAA Insurance Services, Inc.

SAFEWAY ()

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,

Diversant ACS Solutions

**DLA Piper LLP** DNICORP

**Dome Construction** 

Douglas Elliman Real Estate

Eastern Bank Foundation Genovese Joblove & Battista PA

GTE Financial & Foundation Hand2Mind

Hardwick Tactical Corporation Health Care Service Corporation

ImpactWayv, Inc. JOH Kids 360

Jones Lang LaSalle America Inc.

Kendra Scott LLC Kokua Na Lani

**KOVAR** 

Kramer Casey Enterprises

Roval Media Partners Lipscomb University

Loan Pronto, Inc. MAG Aerospace

McCormick & Co., Inc. Meaningful Beauty, LLC

Midstate Auto Group Inc Moore Communications Group, Inc.

Movement Mortgage Foundation Nordson Corporation Foundation Northeast Florida Association of Realtors Inc.

Ocean Automotive Group Old National Bank Foundation

Ole Smoky Distillery, LLC

Oracle Corp

Participant Media, LLC

PECO Corporate Relations Pentair Management Company

Phantom Administrative, LLC

Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation

Prairie Meadows

Promoter Line Incorporated Festival & Concert Division

Qintel

RBC Capital Markets, LLC

Rock-It Cargo U.S.A., LLC Royal Yacht SARL

Sandy Spring Bank

Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, P.A. Speedway Children's Charities

Spotify - US Headquarters SPT Inc.

Sullivan Investment Corporation Suncoast Federal Credit Union

Foundation Swire Properties Inc., Miami

Tavistock Development Management, HC

Team Construction, LLC 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. TUUCLLIC 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 33 Floors 4R Ventures LLC Abarta CC Beverage LLC Abdo Consulting Group, Inc. AdventHealth All Community Events Ally Financial Inc. Anheuser-Busch Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield Aramark Global Business Services Barket Epstein Baywood Hotels Inc. Berchem Moses PC BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Community Trust **BMO Harris Bank** Bose McKinney & Evans LLP Brabants Enterprises Inc. Brandon Hyundai Brunello Cucinelli USA Retail. LLC Buch Construction, Inc. **Business Computer Rentals LLC** Businessolver Foundation BWG Strategy, LLC

Capital One - McLean

Career Group Companies

Charlotte Knights Charities

Car Crafters. Inc.

CentiMark

Cardinals Charities

Chevron Products Company Christopher's Fine Jewelry Cognizant Colliers International - WA Commonwealth Edison Company Continental Casualty Company Coza Technologies, L.L.C. Credit Union of Texas Culinary Institute LeNotre Current Builders Construction Services. Inc. DDA Services. Inc Delaware North Companies Sport Services, Inc. Deloitte Services LP Elder Law Firm of Kirson & Fuller Employee's Community Fund of The EM-Power Services, Inc. Envov Global Eventbrite, Inc. Evolution Risk Advisors, Inc. Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Iowa Farnam Street Financial, Inc. Findlay First Hawaiian Bank Florida Power & Light Company Focalpoint Securities, LLC Founders Series of Lockton Companies, LLC Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP Frontstream Glens Falls National Trust And Investment Group Goldman Sachs Gives Good Karma Brands Milwaukee, LLC Goodman Campbell Brain & Spine Harvest Sensations Hawaii Protective Association, LLC Hilton Hyannis Air Service, Inc. Hv-Vee. Inc. Inktel International Paper Iowa Association of Independent

Colleges and Universities

J.E. Dunn Construction Company

J.P. Morgan Charitable Giving Fund

J.C. Edwards Corporation

Johnson Bank Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson Engineering A Brighter Future Junior League of Indianapolis Kosair Charities Committee, Inc. Law Offices Of Samer Habbas & Associates Layton Construction Company, LLC Lemonade Insurance Agency, LLC M. A. Mortenson Company Major League Baskeball Players Trust USPS Money Order Matson, Inc. Maui United Way, Inc. Memorial Healthcare System Miami University Misericordia Home Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial Montgomery College Networking To Help Children Inc Nicor Gas North Shore LI Chapter of Unico National Northwest Pump & Equipment Co. Otis Elevator Company Outfront Park Hotels and Resorts Phantom Fireworks Phillies **PNC** Foundation Polk County Auditor's Office Prisma Health Property Works Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc. Reliaquest Rhino Capital Advisors LLC Roger Reynolds, CPA Ronald Book PA RSM US LLP Sandia National Laboratories SBM Management Service, LP Sea Otter Securities Group LLC Sodexo, Inc. & Affiliates Sonic Automotive Inc. STAG Industrial, Inc. Sun Communities Operating LP Sun Life Financial Synergy Productions LLC Technology Advice Texas Roadhouse Intermediary LLC The Boerke Company, Inc. The Cellular Connection, LLC The E.W. Scripps Company

The J.M. Smucker Company Timothy E. McNutt, Sr. D.D.S. Total Wine & More TTextiles LLC TUV Investments LLC **UMPC** Changing Medicine 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

\$100.000 to \$249.999

May and Stanley Smith

Stavros Niarchos Foundation

The Golisano Foundation

Bader Philanthropies, Inc.

Liberty Mutual Foundation

MoneyGram Foundation

Delman Family Charitable Fund

M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

Poston Gardens Foundation Inc.

The Sharon D. Lund Foundation

The Batchelor Foundation. Inc.

The Genentech Foundation

The Jim Moran Foundation

Tina and Richard V Carolan

The Moody Endowment

The Tepper Foundation

\$50.000 to \$99.999

Fidelity Investments

PHLY Foundation

Accenture

The Frederick A. Deluca Foundation

**Fundacion MAPFRE** 

Charitable Trust

Taft Foundation

Kessler Foundation Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation Manpowergroup Foundation Inc. Memorial Foundation Mosaic Global Sales LLC PwC Charitable Foundation, Inc. Taco Bell Foundation, Inc. Texas Mutual The Anthony R. Abraham Foundation The Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation Zuckerman Gravely Management, Inc. The Carl C. Anderson Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation The Kenneth T. and Eileen L Norrise

> The Merancas Foundation Inc. The Rees-Jones Foundation The Walt Disney Company United Way of Central New Mexico William S. Abell Foundation

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

Foundation

**Enterprise Holdings** 

Florida Endowment Foundation for

Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation

Vocational Rehabilitation Inc.

Hawaii Community Foundation

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 Georgia 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

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Foundation, Inc.

VoLo Foundation

AbbVie

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

New Mexico Oil and Gas Association Nusenda Foundation Nora Roberts Foundation Inc. Nordson Corporation Foundation Old National Bank Foundation Ortholndy 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

\$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

Wells Fargo Foundation

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 Umpqua Bank Charitable Foundation Valley Community Foundation Variety - The Children's Charity

#### **GOVERNMENT**

#### \$500,000 and Above

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 Maryland 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.

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





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

### Agriculture

Devil Mountain Nursery 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

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis Dunlap High School Unit 323

#### **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

Kornit Digita

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

Alpine Elementary

Ben Davis University High School

Alexandria City 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

Curley Academy
Dana Middle School

Dean College

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

Sodexo @ Anna Maria College & Assumption University

Springstone Montessori
The Learning Experience
The Work Family Connection

UCLA Career Center

UCLA Department of Intercollegiate

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

Disneyland 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

CBRE 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

Imperial Capital

#### Finance & Insurance

Amwins
Amwins CC3
Bank of America
Bank of New York Mellon
Boston Private
Crescent Capital
Eaton Vance
Finaccess Advisors, LLC.
H.I.G. Capital, L.L.C.
IMC Financial Markets

JLL@Capital One John Hancock

Kayne Anderson Capital Advisors, LP

Klingman and Associates Mapfre Insurance Mastercard Worldwide

Morgan Stanley National Tax Group

Natixis Global Asset Management, L.P.

Natixis Investment Managers Randstad Technologies

Red Mountain Properties/Ocedan Properties/US Loan Servicing

Silicon Valley Bank

Sunstone Partners Management, LLC

#### **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

Constellation Culinary Group

Cousins Subs

Culinart @ Brentwood School Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse Dignity Health Sports Park/Levy

Restaurants Fancy's Market

Fazenda Coffee Roasters

Fiii Water Five Guys

Flagship at Facebook

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 Bakery 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 City 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 City of New York

City of South San Francisco-REAL

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 Auberge

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

**MOD Pizza** 

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

Dentistry 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 Bay

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 Seyfarth Shaw Shuffield Lowman

Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy &

Ecker, P.A.

The Ferraro Law Firm

Manufacturing/Distribution

AAA Candle Company

ABF Freight

Amazon Fulfillment

Atlas Embroidery & Screen Printing

Baby K'tan

BrandsMart USA Caterpillar

**Eggers Imprints** 

Good 360

Hermes Deliveries

Independent Purchasing Cooperative Lake Country Manufacturing

LOGO Brands

Northrop Grumman

NPW Companies South Dade

Office Depot

Park Street Companies

Premiere Collectibles

Primary Colors, Inc.

RDS Same Day Delivery

Sakura Finetek USA, Inc. Telamon - Kem Krest

The UPS Store

Tuuci

Valin Corporation

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 Manage-

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

Lucky Strike

Marcus Theatre-2521 Maryland Farms YMCA Mt Pleasant Ice Arena National Aguarium 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 Kroger

LEGOLAND Discovery Center Boston Lowe's & Lowe's Home Improvement

Lululemon Mack Cycle

Macv's Furniture Gallery

Market 32 Marshalls Michaels

MOMs Organic Market

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

**Sports & Entertainment** 

AMC

Arizona Covotes Axe Hockey Group Boston Red Sox

Charlotte Knights Baseball

D.C. United

**Entertainment Industry Foundation** 

Grand Ole Oprv Madison Square Garden Milwaukee Brewers

Monumental Sports & Entertainment

Nashville Predators Nashville Sounds National Football League

New Jersey Symphony Orchestra

NewTV NY Giants Oakland Athletics Orlando Science Center Propagate Content Santa Ana Star Casino Staples Center The Milwaukee Bucks

The Preserve at Eisenhower Golf

Course Topgolf

Universal Studios-Orlando Washington Football Team

Worcester Railers Worcester Red Sox

**Talent & Staffing Agencies** 

Aston Carter

K Force

Kellv

Kelly Services

Kelly Services - Kirts Building Managed Career Solutions - Los

Angeles Sodexo @ Sanofi William Morris Endeavor

**Technology** 

Accenture Federal Services

Accenture Workplace

**Apogee Computer Technologies** 

CIC Boston & Cambridge

Enjoy Genentech Nortrup Patents Office Depot # 3266 Rapid7

Xactly Corporation **Telecommunications** 

BrightStar TCC

**Transportation** 

Brightline - Miami Central **Dulles International Airport** 

Envoy Air FastPark

Fontainebleau Aviation McGee Air Services National Loading Services Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.

SMS International Shore Operations

Total Transportation Services, Inc.

Tower WAV U-Haul Moving & Storage

**UPS** 

Watch City Pharmacy

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

Career Group Companies Career Strategies







### Tennessee Year in Review

With a growing staff and a highly anticipated return to in-person programs and events, 2022 presented an abundance of opportunity for Best Buddies in Tennessee (BBTN). We are proud to report that we capitalized on that opportunity and engaged nearly 5,000 volunteers, students, and participants across the state. In addition to our concentration on the greater Nashville and Memphis markets, we reached new communities throughout Tennessee and had a programmatic presence in 21 of Tennessee's 95 counties.

In addition to our geographic expansion, we also emphasized reaching younger students with and without IDD. At year's end, our Friendship program operated in 92 schools, including 13 elementary and 24 middle schools. Across our leadership development trainings, we also trained roughly 100 leaders and named six official State Ambassadors! The sooner intentional inclusion becomes a part of one's life, the more likely it is to be internalized and implemented. Friendship and inclusion are lifelong needs, and we were also excited to build our Citizens and Jobs programs in 2022. Our Citizens program grew to 450 members between our Nashville, Memphis and East Tennessee chapters, and our programs team consistently made several new matches from month to month. After a tumultuous couple of years for the nation's workforce, stabilization was the focal point for our Jobs program, and we were proud to return or retain employment for nearly all of our 40 active participants.

The foundation for this success was laid by our signature events, starting with the spring's Best Buddies Friendship Walk in Nashville, which marked the first in-person walk in Tennessee since 2019. Hosted at Montgomery Bell Academy, the walk brought 1,000 people together in the name of inclusion and raised \$165,000, catapulting past our \$100,000 goal. Over the summer, we partnered with the Nashville Predators to return our Best Buddies Friendship Ball to Bridgestone Arena, which was well-received by our students, parents, volunteers, and corporate partners alike. Previously a programmatic staple, we also increased the sponsorship opportunities surrounding the event to generate more revenue than ever before.

In the fall, we incorporated the Champion of the Year campaign into our annual Best Buddies Gala for the first time, and the results spoke for themselves. Thanks to our Champions and their guests, the gala raised \$425,000 to become the largest event in the history of BBTN. We exceeded our revenue goal by more than \$150,000, and the energy and generosity of the 400 guests was truly palpable.

Heading into 2023, we intend to build on the momentum generated by the success of our programs and events this past year. With highly engaged staff, student leaders, and supporters, we feel poised to take our mission of inclusion to new heights in the aptly named Volunteer State.

Will Macon, State Director, Tennessee

Tennessee Office 340 Seven Springs Way, Suite 750, Brentwood, TN 37027 P 615.891.2046





# One-To-One Friendships Key Program Stats TN

Elementary Schools Middle Schools High Schools

20 379 34 602 46 2,210 Chapters Participants Chapters Participants

Colleges Citizens e-Buddies

12 833 413 72

Chapters Participants Participants

### Ben & Mason

### One-To-One Friendships

### Citizens, Memphis, TN

Friendship is a lifelong need, and the Citizens program exists to fulfill that need. As the Citizens program blossomed in Memphis in 2022, so did the relationship between Ben and Mason, and the friendship came at just the right time.

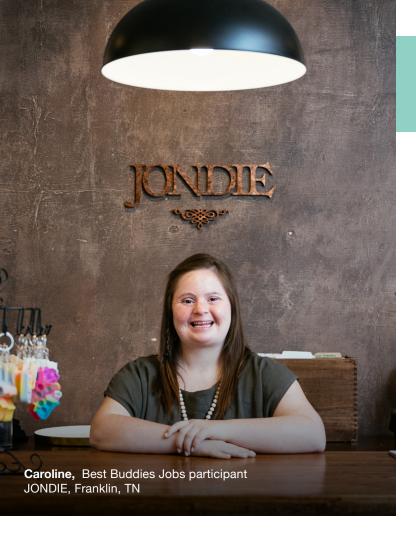
"I had been a part of Best Buddies for seven years, and I was excited to discover the Citizens program when I moved to Memphis for law school," Mason said. That's where Ben comes into the picture – we were matched in 2022 and hit it off right away!"

Little did Mason know, but their relationship was also divinely timed for Ben. Though Ben enjoys a steady job as a daycare worker, attends some classes at the University of Memphis, and engages in various activities, he longed for a friend to share it all with. And that's just what he has found in Mason.

"Every month," Mason shared, "we get lunch at the same spot, a popular Memphis burger joint named Huey's, where the waitresses know Ben's order by heart. We have great conversations about current events, our dogs, Ben's dance class, and upcoming Best Buddies events."

When Ben and Mason are together, they are fully present, and that's what they both love most: simply having someone there, seemingly just for them. Our friends amplify the best of times, make the worst of times bearable, and fill the ordinary with color. We are delighted to bring friendships like Ben and Mason's to life at Best Buddies.

I had been a part of Best Buddies for seven years, and I was excited to discover the Citizens program when I moved to Memphis for law school, we were matched in 2022 and hit it off right away!" - Mason





# **Integrated Employment**Key Program Stats TN

Jobs

50 70

Participants : Participants

Employed

### **Caroline**

### Integrated Employment

### JONDIE, Franklin, TN

Caroline has loved fashion for as long as she can remember, and she was so excited to find employment where she could turn her passion into a profession. Caroline works as a sales clerk and stocking support person at JONDIE, a locally owned, independent clothing and accessory boutique outside of Nashville!

"I love my job at JONDIE, I love my coworkers, and I love going to work," Caroline said. "My favorite part of the job is when we have a new line of clothes when the seasons change. I like seeing all the fresh designs, updating the mannequins, and helping people find their new look."

"Caroline is reliable and consistent, and I can count on her to show up and do her job," Rebecca, JONDIE's owner, and Caroline's supervisor, said. "Our whole team loves her; she lights up the store, and we even have customers who come in just to visit with Caroline."

Caroline has increased her hours and responsibilities as she continues to demonstrate her skills and commitment to her job. As the saying goes, "Find a job you love, and you'll never work a day in your life!"



"Our whole team loves her; she lights up the store, and we even have customers who come in just to visit with Caroline - Rebecca, Caroline's Supervisor





### **Leadership Development** Key Program Stats TN

Ambassadors : Promoters

10 35 886

Ambassadors : Chapters Participants

## **Ziggy**

### Leadership Development

### Ambassador, Pegram, TN

Ziggy found Best Buddies in 2022 as our Citizens program expanded to serve more communities across Tennessee. Ziggy understands the importance of our mission of inclusion, and he has been eager to engage with Best Buddies wherever possible.

In addition to attending Citizens events, our Friendship Walk and Champion of the Year Gala, Ziggy expressed interest in becoming a State Ambassador to share his lifelong pursuit of inclusion with others. He wrote and delivered the following speech at an ambassador training:

"Hi! My name is Ziggy Carmichael, and I am excited to share my story. When I was young, I found it difficult to make friends. I knew it was important to build a bridge of community so that people of all abilities have friends and people to support them, so I even tried to start a program like Best Buddies when I went to a college program in Alabama. I got people together to go to concerts, the botanical gardens, the zoo, and more.

But when I moved to Tennessee as an adult, I again found it hard to find and make friends. Then I found Best Buddies about a year ago! I have already made many friends through the Citizens program, and the more I do with Best Buddies, the more I look forward to getting plugged in further.

I was nervous about making connections initially, but Best Buddies has taught me to relax and be myself! We are all different, but that's a good thing. We can be there for each other to face life's storms and have each other's backs. If you are struggling, keep moving forward with your journey – the people you meet along the way will make it worth it."

We look forward to giving Ziggy more platforms to share his story and continuing to amplify other voices in our community.

I was nervous about making connections initially, but Best Buddies has taught me to relax and be myself!" - Ziggy



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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Thank you,

Mak Z

Mark Lewis, Senior Vice President, Development, Marketing & Technology

**(f**) **∑ (i**) **∑ (i**) **∑** 

MAKE A FRIEND | DONATE | VOLUNTEER

**BESTBUDDIES.ORG**