2023

BEST BUDDIES *ANNUAL REPORT*

Joshua, Madison and **James**, Best Buddies Ambassadors and actors from the film "Champions"

BEST BUDDIES®

MISSION PILLARS

One-To-One Friendships

Integrated Employment

Leadership Development

Inclusive Living

Table of **Contents**

04 Message From Our Chairman

05 Why We Matter

06 A Parent's Perspective

07 2023 Highlights

08 Milestones

10 Our Impact

11 Mission, Vision, Who We Serve

12 Programs

13 One-To-One Friendships

15 Integrated Employment

19 Leadership Development

21 Inclusive Living

23 International Programs

25 Signature Events

33 Financials

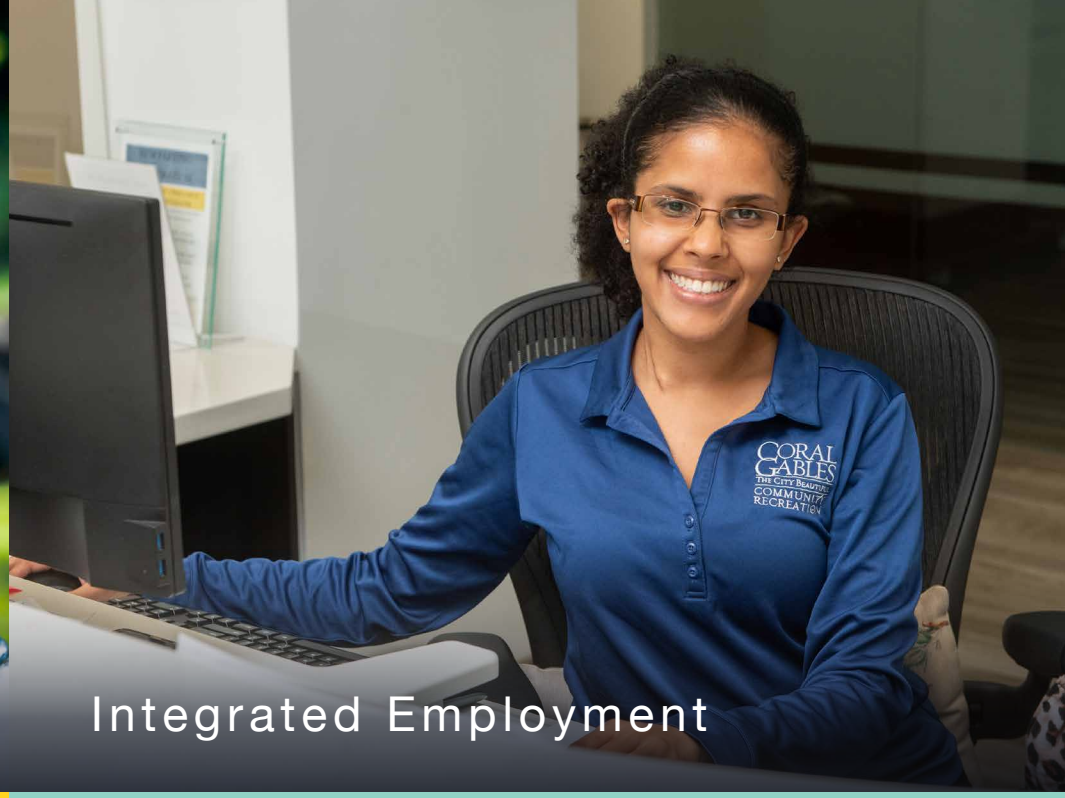
35 Board of Directors

36 Executive Team

37 Our Supporters

40 Participating Employers

One-To-One Friendships


Integrated Employment

BEST BUDDIES
Leadership Development

BEST BUDDIES
Inclusive Living

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

Message From Our Chairman

Dear Best Buddies Family,

Best Buddies had a remarkable year in 2023, with our events and programmatic activities coming back stronger than ever, both nationwide and globally. As the year concluded, we became even more convinced 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).

In 2023, Best Buddies formed strategic partnerships with several major corporate partners that will have a profound impact on our organization and the people we serve. BODYARMOR became the official water and sports beverage partner of the Best Buddies Challenges, providing hydration products for the organization's national cycling events. Best Buddies also launched a new partnership with our friends at Jersey Mike's Subs. To kick off the partnership, the company generously pledged $1 million to support the organization, inviting their customers to donate via a round-up campaign at checkout on their mobile app. In 2023, we also welcomed the Boston Celtics' Al Horford, the Atlanta Falcons' Chris Lindstrom, and Celebrity Chef Buddy Valastro as official Best Buddies Global Ambassadors. In these roles, they will use their star power, resources, and connections to promote our mission.

The strength of our business model, combined with our loyal and expanding supporter base, the dedication and focus of our talented employees, and the growth opportunities we see ahead, all reinforce my confidence in our ability to drive towards our long-term growth.

Thank you for contributing to a better world for individuals with IDD. Your continued support will be critical as we strive to move 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 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 84%* 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 has participants employed full time who each have the potential to earn a total income upwards of $1mm over 30 years and contribute $250k in taxes back into the economy, rather than costing the government approximately $750k each in Federal SSI and Medicaid support during that time period.

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.

Madison and **James**, Best Buddies Ambassadors and actors from the film "Champions"

Hunter with his father **William**

Hunter, Best Buddies Global Ambassador

A Parent's Perspective

"Being a part of my kids' lives has given me the most joy as a father. Watching them navigate the ups and downs of life, seeing them become close siblings and good human beings who contribute positively to society, brings me immense joy.

Hunter, my son, is one of the friendliest and most positive people I know. He has a huge heart and genuinely cares about others. Hunter loves music and can identify songs and artists just by hearing the beginning of a track. He is also passionate about sports and dreams of visiting every MLB park, especially those in Pittsburgh, where I grew up. Hunter will give me a rundown of all the scores. Who needs ESPN when you have Hunter?

Best Buddies has profoundly impacted both my life and Hunter's. They came into our lives when I was really worried about Hunter, who spent a lot of time alone in his room. Best Buddies showed Hunter that he could have friends outside the family who care about him and want to spend time with him. Now, he has many events that keep him busy and happy. I no longer worry about him making friends or finding his place in life.

The greatest gift people with disabilities have is their uniqueness and ability to accept others for who they are. As Hunter says, autism is his superpower.

Whether you need a friend or want to be a friend, Best Buddies is the place for you. Everyone needs a space outside their family where they feel loved for who they are. I honestly couldn't say what Hunter's life would be like without Best Buddies."

– William Hunter, father of Best Buddies Global Ambassador **Hunter Huff**

2023 Highlights

Launches

- In October, in honor of National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), Best Buddies hosted the 5th Annual Corporate Partner Summit at the Accenture offices in Chicago. This event brought together corporate leaders to promote inclusion and featured sessions led by Accenture, i4CP, InsightGlobal, and Shutterfly.

Partnerships

- BODYARMOR became the official water and sports beverage partner of the Best Buddies Challenges. The company will provide all water and hydration products consumed by athletes across the organization's national cycling events as part of their sponsorship.
- Jersey Mike's Subs generously pledges $1MM to support Best Buddies to kick off the new partnership and invites their customers to donate to the organization via a round-up campaign at checkout to amplify the financial support.
- The Boston Celtics' Al Horford, the Atlanta Falcons' Chris Lindstrom, and Celebrity Chef Buddy Valastro became official Best Buddies Global Ambassadors.

BODYARMOR's interactive pop-up at the *2023 Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port presented by Shaw's and Star Market Foundation and the TJX Companies, Inc* event

Celebrity Chef and Global Ambassador **Buddy Valastro** with his son **Buddy Valastro, Jr.** and fellow Best Buddies Ambassadors **Matthew** and **Joshua** at the *2023 Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port presented by Shaw's and Star Market Foundation and the TJX Companies, Inc* event

Desmond and **Mario**, Friendship Program participants, enjoy Jersey Mike's Subs

Milestones

1987 - 1996

- In 1987, Anthony Kennedy Shriver launches BEST**BUDDIES**® Colleges by founding the first Best Buddies chapter at Georgetown University.
- In 1988, the iconic Best Buddies logo was donated to Best Buddies by legendary pop-artist, Keith Haring.
- On January 19, 1989, Best Buddies is incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, becoming America's first national, unified, social and recreational program for people with IDD.
- In 1992, Best Buddies Global Headquarters office moves to Miami, FL.
- In 1993, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® 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 BEST**BUDDIES**® Jobs, a supported employment program targeting high-paying, corporate jobs for people with IDD.
- In 1995, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® High Schools to pair special education students in one-to-one friendships with high school volunteers.
- In 1996, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® Middle Schools to pair students with IDD in one-to-one friendships with middle school volunteers.

1999 - 2008

- In 1998, Best Buddies hosts the first *Best Buddies Miami Gala.*
- In 1999, Best Buddies launches e-**BUDDIES**®, a cutting-edge online friendship program.
- In 2000, Best Buddies holds the inaugural *Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port*, a 100-mile bike ride from Boston to Hyannis Port.
- In 2003, Best Buddies has participants in all 50 states on the US.
- In 2004, Best Buddies launches the nationally televised inaugural *Volvo Best Buddies Challenge: Hearst Castle*, a 100-mile bike ride along the Pacific Coast Highway.

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 BEST**BUDDIES**® Ambassadors to teach participants with IDD communication and self-advocacy skills.
- In 2012, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® Promoters, the first Best Buddies program open to elementary schools; the inaugural of the *Best Buddies Challenge: Miami* takes place and the first *Best Buddies Champion of The Year Gala* is hosted.
- In 2014, Best Buddies celebrates its 25th anniversary and also celebrates 25 years of the *Best Buddies Leadership Conference*.
- in 2017, Best Buddies holds the first *Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Malibu* and hosts the inaugural *Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers* in Malibu, CA, with Global Ambassador Cindy Crawford and her daughter, Kaia Gerber.
- In 2019, Best Buddies launches its fourth mission pillar, BEST**BUDDIES**® Inclusive Living, to provide individuals with and without IDD an opportunity to live independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow and thrive.

2020 - Current

- In 2020, Best Buddies introduces BEST**BUDDIES**® Ventures, with the first launch being BEST**BUDDIES**® 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 2020, Best Buddies launches BEST**BUDDIES**® 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 BEST**BUDDIES**® Elementary Schools to teach inclusion to a younger age group to create a lasting effect on societal norms for the next generation.

“Through Best Buddies I met wonderful people and visited amazing places. I feel that joining Best Buddies helped me find a community where I fee welcomed and secure. In addition, I became more social and willing to be more adventurous.” **- Cristian**

Kristian, Tracy, Melinda, Cristian, Shania and **Lisa**, Friendship Program participants

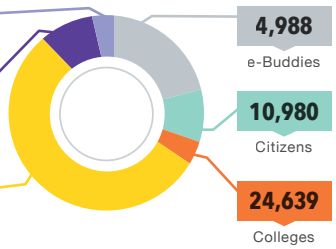
Our Impact

3,535 Chapters | **137,346*** Participants | **1,373,460** Impacted | **50** States | **46** Countries

One-To-One Friendship

- **100** Elementary School Chapters
- **1,622** High School Chapters
- **522** Middle School Chapters
- **500** College Chapters

Program Participants



Integrated Employment

- **2,093** Participants Employed

Average Total Participant Stats

42,697	2,092,163	$6,058,903	$30,294,517
Weekly Hrs. Worked	Yearly Hrs. Worked	Yearly Taxes Paid	Yearly Wages Earned

Avg. hrs worked per week 20.40, Avg. hrly wage $14.48 (in the U.S.).

Leadership Development

- **409** Elementary Schools Promoters Chapters
- **104** Middle School Promoters Chapters
- **247** High School Promoters Chapters
- **31** College Promoters Chapters

Program Participants

Inclusive Living

- **5** Five residences in Washington, D.C. (2), Miami, FL, Atlanta, GA, and Los Angeles, CA

All program stats are as of 12/31/2023, and reflect the most recent Best Buddies program year (July 1, 2023 – June 30,2024).
*Total number of participants does not include residents in Living location(s), not listed.

Angela and **Kristine**, Friendship program participants
Best Buddies Philippines

One-To-One Friendships

Integrated Employment

Leadership Development

Inclusive Living

We are BEST**BUDDIES**®

Best Buddies is the largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical, and economic isolation of the 200 million people worldwide with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Our programs empower people with IDD to form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure jobs, improve communication and advocacy skills, and live independently.

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 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

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

Best Buddies serves individuals with IDD and their families. The IDD community includes, but is not limited to, people with Down syndrome, autism, Fragile X, Williams syndrome, and other undiagnosed disabilities.

Programs

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

- One-to-One Friendships
- Integrated Employment
- Leadership Development
- 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**® Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, High Schools, Colleges, and Citizens

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

e-**BUDDIES**®

Provides opportunities for participants with and without IDD to form virtual one-to-one friendships, create connections in the e-Buddies social platform, and attend social events online.

Integrated Employment

Secures jobs for people with IDD, empowering them to earn an income, pay taxes, and independently support themselves through their professional accomplishments.

BEST**BUDDIES**® 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.

Leadership Development

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® Ambassadors

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® Promoters

Empowers youth to become advocates for people with IDD and helps chapters organize special events that promote inclusion and bring awareness to the disability rights movement.

BEST**BUDDIES**® Transitions

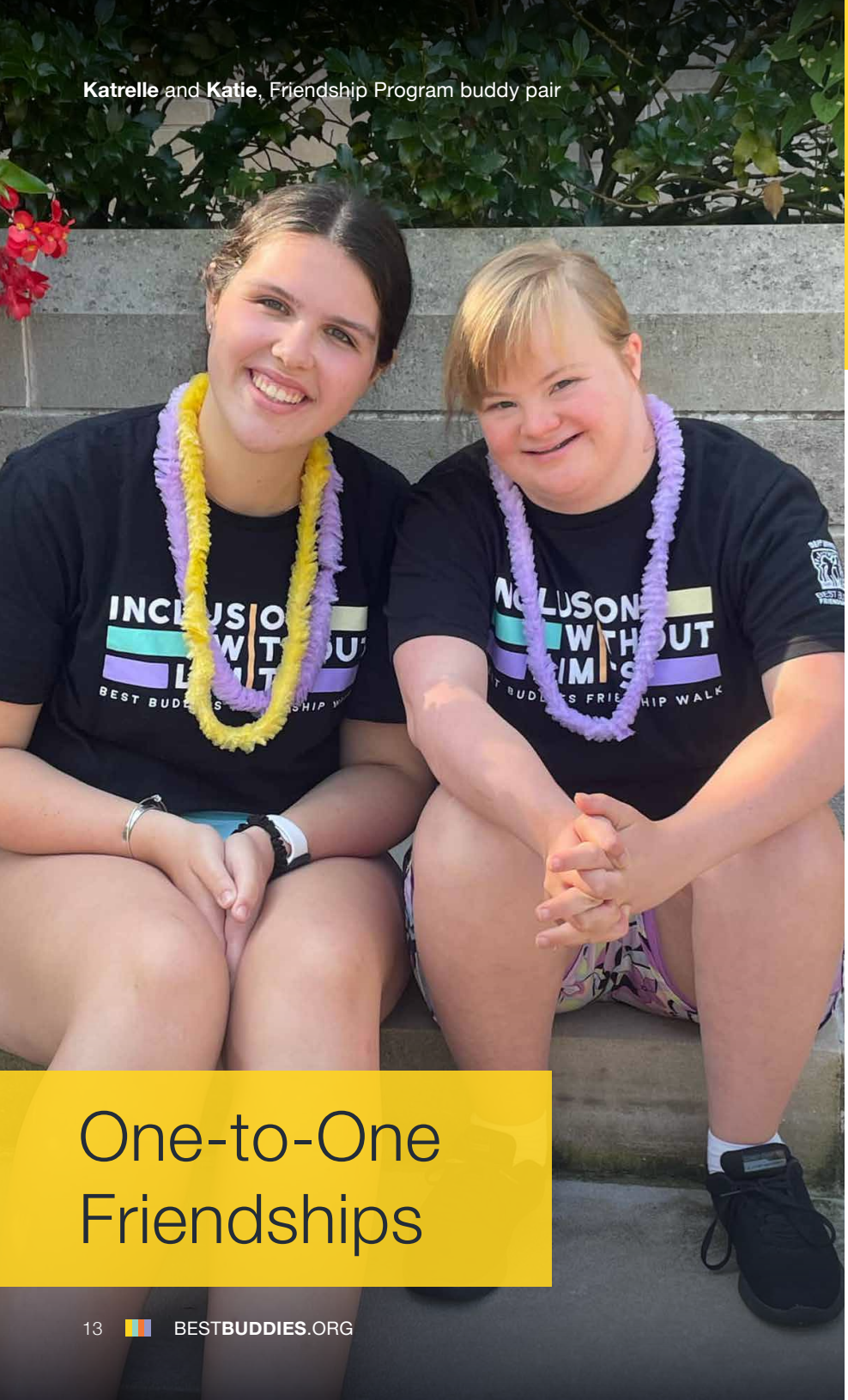
Offers a combination of classroom-based training, experiential learning, and corporate mentorship to help students with IDD explore post-secondary options, prepare for independent living, and identify career ambitions.

Inclusive Living

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® Living

Offers 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.



Katrelle and **Katie**, Friendship Program buddy pair

One-to-One Friendships

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, 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.

BEST**BUDDIES**® 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.

Yasmin and **Aiden**, Friendship Program buddy pair

Yasmin & Aiden

One-To-One Friendships

Thomas A. Edison High School
Alexandria, VA

From their smiles, easy conversations, and evident friendship, watching Aiden and Yasmin at the *Best Buddies Friendship Walk* with their high school team perfectly illustrates the Best Buddies mission in action. As seniors at Thomas Edison High School, Aiden and Yasmin have been matched in a one-to-one friendship since freshman year, and Best Buddies has made a lasting impact on their lives. Their commitment is clear through Yasmin's leadership as Chapter President and Aiden's role as Buddy Director over the past two years.

Aiden loves being friends with Yasmin, sharing, "I love to go out to lunch with my buddy, Yasmin, and play games in the cafeteria like Headbands, Spot It, and Jenga." Yasmin fondly remembers their first *Best Buddies Prom*, which was also their first prom ever, as one of her favorite memories with Aiden.

Best Buddies has profoundly impacted the Edison High School community through various events organized by the chapter, including Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and the *Spread the Word to End the Word* campaign. Seeing so many friendships between people with different abilities from across Virginia and D.C. reminded Aiden and Yasmin that they are part of a welcoming and cherished community.

As Aiden and Yasmin prepare to graduate this year, they have messages for their fellow students. Aiden encourages, "everyone at Edison to keep up the good work," while Yasmin urges members to "stay involved with the Best Buddies community – it is simply the best!"

– Aiden and Yasmin, Best Buddies Friendship Pair

> "I love to go out to lunch with my buddy, Yasmin, and play games in the cafeteria like Headbands, Spot It, and Jenga." **- Aiden**

Anthony K. Shriver with Jersey Mike's Subs Founder & CEO **Peter Cancro** and Best Buddies participants

Integrated Employment

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

BESTBUDDIES® Jobs

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

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

Robin, Best Buddies Jobs participant
Klingman & Associates, LLC

Robin

Integrated Employment

Klingman & Associates, LLC.

New York City, NY

Robin currently works as an office manager at Klingman & Associates, LLC, a wealth management firm, in New York City. She has been with the company for over five and a half years, starting as an intern in January 2019 and transitioning to a full-time role after two months.

At her job, she uses her administrative skills, collaboration, Microsoft Office, customer service, and organizational skills. She has also learned to use programs like Tamarac CRM, a web-based client relationship management system, book travel arrangements, manage multiple calendars, and continues to acquire new skills as she works. Robin works 40 hours a week and enjoys a comprehensive benefits package that includes paid vacation, medical care, a retirement plan, dental care, vision care, and sick days.

Since securing her job, Robin has been able to experience more of the city and travel, feeling supported by her job and close-knit colleagues at Klingman & Associates, who feel like family to her.

Robin's daily responsibilities include scanning and uploading checks into the system, preparing conference rooms for clients and the team, printing and scanning documents for colleagues, and mailing documents to clients and wholesalers. Before joining Klingman & Associates, she worked at the local Pet Health Store.

Before getting involved with Best Buddies, Robin explored different career paths and job opportunities and was referred to the Best Buddies Jobs program by Access VR, a program that helps individuals with disabilities achieve and maintain employment.

Her future goals include taking courses to further her education, running another marathon or half-marathon, traveling more, learning different languages, and learning how to play golf. Robin looks forward to continuing her education, both in financial planning and other fields.

> “For people looking to expand their hiring to include people with IDD, the single biggest piece of advice I could give you is: don't overthink it.” **- Michael Paley,** Chief Operating Officer, Klingman & Associates

Key Jobs Program Stats

1,625
International Participants

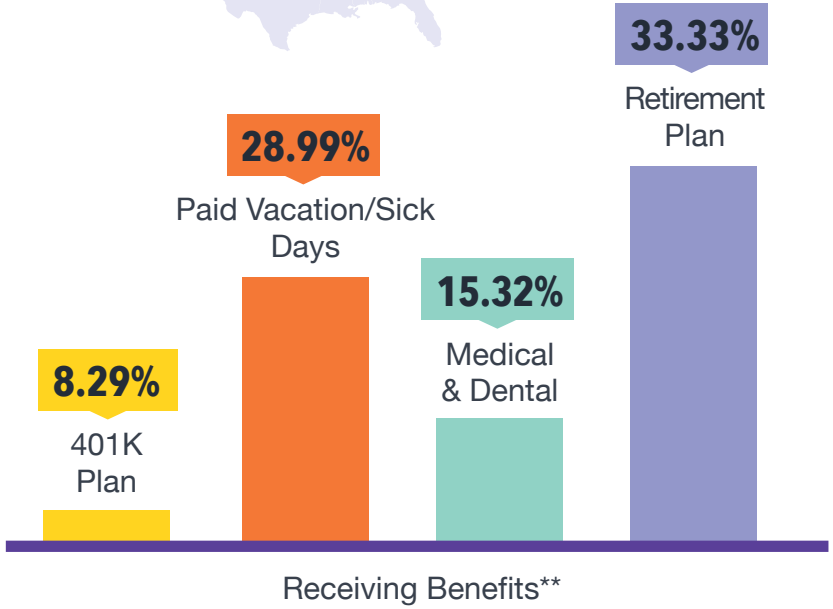
1,552
U.S Participants

20
States with active Jobs Programs

87.28%
U.S Retention Rate

20.33
Average Hours Worked Weekly

1,057.38
Average Hours Worked Yearly



Top 4Jobs Participants Highest Salaries With Benefits

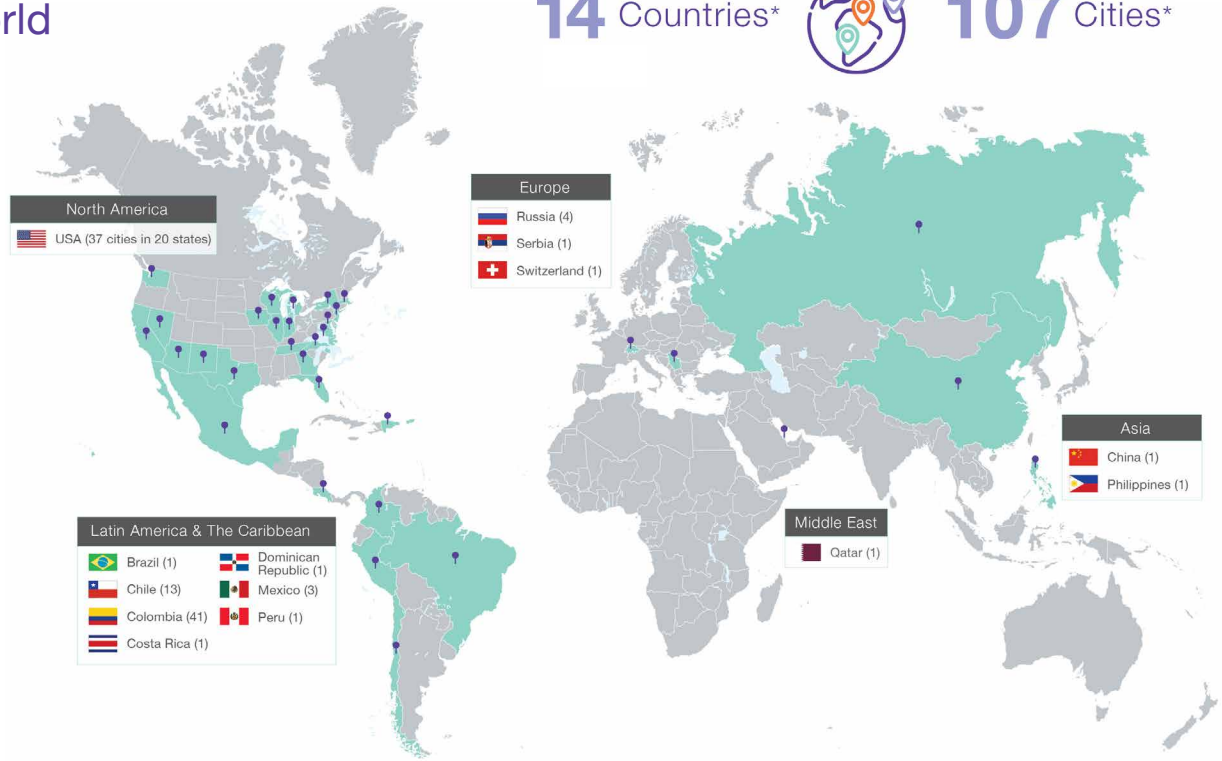
Salary	$71,780.80	$71,011.20	$69,992	$66,560
Name/ State	**Andrew C.** *Los Angeles, CA*	**Nicole K.** *Los Angeles, CA*	**Nathaniel M.** *San Francisco, CA*	**Elaina C.** *Baltimore, MD*
Benefits	Holiday Pay, Medical Care	Vacation Pay, Medical Care, Sick Leave, Sick Pay	Vacation Pay, Holiday Pay, Medical Care, Dental Care, Vision Care, Sick Pay	Vacation Pay, Retirement Plans

Top 5 Jobs Participants Highest Hourly Rates

Best Buddies Jobs Around The World

14 Countries* **107** Cities*

Carlos, Best Buddies Jobs participant
Whole Foods Market



** Global jobs stats are calculated based on total jobs participants and U.S. Average hours and wages.*
*** Represents benefits received by US BB Job participants.*
**** All Jobs Program stats are as of 12/31/2023*

Elyse, Best Buddies Global Ambassador

Leadership Development

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® 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.

BEST**BUDDIES**® 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.

Fran, Best Buddies Global Ambassador

Fran

Leadership Development

Global Ambassador

Dallas, TX

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Flava Fran! Autistic rapping Jew, overcomer, future homeless shelter founder, and Best Buddies Global Ambassador. I live in Dallas, Texas where I work at a preschool, thanks to the Best Buddies Jobs program and my jobs coach, Cheyenne. It is the most amazing job in the entire universe! I hope more people with disabilities will see it is possible to achieve their dream job, and that employers will give us a chance. My job brings so much light to my life and I hope to make your life brighter.

I believe the world is butterflies and rainbows! People try to tell me that it's not, but I try to see the bright side in every situation. When I said I was an overcomer it was because I'm a survivor of 18 years of physical abuse. During my struggles, I learned to find joy in the little things like flowers and pretty colors. Another bright side is that my rough past gave me the drive to help others. A good way to find bright sides is through music. I love to write and perform uplifting raps to spread love and positive messages. Best Buddies has given me an outlet to spread even more love. From the Jobs program to the Ambassadors program to the *Best Buddies Friendships Walks* to hanging out with my buddies, Best Buddies has given me the biggest bright side I've ever had.

Before I conclude, I want you all to know that a big bright side is coming. When I introduced myself at the beginning of the speech I said future homeless shelter founder. My dream is to one day build a homeless shelter and call it the Bright side Homeless Shelter. That's my dream, but I want all of you to know I believe in your dreams, and whether you have a disability or not, you can make your dreams come true; and looking on the bright side sure does help!

Best Buddies is the biggest bright side! Thank you all so much.

- **Fran**, Best Buddies Global Ambassador

> “Best Buddies has given me an outlet to spread even more love. From the Jobs program to the Ambassadors program to the *Best Buddies Friendships Walks* to hanging out with my buddies, Best Buddies has given me the biggest bright side I've ever had.” **- Fran**

AnnCatherine and **Nicole**, Best Buddies Living residents

Inclusive Living

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

BEST**BUDDIES**® 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.

Rubin, pictured in the center, with his housemates at their Best Buddies Living: Miami residence

Rubin

Best Buddies Living Resident

Miami, FL

Before joining Best Buddies Living: Miami in January 2024, Rubin lived with his grandmother, sisters, niece, and nephew. In his new home, Rubin has his own room and bathroom and shares a living and kitchen space. The apartment building is just blocks from the University of Miami, providing residents with access to the campus and all events through a partnership between the school and the program. Residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), like Rubin, are also taught independent living skills by an on-site residential manager.

Rubin's favorite aspects of being a resident at Best Buddies Living: Miami includes going out, bonding with his roommates, helping others, and cooking. He enjoys game nights, playing pool, joking and laughing, and having conversations with his housemates. Through the program, Rubin has learned important life and independent living skills. "Through the Best Buddies Living program, I've learned how to be on my own, make better decisions for my life, and how to become a better person," said Rubin.

Since joining Best Buddies, Rubin's life has changed for the better. He became more involved with the organization, including serving as a state ambassador, a role that empowers individuals with IDD to become leaders, public speakers, and advocates. Best Buddies also helped him secure a job with the Hialeah Fire Department. In this position, Rubin supports his boss Nikita with administrative tasks and assists the entire department with their day-to-day duties. He also enjoys greeting people and helping with fire reports. His salary has doubled since being hired, and he receives benefits including paid time off, health insurance, and a 401(k)-matching plan.

Rubin encourages others with intellectual and developmental disabilities to join the Best Buddies Living program:

"Others should join Best Buddies Living to experience independent living and discover more about themselves. At Best Buddies Living, you basically live on your own. You will know how it feels to live on your own and have the opportunity to develop your independent living skills," said Rubin.

> “Others should join Best Buddies Living to experience independent living and discover more about themselves. You will know how it feels to live on your own and have the opportunity to develop your independent living skills.” **- Rubin**

International Programs

In 2023, Best Buddies' International Programs (IP) department set out to establish new regional and global partnerships to enhance revenue, improve departmental and country operations by refining protocols, processes, and tools, and strengthen country programs while expanding global presence. Throughout the year, significant strides were made towards these goals. IP supported 28 international participants to attend the *2023 Best Buddies International Leadership Conference (BBLC)* in Bloomington, Indiana and increased attendance at its annual *Global Staff Forum (GSF)* by 40%. Additionally, IP successfully opened programs in Cyprus, Dominica, El Salvador, Portugal, and Switzerland.

International Programs' compliance for accreditation saw a 17% improvement, and we received grants amounting to $30,000 from the U.S. Embassy in Macao, $50,000 from the Philippines, and $20,000 from Switzerland. IP hosted 12 webinars for 163 attendees covering topics such as Champion of the Year, country highlights, and various program management strategies. The Best Buddies Living Program was extended to country programs, and the department continued forming partnerships with multinational corporations like JLL, Amazon, and Colgate-Palmolive. To promote inclusivity, all content on BB University was translated into Spanish, benefiting the Spanish-speaking community both in the U.S. and internationally. The IP department also met with the U.S. Ambassador in Spain to explore potential collaborations, and Best Buddies' domestic expansion team, which resulted in a unified global expansion strategy, increasing IP support and accreditation revenue.

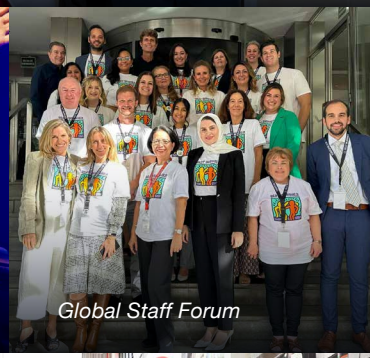
Goals and Vision for 2024

Looking ahead to 2024, IP's primary goal is to centralize data and training and provide tech solutions such as Salesforce and a training platform, along with more consolidated support to global staff. By centralizing data, enhancing training, and focusing on sustainable growth, IP is confident in its ability to achieve these ambitious goals for 2024.

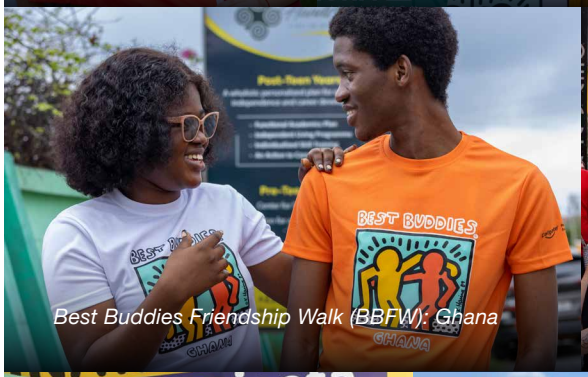
Best Buddies International program participants with **Anthony K. Shriver** at the *2023 Best Buddies Leadership Conference (BBLC)*

Best Buddies Chile participant at *BBLC*

Best Buddies Philippines participant at the *BBLC*



Global Staff Forum



Best Buddies Friendship Walk (BBFW): Ghana

BBFW: Greece

BBFW: Peru

BBFW: Mexico

BBFW: Macao

Best Buddies Around The World

46 Countries & Territories

5 Continents

Revised 10.04.23

Signature Events

Anthony K. Shriver with Best Buddies riders **Glenn Wright** and **Carey Daly**; Best Buddies Global Ambassadors **Christina** and **James**; and **Joey Shriver**.

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

Cyclists at the *2023 Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port, presented by Shaw's and Star Market Foundation and the TJX Companies, Inc.*

Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port

June 2-3, 2023 | Boston to Hyannis Port

The *Best Buddies Challenge: Hyannis Port, presented by Shaw's and Star Market Foundation and the TJX Companies, Inc.* returned to Massachusetts for its 24th year. The Challenge weekend kicked off Friday, June 2 with a dinner reception at John F. Kennedy Presidential Museum & Library. On Saturday, June 3, 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 was capped off by a celebratory clambake where Celebrity Chef Buddy Valastro presented Best Buddies with a gold medal cake to commemorate the achievements of participants who completed the weekend's bike ride. The event also included a special musical performance by Emmy and Grammy Award-winning Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson.

Best Buddies Challenge: California

October 13-14, 2023 | Marin County, CA

The *Best Buddies Challenge: California, presented by the Safeway Foundation* returned to California for its 20th year. The event kicked off with the welcome reception at the iconic Summit Skywalker Ranch on Friday, October 13, where guests enjoyed cocktails, dinner and a program hosted by Best Buddies International Founder, Chairman & CEO Anthony K. Shriver that highlighted the achievements of the Best Buddies Global Ambassadors and key supporters. During the welcome reception, singer and longtime Best Buddies celebrity supporter Lisa Loeb entertained the crowd. On Saturday, October 14, hundreds of cyclists took to the starting line for a 38- or 72-mile ride through the Marin countryside led by professional cyclists Thomas Pidcock and Magnus Sheffield. The event was capped off with a gourmet lunch, wine tasting and live entertainment.

Cyclists at the *2023 Best Buddies Challenge: California, presented by the Safeway Foundation*

Professional Cyclists **Magnus Sheffield**, **Cameron Wurf** and Four-time Tour de France winner **Chris Froome** (center) leading the pack at the *2023 Best Buddies Challenge: Miami, chaired by Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund and presented by Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation and Mack Cycle & Fitness*

Best Buddies Challenge: Miami

November 17, 2023 | Miami, FL

The *Best Buddies Challenge: Miami, chaired by Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund and presented by Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation and Mack Cycle & Fitness*, was led by Four-time Tour de France winner Chris Froome and professional cyclists Magnus Sheffield and Cameron Wurf. 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 17, 2023 | Miami, FL

The 25th Annual *Best Buddies Miami Gala* celebrated Best Buddies' programs in Qatar and honored Global Ambassador Tom Brady with the *2023 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 Nelly.

Best Buddies Global Ambassadors **Tom Brady** and **Katie** at the 24th Annual *Best Buddies Miami Gala*

Best Buddies Breakaway Camp Malibu, CA

November 29 – December 2, 2023

Led by cycling superstar Geraint Thomas and his teammate Cameron Wurf, the *Best Buddies Breakaway Camp: Malibu* provided athletes with a pro-level experience, offering a holistic approach to training. Set in the Santa Monica Mountains of Southern California, the camp hosted 19 cyclists and featured a comprehensive curriculum, including tips on riding efficiently, proper rider nutrition, post-training recovery, and building a foundation for a sustainable healthy lifestyle. Based at the Four Seasons Westlake Village, the camp received support from Pinarello bikes and included a full staff of licensed coaches, Tour de France mechanics, chefs, and massage therapists. This five-star camp helps raise funds and awareness for Best Buddies International and its global mission to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Holly Robinson Peete, an actress and advocate for individuals with IDD, surrounded by her family and Best Buddies supporters at the 6th Annual *Best Buddies Celebrating Mothers* event in Pacific Palisades, CA.

Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers

May 13, 2023 | Pacific Palisades, CA

The 6th Annual *Best Buddies' Celebrating Mothers, presented by Cadillac*, honored actress and advocate Holly Robinson Peete. The celebration featured a performance by Best Buddies Global Ambassador Olivia Culpo and her family, along with singer and Best Buddies Ambassador Marlana VanHoose. Attendees included Best Buddies Global Ambassador Cindy Crawford, NFL star Christian McCaffrey, Aurora Culpo, Sophia Culpo, Courtney Sixx, Garcelle Beauvais, and renowned photographer Brian Bowen Smith, who captured memorable moments from the event.

Best Buddies Friendship Balls & Proms

Best Buddies Friendship Balls and Proms are celebrations of inclusion held across the U.S. While they may appear like any other dance on the surface, they are profoundly meaningful events. Thousands of teens and young adults, both with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities, come together to laugh, dance, sing, and enjoy each other's company. These events are free from judgment, ridicule, or isolation, embodying pure joy, capturing the essence of genuine friendships between individuals of all abilities.

Guests at the *2023 Best Buddies Prom in West Palm Beach, FL*

Participants at the *2023 Best Buddies Friendship Walk: Arizona*

Best Buddies Friendship Walk

The *Best Buddies Friendship Walks* continued to grow and expand, serving as a significant platform for raising awareness and funds in support of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

In 2023, over 41,000 participants across more than 69 cities joined the cause, collectively raising over $5.4 million. These walks have positively impacted communities nationwide, creating spaces for new friendships, unlocking promising opportunities, and, above all, promoting inclusion for all.

Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala

Best Buddies Champion of the Year Gala is a competitive fundraising campaign that brings together and celebrates leaders of inclusion in local communities across the nation. Champion Candidates dedicate themselves to raising funds and awareness for Best Buddies during their campaigns. The culmination of these efforts is the *Champion of the Year Gala*, where the Champions are honored, and the individual who raises the most funds is named the *Champion of the Year*.

In 2023, *Champion of the Year Galas* achieved a record-breaking milestone, hosting 51 events nationwide, with over 425 Champion Candidates, exceeding the fundraising goal by raising over $8.9 million for Best Buddies. This year saw the highest number of Champions in the history of the campaign, with five top Champions each raising over $100,000. Tina Gulledge, with support from her Mission Partner Caroline Tyson from South Carolina, emerged as the National Grand Champion by raising $142,588. Looking ahead to 2024, the goal is to recruit 500 Champions and raise $9.8 million through 53 events, which will raise critical funds for Best Buddies, and empower community leaders to advocate for inclusion.

Mission Partner **James Masterson** and New Hampshire Top Champion **Jennifer Corriveau**

Best Buddies Leadership Conference

July 21-24, 2023 | Bloomington, IN

The *2023 Best Buddies Leadership Conference (BBLC)* marked a triumphant return to in-person conference with nearly 2,000 students at Indiana University from July 21-24, under the theme, “Reunited for Inclusion.”

Throughout the weekend, participants engaged in a variety of educational sessions and interactive workshops, designed to equip student leaders with the tools to promote the Best Buddies mission in their communities. The conference also featured a TedTalk-inspired roundtable with notable speakers, providing attendees with innovative ideas to drive the mission forward.

A highlight of the event was the *Baller Bash* pep rally and integrated celebrity basketball game at Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall. The game featured performances by the Indiana Pacemates, Recording Artist Kid Quill, the Indiana RedStepper Dance Team, Ron Fulford Jr., and stars from All Elite Wrestling, creating an unforgettable experience for attendees.

The conference concluded with the Closing Ceremonies on Sunday night, celebrating the incredible impact of student leaders with and without IDD.

Attendees of the *2023 Best Buddies Leadership Conference: Reunited for Inclusion*

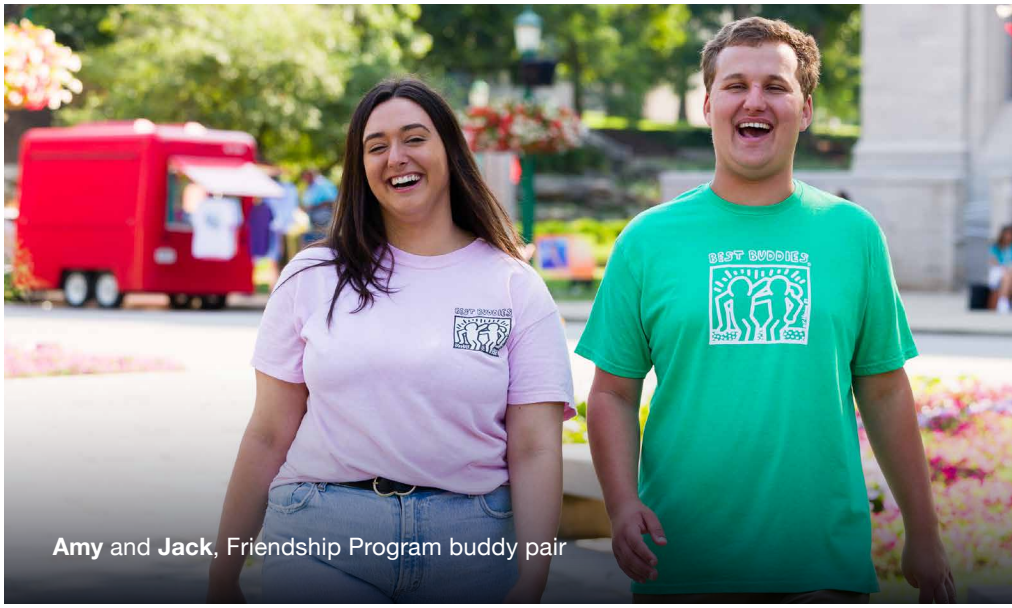
Special Olympics Founder **Eunice Kennedy Shriver** and Special Olympics participants

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 2023, 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.



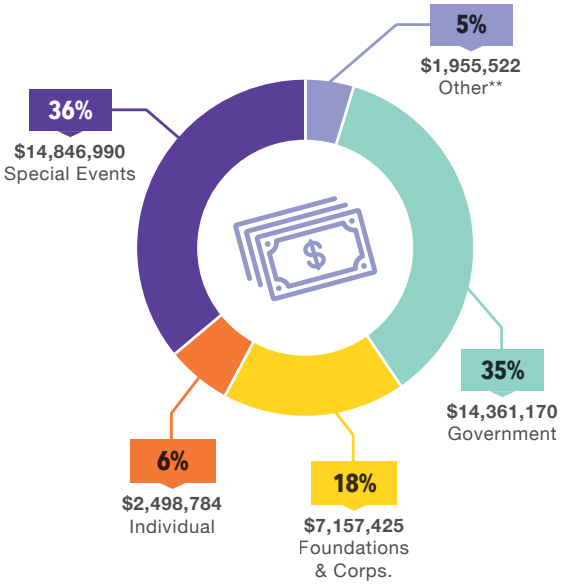
Amy and **Jack**, Friendship Program buddy pair

Stephanie, Best Buddies Jobs participant and **Bob Friedman**, partner at Holland & Knight and Best Buddies Board Member

Financials

Consolidated Statement of Activities* (as of 12.31.23)

Domestic Revenue

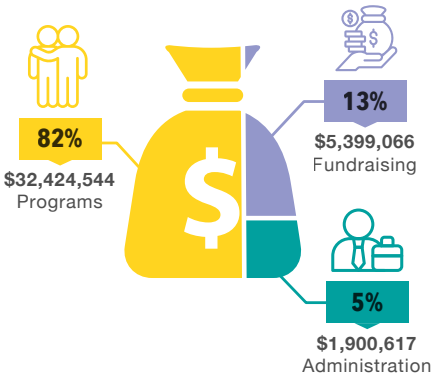


$40,819,891
Total Domestic Revenue

$33,000,000
Total International Revenue***

$73,819,891
Total Gross Revenue

Domestic Expenses



$39,724,227
Total Domestic Expenses

Domestic Net Asset Summary

Net Assets (beginning of year)	$32,390,290
Change in Net Assets	$1,095,664
Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investments	2,118,877
Net Assets (end of year)	**$35,604,831**

** Statement of Activities for calendar year 2023 based on Best Buddies International's Form 990*
*** "Other" represents revenue generated from a collection of sources including; Chapter Dues, Annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference, Investment Income and Cause-Related Marketing.*
**** Gross consolidation of International Licensees that operate as their own NGOs.*

Financials

Balance Sheet (as of 12.31.23)

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	$4,938,047
Investments	$22,352,482
Accounts receivable	$47,412
Contributions receivable, net	$1,043,261
Grants receivable	$5,567,040
Inventory artwork	$58,361
Prepaid expenses	$838,526
Total Current Assets	**$34,845,129**

Property and Equipment

Computers	$461,647
Furniture and equipment	$85,104
Auto	$61,522
Land	$1,152,473
Total Property and Equipment, Cost	$1,760,746
Less Accumulated Depreciation	($567,754)
Total Property and Equipment, Net	**$1,192,992**

Right-of-Use Assets

Financing lease right-of-use, net of amortization	$75,598
Operating lease right-of-use, net of amortization	$3,280,319
Total Right-of-Use Assets	**$3,355,917**

Other Assets

Long-term contributions receivable, net	$1,142,324
Security deposits	$90,011
Investments - Rosetta Bakery x Best Buddies	$37,375
Total Other Assets	**$1,269,710**

Total Assets	**$40,663,748**

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	$611,906
Deferred revenue	$706,376
Compensated absences payable	$173,682
Current portion of financing liabilities	$25,922
Current portion of operating liabilities	$1,376,971
Total Current Liabilities	**$2,894,857**

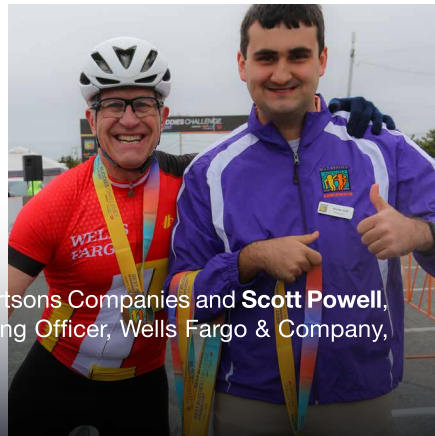
Long-Term Liabilities

Line of credit	$16,533
Security deposit	$37,497
Long-term portion of financing liabilities	$50,651
Long-term portion of operating liabilities	$2,059,379
Total Long-Term Liabilities	$2,164,060
Total Liabilities	**$5,058,917**

Net Assets

With donor restriction	$7,752,624
Without donor restriction	$27,852,207
Total Net Assets	**$35,604,831**

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**$40,663,748**



Rob Backus, EVP, Operations, East Region, Albertsons Companies and **Scott Powell**, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Wells Fargo & Company, with Best Buddies Ambassadors

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

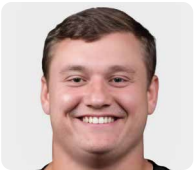
Alexander Hernandez-Dessauer
VP, International Programs & Special Projects
Best Buddies International

Jamie Hintlian
Partner/Principal
Ernst & Young

Michelle Klingman
Chief Experience Officer & Senior Vice President, Human Resource Capital Management
Jackson Health System

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
Philanthropist

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

Cary Ombres
Vice President
Expansion and 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
Jersey Mike's Subs
Safeway Foundation

$250,000 to $499,999
BODYARMOR
Fanatics Foundation/Michael Rubin
Ansin Foundation/Channel 7 Foundation & WSVN/WHDH
Rolex Watch U.S.A., Inc.
Sephora USA, Inc.
Shaw's & Star Market Foundation
The TJX Foundation, Inc.

$100,000 to $249,999
Accenture
Andrew P. Barowsky Foundation
Brauer Material Handling
Hearst Corporation/Steve & Barbara Hearst
Impossible Foods, Inc.
John Drew/Crossover Ventures
The Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund
Klingman & Associates
Nike, Inc.
PLAN - Planned Lifetime Assistance Network of MA & RI Inc.
Raymond James & Associates, Inc.
Sterling Foundation Management/Jim Lintott & May Liang
Sun Capital Partners Foundation/ Marc J. Leder
Sutter Health
The GEO Group Foundation, Inc./ George & Donna Zoley
Wedu, Inc.
Wells Fargo & Company

$50,000 to $99,999
A & E Television Networks
Absolute HCBS LLC
Bader Philanthropies, Inc.
Bank of America
Campbell's Soup Company
Capital Group
CenterPoint Energy Foundation
Chevron Products Company
E. & J. Gallo Winery
Eaton Vance Management
Fifth Generation, Inc.
Insight Global
J.P. Morgan
Jackson Health System
Jones Lang LaSalle America Inc.
Kahala Corp
Micky & Madeleine Arison Family Foundation
MOD Super Fast Pizza, LLC
Morgan Stanley
PHLY Foundation
Pratt Holdings, Inc.
Qintel, LLC
Race Roster
River House 11900, LLC
Shutterfly, Inc - HQ
The Apax Foundation
The Cheesecake Factory
The Dart Group Foundation/Ron Haft
The GivenGain Foundation
The Moody Endowment
The Mosaic Company
The Tom Sullivan Foundation, Inc.
United Way of North Central New Mexico
Volvo Car USA
Waymo LLC

$25,000 to $49,999
All Elite Wrestling
APT Family Charitable Activities
Aspen Sky Trust/Russell Weiner
Bloomberg L.P.
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
BNY Mellon, N.A.
Braman Motors
Bursor and Fisher PA
Crescent Capital Group, L.P.
Enterprise Holdings
Fort Partners/Surf Club Foundation/ Nadim Ashi
General Motors
Holland & Knight LLP
Janssen
MAG Aerospace
MALS PALS
Mark Edward Partners LLC
Match Group
Mercedes-Benz
Merck - HQ

Anthony K. Shriver with Best Buddies Global Ambassador **Fran** accepting a $1.5 million donation from Jersey Mike's Subs founder **Peter Cancro** at the *2023 Best Buddies Gala: Miami*

Midland National Life Insurance Company
MoneyGram Foundation
Pantheon Venture
PcW US Group LLP
Pfizer, Inc
PwC US Group LLC
PWG Charitable Foundation/Albert & Amelia Scaglione
Southern Glazer's Wine And Spirits Charitable Fund
Stanford Health Care
State Street Corporation, State Street Global Markets, LLC
Sun Communities Operating LP
Team Construction, LLC
Texas Mutual
The Boeing Company
The Ferraro Law Firm/Jim Ferraro
The Leavitt Corporation
UBS Financial Services Inc.
UNUM Group
Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc.

$10,000 to $24,999
Admiral Transfer & Rigging
Ally Financial Inc.
Altria Group Inc.
Arc Stores
ASU PI KAPPA PHI
Atlantic Management Corporation
Avance Investment Management
Bank of Hawaii
Buffalo Sabres Foundation
Buffbunny Collection LLC
Carnival Cruise Lines
Cerberus Capital Management, L.P.
Cetera Investment Services LLC
Chesire Half Marathon
Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company
Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin, Inc.
Compass Group
Cooper's Steel Fabricators, Inc.
Credit Union of Texas
CSAA Insurance Services, Inc.
Csnt Corporate
Delaware North Companies Sport Services, Inc.
DNICORP
Eastern Bank
EM-Power Services, Inc.
Findlay
Florida Panthers
GBC Food Services, LLC
Greater Horizons
GTE Federal Credit Union
Haribo of America
High Flying Foods
Illumiwear
Inktel Holdings
Interfraternity Council UT Austin
Kendra Scott LLC
Kohl's
Lemonade Insurance Agency, LLC
Los Angeles Dodgers
Magna Seating Systems Engineering
McCormick & Co., Inc.
Meaningful Beauty, LLC
Meijer
Microsoft QSTP
Midstate Mitsubishi/Susan & Raymond Butler
National Football League
Natixis Investment Managers
Newslink Group, LLC
Northeast Florida Association of Realtors Inc
Ocean Auto Club
Ocean Mazda
Ole Smoky Distillery, LLC
OrthoIndy Foundation
Participant Media, LLC
Plumtree Partners, LLC
Prairie Meadows
Promoter Line Incorporated Festival & Concert Division
Quidnet Media, LLC
RBC Capital Markets, LLC
Reyes Coca-Cola Bottling
Robinson Commerical Real Estate
Rock-It Cargo U.S.A., LLC
Ronald Book PA
Round Room Gives, Inc
Sandia National Laboratories
Sandy Spring Bank
Santana Properties Inc.
Security Serves
Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino - Tampa
Seretta Construction, Inc.
ServiceNow
Seyfarth
Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, P.A.
Sonic Automotive Inc.
Southwire Company
Speedway Children's Charities
Struble, P.A.
Suncoast Federal Credit Union Foundation
Superior Industries International, Inc.
TA Associates Management, L.P.
Tavistock Development Management, LLC

Tempe Diablos Charities, Inc.
The Advance Financial Foundation
The Allendale Womans Club of NJ
The Bellamy Companies LLC
The Cellular Connection, LLC
The Walt Disney Company
Town of Golden Beach
Truist
TUUCI LLC
Universal Music Group - Santa Monica
Value Store It Management, Inc.
Venable LLP
Ventura Growth LLC
Walsh Construction
Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.
Yummi Sushi

$5,000 to $9,999

Abarta CC Beverage LLC
AbbVie
ABC Promotions Unlimited Inc.
Abdo Consulting Group, Inc.
Aerie Real Foundation
AETNA INC.
Airtech International, Inc.
All Community Events
Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America
Annaly Capital Mangement Inc.
Ansys, Inc.
Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
AP Benefit Advisors, LLC
Aramark Global Business Services
AT&T
Atema Partners Corporation
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
AutoZone
Avnet
BDO USA, LLP
Bentley Scottsdale
BlackRock, Inc.
Blue Brook Management
BMO Harris Bank
BNP Paribas
Bollore Logistics
Brabants Enterprises Inc.
Broadway Hospitality Group
Brunello Cucinelli USA Retail, LLC
Buch Construction, Inc.
Capital One
Car Crafters Collision, LLC
Carson's Village
Christian Brothers Automotive Foundation
Christopher's Fine Jewelry
Colliers International - WA
Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
Commonwealth Edison Company
Continental Casualty Company
Corebridge Financial
Culinary Institute LeNotre
Dade County Federal Credit Union
DDA Services, Inc
Dell Technologies
Deloitte Services LP
DHL Supply Chain
Domino's Pizza LLC
Evolution Risk Advisors, Inc.
Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Iowa
Flik Hospitality
Florida Department of Education-Division of Vocational Rehab
Florida Power & Light Company
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP
Frontstream
Fryd Robins PB LLC
Golden State Warriors
Goodman Campbell Brain & Spine
Greenberg Traurig
Guthrie's Garage, Inc.
H.B. Fuller Company Foundation
Hand2mind Learning Resources
Hanover Reserve LLC
Health Care Service Corporation
Hilton
Hinsdale Junior Womans Club
Host Hotels & Resorts, L.P.
IMC Financial Markets
Institute for Corporate Productivity, Inc.
Intel Foundation
J.C. Edwards Corporation
JM Family Enterprises, Inc.
JOH Kids 360
Johnson Bank
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson Engineering A Brighter Future
Junior League of Indianapolis
Kelly Services
KFORCE
Kramer Casey Enterprises
Lawrence A. Moens Associates, Inc.
Liberty Bank Foundation
Lipscomb University
L'Oreal
Marriott International, Inc.
MCM CPAs & Advisors LLP
Megan Aitken Team LLC
Miami University
Mikuni Charitable Organization
Misericordia Home
MMS US Holdings, Inc.
New England Biolabs, Inc.
New York Islanders
Nicklaus Children's Health System
Nicor Gas
OneAZ Credit Union
Orlando Sandord International, Inc.
Otis Elevator Company
Outfront
Park Hotels and Resorts
PECO Corporate Relations
Pentair Management Company
Pepsi-Cola Company
PGA Tour, Inc.
Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation
PNC Bank, NA
PNMR Services Co
Polk County Auditor's Office
Principal Builders, Inc.
Principal Financial Group Foundation, Inc.
Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc.
Regions Bank
Rotary Club of Lake Minnetonka-Excelsior
Scratch Holdings LLC
Seminole Indian Casino-Immokalee
SMCP USA Inc
Smith & Associates Real Estate
Southern Healthcare Management LLC
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.
State Farm Companies Foundation
Sununu Inaugural Celebration
Tamiami Ford
Texas Roadhouse Intermediary LLC
The Capital Corporation
The Elder Law Center of Kirson & Fuller
The J.M. Smucker Company
The Meltzer Group
The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
The Potter's House of Dallas, Inc.
The Red Sox Foundation, Inc.
Therapeutic Treehouse, LLC
Timothy E. McNutt, Sr. D.D.S.
Township of Riverside
Trends International Charitable Foundation Inc.
T-Rex Solutions
Truist Bank
Tschetter Group
TTextiles LLC
Ulta Beauty
UMPC Changing Medicine
United Food And Commercial Workers Union
United HealthCare Services, Inc.
United Phoenix Firefighters Association, Inc.
United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County
UNM Hospitals
Waterstone Bank
Wellabe Services Co.
Wesco Distribution, Inc
West Bank
Willis Towers Watson
Zuckerman Gravely Management, Inc.

FOUNDATIONS

$250,000 to $499,000

Diane and Bruce Halle Foundation
Taft Foundation
The Tina and Richard V Carolan Foundation
Tides Foundation

$100,000 to $249,999

Ann G. and James B. Ritchey Foundation
Drew Foundation
Engelstad Foundation
Fundacion MAPFRE
May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust
The Frederick A. Deluca Foundation
The Golisano Foundation

$50,000 to $99,999

Community Foundation for Northern Virginia
Delman Family Fund
Edith L. Trees Charitable Trust
Hawaii Community Foundation
John H. and Ethel G. Noble Charitable Trust
Micky and Madeleine Arison Family Foundation
Stavros Niarchos Foundation
The Apax Foundation
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
The Genentech Foundation
The Jim Moran Foundation
The Moody Endowment
The Pratt Foundation
The Randall Family Foundation
The Sharon D. Lund Foundation
The Taco Bell Foundation, Inc.
The Tepper Foundation
United Way of North Central New Mexico
VoLo Foundation

$25,000 to $49,999

APT Family Charitable Foundation
David and Leila Centner Charitable Foundation
Embassy of the State of Qatar
Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation
Manpower Group Foundation Inc.
Nashville Predators Foundation
New York Life Foundation
Smith Family Foundation
TD Charitable Foundation
The 1111 Foundation
The Anthony R. Abraham Foundation
The Charles A. Mastronardi Foundation
The Columbus Foundation (CF)
The Educational Foundation of America
The Ernst & Gertrude Ticho Charitable Foundation
The Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation
The Merancas Foundation Inc
Thunderbirds Charities
UNUM Group

$10,000 to $24,999

AEGON Transamerica Foundation
Albuquerque Community Foundation
Alexander R. Tulloch Trust
Arizona Community Foundation
Arizona Coyotes Foundation
Austin Community Foundation
Boston Bruins Foundation
Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation, Inc.
Bradbury Stamm Construction
CareSource Foundation
Carl Anderson, Sr. & Marie Jo Anderson Charitable Foundation
Cedar Street Charitable Foundation
Children's Brain Diseases Foundation

Community Chest of New Britain and Berlin, Inc.
Community Foundation of Greater New Britain
Connelly Foundation
Current Builders Charitable Foundation
Desert States Charitable Foundation
Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc.
DuPage Foundation
Durham Family Foundation
Enterprise Holdings
Ernest and Mae Sanctis Foundation
Feinbloom
Foundation For the Carolinas Longleaf Fund
Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Harper Family Foundation
Hawaii Community Foundation
IPA Foundation
Jack Buncher Foundation
James & Abigail Campbell Family Foundation
Jana Foundation Inc.
Jim & Juli Boeheim Foundation
John Ruan Foundation Trust
Luedke-Smith Foundation
Maine Community Foundation
Merrill Family Foundation Inc
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
Nora Roberts Foundation Inc
Nordson Corporation Foundation
Northwestern Mutual Foundation
Oconomowoc Area Foundation
Omaha Community Foundation
Phoenix Suns/Phoenix Mercury Foundation
R.J. McElroy Trust
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc.
Rochester Area Community Foundation Depository, Inc.
Roles Family Foundation
RSM US Foundation
Sandia National Laboratories
Speedway Children's Charities
Suzanne Jovin Memorial Fund
Tempe Diablos Charities, Inc.
Texas Women's Foundation
The Aria Covey Foundation Inc.
The Bishop Family Foundation
The Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family Foundation
The Chicago Community Foundation
The Claire & Theodore Morse Foundation
The Denver Foundation
The Dodge Family Fund
The George Preston Marshall Foundation
The Graham and Carolyn Holloway Family Foundation
The Healthcare Foundation of NJ
The James & Juli Boeheim Foundation
The Jesse H. Oppenheimer & Susan Oppenheimer Foundation
The Laffey McHugh Foundation
The Lenox Foundation, Inc.
The M&T Charitable Foundation
The McSweeny Family Foundation, Inc.
The Merck Foundation
The Perkins Charitable Foundation
The Saigh Foundation
The Thomas W. Bradley Foundation Inc.
The William & Sheila Konar Foundation
Valley Community Foundation
Vegas Golden Knights Foundation Inc.
VMWARE Foundation Matching Gift Program
Walmart Inc. Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999

Ashbritt Foundation Inc.
Astros Golf Foundation
Atherton Family Foundation
Avnet
Badger Meter Foundation, Inc.
Bender Foundation, Inc.
Brewers Community Foundation, Inc.
Campbell Foundation
Carl HJ Asplundh, Jr. Family Foundation
Central Florida Foundation
Charles & M R Shapiro Foundation Inc
Child Development Foundation
Coastal Community Foundation of South Carolina
Cogswell Benevolent Trust
Colten Cowell Foundation
Communities Foundation of Texas
Community Foundation for the Central Savannah River Area
Community Foundation Greater Des Moines
Community Foundation of NE FL
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay
Cook Family Foundation
Cralle Foundation Inc
Crestlea Foundation, Inc.
Doligale Family Charitable Foundation Inc.
Douglas County Community Foundation
Frederick McDonald Trust
Freeman E. Fairfield Foundation
G Russell and Constance P Lincoln Foundation
George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation
George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation
Givewell Community Foundation
Givinga Foundation, Inc.
Greater Washington Community Foundation
H.O.P.E. Given Foundation Inc
Hinsdale Junior Womans Club
Houston Texans Foundation
Irish Woods Foundation
JB and MK Pirtle Charitable Foundation Inc
Jim Jacobson Charitable Fund
John Ruan Foundation Trust
Joseph Briere Foundation
Joseph J. Schott Foundation
June Rockwell Levy Foundation
Junior League of Indianapolis
K Ten Kids Foundation Inc.
King's Grant Foundation
Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor Foundation, Inc.
KPMG US Foundation, Inc.
Legacy Foundation
Long Island Community Foundation
Make Waves Family Foundation Inc.
Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation
Marshall Family Foundation
Matthew A. and Mildred Hunter Foundation
Maximus Foundation
Mundy Family Charity Fund
National Christian Foundation Houston
New York Community Trust
O'Shea Family Fund
Phillips Charitable Foundation Inc
Prairie Meadows
Sandia Foundation
Sheila, Dave & Sherry Gold Foundation
Stackner Family Foundation Inc
Sunmark Charitable Community Foundation
TEGNA Foundation
The Bloedorn Foundation
The Cape Coral Kiwanis Foundation Inc.
The Feigenbaum Foundation
The Floyd and Barbara Warkol Charitable Foundation
The Fuller Foundation, Inc.
The Gheens Foundation
The Hometown Foundation, Inc.
The Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation
The John E. Fogarty Foundation
The Katharine Matthies Foundation
The Lindy Loo Foundation
The McKay Family Fund
The Red Coats - THE PLAYERS
The Sam J. Frankino Foundation
The Siebert Family Foundation
The UK Online Giving Foundation
Valley Kids Foundation
Variety - The Children's Charity
Ver-A-Fast by The Hand Foundation
Waukesha County Community Foundation

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

$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
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Texas Education Agency
U.S. Department of Education

$250,000 to $499,000

Alta Vista Regional Center
Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
Iowa Department of Education
Montgomery County, Maryland Security Department of Human Services
New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Council
North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Services
San Andreas Regional Center
Social Security Administration

$100,000 - $249,999

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Boston, Massachusetts Public Schools
California Department of Rehabilitation
Central Valley Regional Center
Connecticut Department of Developmental Services
Illinois Division of Rehabilitation Services
Indiana Department of Education
Maryland Department of Health
Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services
McLean County, Illinois
Miami-Dade County, Florida Office of Management and Budget
Miami-Dade County, Florida Public Schools
New York Office of Persons with Developmental Disabilities
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
U.S. Department of State
Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

$50,000 to $99,999

Delaware Legislature
Harbor Regional Center
Hawaii Office of Community Services
Maui County, Hawaii Department of Housing and Human Concerns
Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
New York Adult Career & Continuing Ed Services, VR
Peoria Care and Treatment Board, Illinois
Rhode Island Office of the Post-Secondary Commissioner
San Diego Regional Center
State of Kentucky
Texas Workforce Commission
Utah Department of Human Concerns
Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services
Westside Regional Center

$25,000 to $49,999
Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
Iowa Department of Education
Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Human Services
New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Council
North Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Services
San Andreas Regional Center
Social Security Administration

$10,000 to $24,999
Bernalillo County, New Mexico
College of New Jersey
Franklin Board of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio
Gilbert, Arizona
Golden Gate Regional Center
Indiana Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services
New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
New Mexico Division of Developmental Disabilities
North Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council
Regional Center of Orange County
Regional Center of the East Bay
St. Louis, Missouri, Office of Developmental Disabilities Resources
Tempe, Arizona
Washington, D.C., Rehabilitation Services Administration

$5,000 to $9,999
Butler County, Ohio
Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio
Michigan Rehabilitation Services
Peoria, Arizona
Polk County, Iowa

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 Stanford Health
Team Steptoe
Team Webcor

$25,000 to $49,000
Team Current Builders
Team Kates & Barlow
Team Macon Friends for Makin' Friends
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 Sunshine
Team Volvo

$10,000 to $24,000
Team 603 Pride
Team Academy of the Holy Names
Team Ashlee Coffman Courage
Team Best Buddies Citizens (VA & DC)
Team Best Buddies Tampa Citizens '23
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 Dome Construction
Team Dream Team
Team Dylan's Dominators
Team Gallo
Team GOAT
Team Greenberg Traurig
Team Gunnison Consulting Group
Team Henry
Team Holland & Knight Mission: Possible
Team Jacksonville Citizens Group
Team KIDS 360
Team Mali
Team Malo
Team Marks Buddies
Team Marlowe
Team Meg
Team Merck - North Jersey
Team NovÃ© 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 Shulman Rogers
Team Tavistock
Team TCNJ!
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

Animal Services
Bark Public
Barking Bad
Camp Bow Wow
Doggie Daycare and More
Mayfair Animal Hospital
Nauset Canine Club
Nova Animal Hospital
Paw-some Dog
Pet Resort Dallas
Pet Smart
Pompano Pet Lodge
The Barking Lot
Urban Paws
Wags and Whiskers Stay and Play
Zionsville Country Vet Clinic

Argriculture
A.R.C. Shellfish Hatchery
Devil Mountain Nursery
Empower Farms

Arts & Culture
9/11 Museum
Aurora Hill Library
Blissful Seeds
Broadway at Music Circus
Bryant Park
Capital One Hall
Georgia Aquarium
Houston Museum of Natural Science
Lyric Opera of Chicago
Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth
Museum of Contemporary Art
Old Sturbridge Village
Sacramento Childrens Museum
Shedd Aquarium
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis
Tradewinds Studio

Automotive
Advance Auto
Advance Auto Parts
Evanston Subaru
Toyota
Land Rover Jaguar
Lithia Subaru of Fresno
Miami Lakes AutoMall
Ocean Mazda

Communications
ActiveCampaign
Atema Partners
Civic Edge Consulting
Conill Advertising
DNI Corp
Dupree Miller & Associates
Gannett Company, Inc
Kel & Partners
Kornit Digital
Kubik
Participant Media
Team One
Williams Lea

Construction
Consor
Fortis Construction Inc
Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson
Lowe's @ Milford
Mas Tec
Whiting Turner

Education
AAccreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
Alcott Elementary School
Alexandria City High School
Alpine Elementary
Ben Davis University High School
Big and Tiny
Bishop Moore Catholic High School
Bright Horizons Newton
Building Block Academy
Catholic University
Childrens Lighthouse Allen
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
Gordan Jewish Community Center
Growing Garden Nursery School
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
Learn Up Tutoring
Montessori School in Holmes Run
Montgomery County Public Schools
New York Public Library
New York Public Library - 5th Ave
NYC Board of Education
Port View Preparatory
Promise Child Development Center
Santa Margarita Catholic High School
Scottsdale Unified School District
Springstone Montessori
Sunshine School
The Learning Experience
The Work Family Connection
UC Davis
UCLA Department of Intercollegiate Athletics
UMASS Lowell
Virtuous Inc.
Wachusett Regional School District
Worcester Public Schools

Facilities Management
ABM Industries - LA
Ally Universal Security
Amazon GREF
Anderson Security
CBRE Microsoft
Cushman and Wakefield
Dayspring Janitorial
ESFM @ Google X
Ibis Golf and Country Club
JLL
Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center
Modern Salon and Spa
North East Security
PHD Services

Service Systems Associates-Zoo Miami
Sunnyside Country Club
Vonachen Services, Inc.

Finance & Insurance

Amwins
Bank of America
Boston Private
Credit Union of Texas
Crescent Capital
Eaton Vance
Finaccess Advisors, LLC.
First Citizens Bank - Tempe
H.I.G. Capital, L.L.C.
IMC Financial Markets
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.
Navy Federal Credit Union
Planned Lifetime Assistance Network (PLAN) of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Inc.
Red Mountain Properties/Ocedan Properties/US Loan Servicing
Regions Bank
SCN Accounting and Tax Services
Sunstone Partners Management, LLC

Fitness

Blink Fitness
Club Sport Fit
Equinox
Four Seasons Health Club
LA Fitness

Food & Beverage

99 Restaurant
AARP
Amazon Fresh
AMC Dine In Theater
Angel Foods
Apple Bees
Aramark - ASU Tempe
Bahama Buck's
Bertucci's Italian Restaurant
Best Buddies X Rosetta Bakery
Bickford Senior Living Home
Big Bowl
BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse
Blaze Pizza
Bubba's 33
Cafe Blu
Cafe Joyeux
California Pizza Kitchen - Wellington
Candified
Carrabba's Italian Grill
CAVA
Centerville Pies - Sandwich
Chartwell's
Chick-fil-A
Chili's
Clean Juice
Constellation Culinary Group
Culinart @ Brentwood School
Davios
Denny's
Dion's
E.B. Flatts Restaurant
El Pinto Restaurant
Elior North America
Enchanted Island Amusement Park
Fancy's Market
Fazenda Coffee Roasters
Fiji Water
Five Guys
Flagship at Facebook
Friends Marketplace
Fruit Center of Milton
Fry's
Giant Food
Gundalow Gourmet
Hannaford
Harris Teeter
Harvest Sensations
H-E-B
HMS Host
Jersey Mikes
Jimmy's Famous Seafood
Katella Bakery
Keke's Breakfast Cafe
Kenny's Westside Pub
Keurig Dr. Pepper
Kroger
Kwik Star
Lady Baker
Le Petit Gateau
Levy
Lidl
Lost Dog Cafe'
Mahoney's Bar & Grill
Main Event - Gilbert
Market Basket
Market Street Allen
Maschio's Food Service
McAlister's Deli
McDonald's - Long Beach
Merck
Milam's Markets
Misha's Cupcakes
Mod Pizza
Neighborhood Wal-Mart Market
New City Microcreamery
Nouria Energy Corporation
OVG (Oak View Group) - PBC Convention Center
Pamilla Senior Living
Pancho & Lefty's
Panera
Papa Johns
Paramount Group
PDQ
Pick N Save
Pieology
Pilo's Street Tacos
Pilo's Tequila Garden
Pizza Hut
Price Chopper
Provider Contract Food Service
Provincetown House of Pizza
Rail Trail Flatbread Co.
Rally's
Ralphs
Restoration Pizza
Rosetta Bakery
Ruby Tuesdays
Shooter McGee's
Sodexo
Sonny's BBQ
Sprouts Farmers Market
SSA Group, LLC at Museum of the Bible
Starbucks
Stone Creek Dining Company
Stop & Shop
Sunsof Corporation
Sweet Cup
Taziki's
Tedeschi Food Shops
Texas Road House
The Cake Bake Shop
The Cheesecake Factory
The Merchant LB
The Paramount Group
The Virginian
Thomas Cuisine
Tropical Smoothie Cafe
Una Pizza Napoletana
Uncommon Grounds, Students of Georgetown Inc
Val's Restaurant
Vons
Wawa
Wayside Noodles
Wegmans
Weis
Wendy's
Whitsons Culinary Group
Wild Eggs
Wolfgang Puck Catering

Government

Accenture
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 Miami Parks and Recreation Department
City of New York
City of South San Francisco-REAL Program
DDS
Department of Rehabilitation
Department of Rehabilitation
Employment Development Department (EDD)
Exchange Nellis Air Force Base
Federal Aviation Administration
Kane County Judiciary
Marion County Prosecutor's Office
Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council
MVA- Annapolis
Office of Planning and Research (OPR)
Paramus Borough Hall
State's Attorney's Office
Truro Recreation Department
MAG Aerospace
Department of Rehabilitation Services

Health Care

Addgene
Advent Health
Auberge
Autumn Oaks of Corinth
Bickford Senior Living Cener
Blaire House of Worcester
Cambridge Nursing & Rehab Center
Cape Cod Hospital
CB Orthodontics
Cecelia Place Assisted Living
Cleveland Clinic
Coastal Medical Transportation Services, LLC
Community Regional Medical Center
CVS - FLW Scottsdale
Dr. Patricia L. Carolan, DMD, General Dentistry
Dream Big Pediatric Therapy
edgeMED
Enos Residence
Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital
Falmouth Hospital
Fort Harrison Senior Living
Grandview Alzheimer's Special Care Center
Healthstream
Honeybee Health
IU Health
Jackson Health System
Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center
Lake Country Landing - Northshore Healthcare
Liberty Healthcare Corporation
Lifepoint
Morrison Healthcare
North Mountain Medical and Rehabilitation Center,
NSpire Healthcare
One HomeCare Solutions/Humana
Palm Beach Dermatology
PharmaLink
Somerby
Takeda Pharmaceuticals
TouchPoint
UC Davis Medical Center
UCLA Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland
UMass Memorial
UNM Hospital
Valley Life
Verus Healthcare
Walgreens

Hospitality

Aramark @ Fenway

Block By Block
Block By Block - Rose Kennedy Greenway
Bluewater Linen
Century Rio 24
Chatham Bars Inn
Compass Group
Courtyard by Marriot
Elior North America (Trio Community Meals)
Embassy Suites
Flik Hospitality
Harvard Maintenance @ Google
Hilton
Holiday Inn Express
Home Instead
Hotel Albuquerque
Jani King Cleaning
La Quinta
Live Casino Hotel
Loews Coral Gables
Marriot
MGM
Oakmont of Torrance
Restaurant Associates
Richland Country Club
Seaport Hotel
SeaWorld
Somerset Inn
SunCommunities
The Gardens of Bellaire
The Lodge
UCLA Housing & Hospitality
Vierra

Law Firms

Barket Epstein Kearon Aldea & LoTurco
Chasen and Boscolo
Elder Law Firm of Kirson & Fuller
Envoy Global
Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
Gelfand, Rennert & Feldman
Holland and Knight
Kates & Barlow
Latham & Watkins
Manatt, Phelps &Phillips, LLP
Pacific Workers' Compensation Law Center
Rayas Law
Seyfarth Shaw
Shuffield Lowman
The Ferraro Law Firm

Manufacturing & Distribution

ABF Freight
Amazon
Baby K'tan
BrandsMart USA
Brunswick Land and Sea
Dove Equipment
Good 360
Independent Purchasing Cooperative
Lake Country Manufacturing
Northrop Grumman
Park Street Companies
Premiere Collectibles
Printing Partners
RDS Same Day Delivery
Sakura Finetek USA, Inc.
Telamon - Kem Krest
The UPS Store
Tuuci

Nonprofit & Foundations

Best Buddies
Central Park Conservancy
Chicago Park District
Community Connections, Inc.
Goodwill
Harbor Regional Center
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston Baby Toddler Nursery
Los Angeles Habilitation House
National Down Syndrome Society
Pride Industries
QSAC
Second Muse
Special Olympics Northern California
St. John XXIII Catholic Community
Support for Families of Children with Disabilities
The Mentor Network
Westside Regional Center
YMCA

Real Estate

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

Recreation

Cat Cay Yatch Club
Disneyland Resort
Marcus Theatre-2521
Mt Pleasant Ice Arena
National Aquarium
Presidio Golf Course
Princeton University Athletics
Sloomoo Institute
We Rock the Spectrum-North Miami

Retail

99 Cents Only Store (#266)
AEG/Merchandising- Staples Center
Albertsons
Anthropologie
Aventura Mall
Barnes & Noble Cool Springs
Bass Pro Shop
Bath & Body Works
Bath and Body Works
Big Y
BJ's Wholesale Club
Boot Factory Outlet
Bristol Farms-Santa Monica
Build A Bear (Store 9)
Burlington
Burlington Coat Factory
Cost Plus World Market
Costco
Crate & Barrel
Dick's Sporting Goods
Dillard's
Discount Welds
Disney Store
Doug Russell Marine
El Super
Goodwill
Goodwill - Fresno (Blackstone / Sierra)
Goodwill Marietta
Goodwill Whitestown
Gucci
H-E-B
Home Deport
HomeGoods
Hot Topic
Hunters Creek- Once Upon a Child
Hy-Vee
Jewel Osco
Jewel-Osco
Jondie
Kessler's Diamonds
Kohls 39
Kohls 483
Kroger
LEGOLAND Discovery Center Boston
Lowe's
Lowe's Home Improvement
Lululemon
Mack Cycle
Macy's Furniture Gallery
Market 32
Market 32 @ Pullman St.
Market Basket @ Shrewsbury
Marshalls
Meijer- Pewaukee
Michaels
Nike
Nordstrom- Espresso Bar
Nouria Energy
Office Depot
Office Max
Pemberton Farms Marketplace
Price Chopper @ Webster
Primark
Publix
Ralphs
Sam's Club
Sephora
Shaw's Supermarkets
Sierra Trading Post
Smart & Final
Sprouts
T.J. Maxx
Target
The Fresh Market - Delray
Thrift on Blackstone (MCC Thrift Shop)
Trader Joe's
Urban Decay (L'Oreal)
Walgreens
Walmart
Wawa
West Marine
Whole Foods

Sports & Entertainment

AMC Theatres
Axe Hockey Group
Charlotte FC
D.C. United
Entertainment Industry Foundation
Grand Ole Opry
Lionsgate
MLB
Monumental Sports & Entertainment
Nashville Sounds
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra
New York Islanders
NewTV
NFL
Planet Fitness, LB
Prairieville Park
Propagate Content
Round1 Bowling and Amusement
Sodexo Live
The Preserve at Eisenhower Golf Course
Topgolf
Universal Studios-Orlando
Worcester Railers
Worcester Red Sox

Talent & Staffing

Career Group Companies
Job Options Inc.
K Force
Kelly
William Morris Endeavor

Technology & Telecomunications

Accenture
Accenture Federal Services
Avid
Avnet
CIC Boston
CIC Cambridge
Genentech
Google
Insight
Rapid7
Snap Inc.
TCC
Walt Disney Television
Xactly Corporation

Transportation

Brightline
DASA Transportation
Dulles International Airport
Envoy Air
Exotic Bus and Limo
FastPark
Fontainebleau Aviation
Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.
Total Transportation Services, Inc.
Tower WAV
U-Haul Moving & Storage

Warehousing & Storage

Amazon
American Lumper
Bollore
D.S. Hull Company, Inc.
First Class Vending
Imperial Freight Brokers
Iron Mountain - Cerritos
Leadpoint
LaserShip
Park West Gallery
Sebco Books
Sephora Distribution Center
TDS Logistics LLC
Value Store It
Value Store-It Self Storage

Texas Year in Review

2023 was an exciting year of growth in Texas. The Texas Legislature supported our mission by doubling our funding for friendship programs in public schools throughout the state. This allowed us to hire an additional four Program Managers as well as a Manager of Stewardship and Communication. We ended the year with 131 school chapters from Elementary through College. An extra special highlight of the year was receiving a commitment from the head of Special Education in Frisco ISD to open Friendship Chapters in every one of their 77 campuses. FISD also has one of the largest populations of Asian students, fulfilling the goals of our Orchid Giving Circle grant. Eanes ISD in Austin became the first school district in the country to have Best Buddies Chapters in every school in the district.

Our Citizens (Adult Friendship) Program officially launched in all three regions, with 45 matches just in Q4. Our jobs program worked with 63 participants this year, placing 41. Employees worked an average of 18 hours/week earning an average of $12.24/hour.

Texas was truly excited to have two participants selected to be Best Buddies Global Ambassadors! In addition to our 21 State Ambassadors, we are excited to also train and certify new ambassadors in Central Texas. We held over 200 group activities and provided Ambassador and Leadership training to over 200 high school students across the state.

83 delegates represented the great state of Texas at our first in-person Leadership Conference since 2019! Two of our Ambassadors were also selected to give a speech to the entire delegation of nearly 3,000 attendees.

Spring Friendship Walks throughout the state celebrated the end of the school year with 2216 registered participants and 146 teams that raised $252,650, exceeding goals in every region!

With great glitz and glamour, our Champion of the Year Galas were hugely successful! Engaging 22 Champion/Mission Partner teams throughout the state, we collectively raised $673,000! With themes like “Dream Big”, “Buddies Around the World” and “Carnivale!”, nearly 800 guests engaged and supported our mission of inclusion for people of all abilities.

With the amazing growth we experienced this year, Best Buddies in Texas is poised to have an even greater impact in 2024. We are especially excited to launch Pre-Employment Transition services, bridging our Friendship Programs and our Jobs Program. The social skills gained through our Friendship and Leadership programs naturally lead into our participants’ desire for a career just like their peers. This program provides the opportunity for career exploration, soft skills development, and work observation- skills critical to not only securing, but also maintaining meaningful employment. We are truly grateful for the support of individuals, foundations and corporations dedicated to impacting the lives of people of all abilities.

Linda Kordek-Milton, State Director, Texas

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Smeet and **Kyleigh**, Friendship program Buddy Pair

Kyleigh & Smeet

One-To-One Friendships

Heritage High School, Frisco, TX

Smeet and I have been friends since the 6th grade, and our friendship has continued into our senior year of high school. Before Best Buddies, I was just someone Smeet saw in the hallways at school. We met each other through a mutual friend. After our friend moved away, we began talking to each other about how much we missed him. Soon we realized how much fun we could have together!

We hung out at football games. I was on the varsity cheerleading squad, and Smeet was on the varsity football squad. During the games, I loved cheering on my friend. At the game, Smeet always heard me because I am the loudest. I love supporting Smeet on the team, but I believe Smeet is louder than me!

This year, Smeet asked me to go to homecoming with him. He did not ask lavishly because he wanted it to be more about two friends having a good time rather than a grand gesture. It was a great way to end our senior year.

I enjoy Smeet as my friend because he is always there for me. Whenever I need advice on social norms or relationships, I know I can turn to him without feeling embarrassed. He offers guidance without hesitation, making him a great friend.

Smeet says, “I enjoy being Kyleigh's friend; she is super friendly to talk to. Her presence is very energetic, and she brings so much light into any room. Our friendship has grown over the past years. I care for her, and I protect her like she would be my sister.”

“Best Buddies has changed my life. Before joining, I, like most students, did not have much interaction with students with IDD, but through the program, I have come to realize that everyone has a beautiful soul, and everyone desires to have a friend to talk to.

One-To-One Friendships
Key Program Stats TX

Elementary Schools		Middle Schools		High Schools	
19 Chapters	**500** Participants	**25** Chapters	**543** Participants	**74** Chapters	**2,936** Participants

Colleges		Citizens	e-Buddies
17 Chapters	**949** Participants	**232** Participants	**227** Participants

> “Best Buddies has taught me that we need to connect with people, regardless of differences. **- Smeet**

Ritika, Best Buddies Jobs participant
Gucci, Houston, TX

Ritika

Integrated Employment

Gucci - Houston, TX

Before coming to Best Buddies, I was shy and had a hard time making connections with people. I got involved in Best Buddies because I had wanted to break out of my shell and socialize. I first started in the Friendship program before coming to jobs. I also worked hard to challenge myself, by becoming an Ambassador. I was able to speak in front of large groups of people with confidence. I began to make new friends and spent time volunteering at local colleges and libraries before deciding I was ready to work.

It wasn't easy looking for a job. I knew what I wanted and was not willing to settle. I worked hard with my employment consultant, Britney, to prepare myself for work. And with lots of patience, I was able to find employment at Gucci!

I definitely had a lot to learn when I first started. I struggled with taking bathroom breaks and eating in front of coworkers. It was new territory for me to understand that I could utilize the restroom and hydrate as needed without asking for permission.

I have been working for Gucci for about a year now. I am told continuously that I am hardworking and dedicated. My coworkers tell me I am a quick-wit and am very honest. I truly feel like I have become part of the team.

I eventually would like to work as an administrative assistant; however, I am happy to gain the current experience at Gucci. There I learned how to integrate into a team for the first time. And eventually, I would like to work full time to become financially independent.

Integrated Employment
Key Program Stats TX

Jobs

49
Participants Employed

65
Participants

> "My favorite part of working is having more independence, and the 50% off employee discount doesn't hurt either!"
> **- Ritika**

Latasha, Best Buddies Ambassador

Latasha

Leadership Development

Ambassador, Austin, TX

Hello, my name is Tasha Johnson. I am an Ambassador for Central Texas Best Buddies!

Life before Best Buddies was very difficult for me. I experienced bullying from my classmates and most people underestimated me. I joined Best Buddies at St. Edwards University in 2005. I started in the school friendship chapter then I progressed to being part of the leadership team. Currently, I am part of the Austin Area Citizens chapter, e-Buddies, Student Advisory Board, Central Texas Advisory Board, and the Ambassador program!

I wanted to become an advocate with Best Buddies after seeing videos of others speaking about Best Buddies and sharing their stories. Furthermore, there was an ambassador that came to speak at an event, and they inspired me to seek out the Ambassador program for myself. My ambassador goal is to speak at BBLC to help and inspire others with IDD.

My life has drastically changed for the better since joining Best Buddies! For the past 19 years, I have learned to be more outgoing, how to create friendships, and I have learned how to be a self-advocate.

An important message I have for others within the IDD community is to never use the word “can’t”. When I stopped telling myself and others that I “can’t” do certain things, that is when I started accomplishing my goals and making a difference in my everyday life.

> “Best Buddies has changed my life and I look forward to what the future holds for me! **- Latasha**

Leadership Development
Key Program Stats TX

Ambassadors

43
Ambassadors

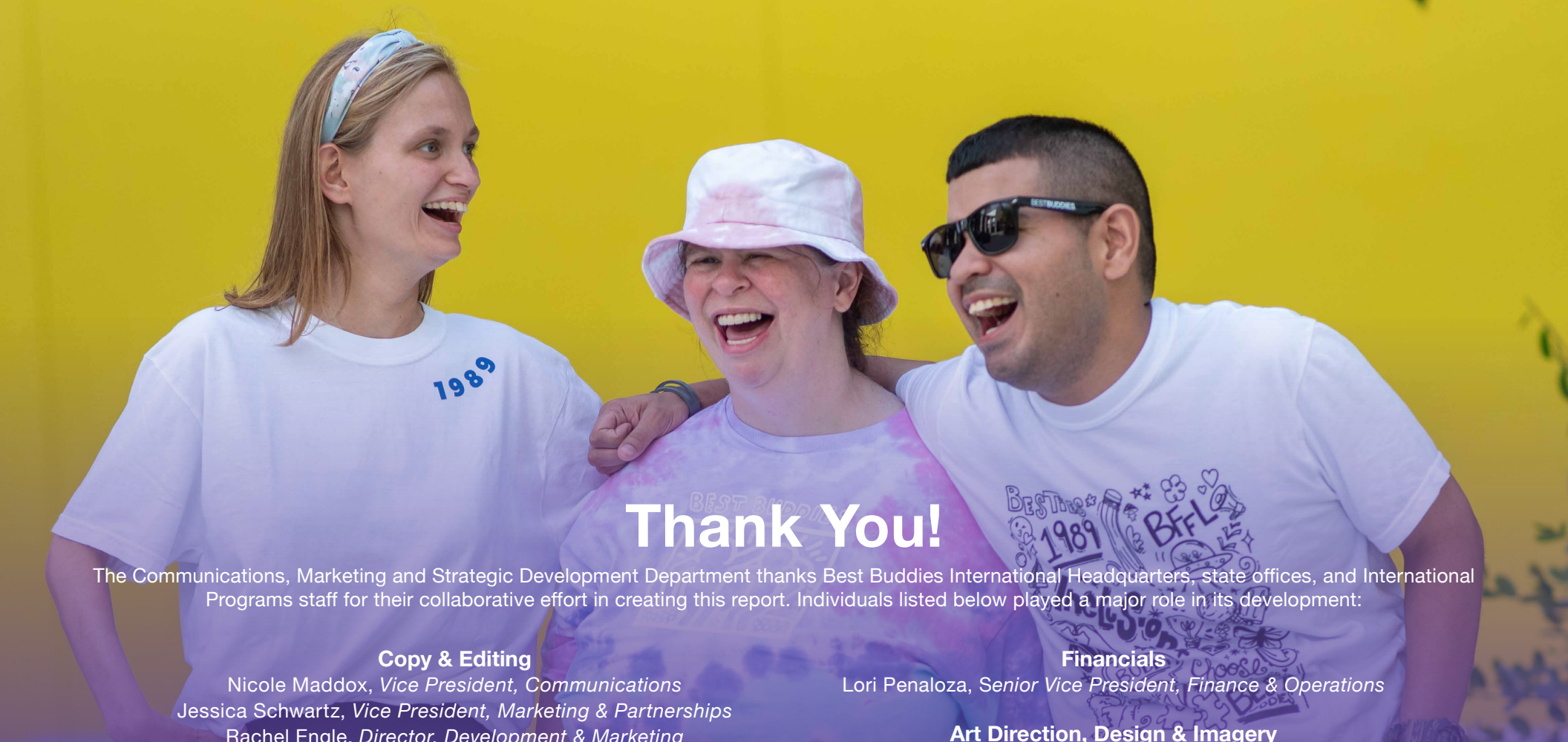
Promoters

20
Chapters

654
Participants

Transitions

23
Participants



Thank You!

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

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Thank you,

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

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Last Update
3.11.25 V8