

Collaborative Partnership
Aspen Youth Experience and the Buddy Program
Questions & Answers

1. What are TBP and AYE doing? The Buddy Program and AYE are coming together to offer programs to our local youth in a much more efficient way. By combining our forces and joining our programs under one management umbrella, we can offer AYE's same great programs and maybe even more at about 1/3 of the normal cost.

The Buddy Program's sound operations and complementary mission will provide a foundation for AYE's programs to flourish and continue serving at-risk youth. AYE's experiential programs will perfectly complement TBP's mentoring programs in empowering youth to become positive young leaders.

2. Why is AYE having its programs conducted by TBP? When conducted by another Roaring Fork Valley organization, AYE's programs can serve even more at-risk youth throughout the valley, continue to grow, and successfully change lives at a significantly lower cost.

3. How will TBP conduct AYE programs? We are fortunate that the AYE Program Director will be joining the Buddy Program as our Director of Experiential Programs. With this wealth of experience, we foresee that the programs will be conducted in the same successful way they have been in the past.

3. When will this begin? January 1, 2010

4. What will happen with AYE's city-based programs? With the launching of this initiative, AYE will begin the process of winding down its operations. For all city youth and alumni, AYE's vast alumni network and many partnering agencies will continue to be a source of support. AYE will be conducting closing activities and, in Kansas City, AYE and its supporters are creating a way for AYE-inspired programs to live on through another organization. All AYE alumni are eligible to apply for and receive AYE College Scholarships, which will next be awarded in April, 2010 and administered by the Buddy Program.

5. What will happen to the AYE name? The AYE name will be used as a descriptive label for TBP's experiential programming initiative for Roaring Fork Valley youth.

6. Which youth will be served? Current AYE participants and alumni will not experience a disruption in services and future programs will continue to be available for at-risk youth in need throughout the valley. All Roaring Fork Valley youth are eligible for Buddy Program services.

7. What will happen to the AYE and TBP boards of directors? The Buddy Program board will remain the same. The AYE board members, upon completing their duties pertaining to AYE's operations, are welcome to initially join an experiential programs advisory committee at the Buddy Program, with opportunities to become members of the TBP board thereafter.

8. What will happen to existing staff and their jobs? The Buddy Program staff will remain the same, with some program staff learning about and participating in the new experiential programs initiative to help anchor the programs within the Buddy Program. Carleen Joseph, AYE's Program Director, will join the Buddy Program as its "Experiential Program Director", conducting AYE's existing programs and

ultimately developing new initiatives. David Wiedinmyer, AYE's Executive Director, will continue to support AYE's programs at the Buddy Program through the transition in an advisory capacity.

9. Will there be any changes in how the AYE programs are structured? No, but future initiatives may add to the AYE program model by building on the natural synergies between mentoring and experiential programs.

10. How will the partnership reduce operating costs? Using only one company's overhead, the costs will be reduced by more than half.

11. What will happen to my current funding of AYE and TBP? Your support will be applied to a more efficient model that will make the most of your contributions. You may dedicate your contributions payable to the Buddy Program for mentoring programs, experiential programs, or general operating.

12. Are TBP and AYE coming together because one is on shaky ground? AYE has redoubled its efforts to offer the most effective programming possible for our at-risk youth while making our donor dollars go the farthest. To better serve youth and create a sustainable future for its programs, AYE has proactively taken steps to change focus and forge this partnership with TBP. While the current economy does have an impact on all organizations, this collaboration presents the best way to deliver programs and would make sense in any economy.

13. How will this initiative be funded? AYE's supporters have committed support to begin programming in 2010. AYE is further appealing to its supporters to fully fund 2010 programming initiatives this December.

14. Is this confidential? No- as of Wednesday, December 9, 2009.

15. How can volunteers and supporters get involved? We would love volunteers to help with the experiential programs as camp counselors or other support during these programs; the Buddy Program also has a need for Big Buddies to mentor and "be a hero" to our youth.

16. Who can I speak to if I have questions or would like more information? Please contact Catherine Anne Provine, Executive Director of The Buddy Program, 970/920-2130 or catherineanne@buddyprogram.org.

17. How can I make a contribution to support this initiative? You can donate online at either program: www.buddyprogram.org or www.ayexp.org or feel free to call either office:

Buddy Program: 970/920-2130
AYE: 970/925-6671

18. Is this a long-term initiative? Yes, we would like for this initiative to continue for the very long-term. As the Buddy Program had been looking to add these programs to its scope of services, there is a natural fit and we anticipate that the programs will come together seamlessly to support our local youth.

19. Can I make a contribution in 2010? Of course!