

Values are overarching - they're not about a single situation but act as a guide to how the Buddy Program approaches everything.

In 2022, we embarked on a journey to identify and define our values; what we hold most important as an organization in our work in the community. Working with Mitzi Rapkin of Full Light Communications, every staff voice was included as well as Board voices and partners from the philanthropy and youth serving communities. As we move forward these values will guide all that we do at the Buddy Program!



Buddy Program staff brainstorm at the Values Workshop.



FULL LIGHT
communications

KINDNESS

We approach all people with benevolence and a gracious spirit.

We believe that generosity, respect, and consideration are foundational for building relationships that thrive. We commit to heart centered communication that prioritizes compassion and tenderness. We do this by welcoming others in a space of non-judgement where we initiate connection, active listening, and meaningful support.

INCLUSION

We intentionally and conscientiously work to invite and welcome diverse individuals and groups into the community.

We believe it is our role to create space at the table for those who historically have not been a part of our work. We commit to proactively expanding our reach by breaking down barriers that previously contributed to voids in the diversity of our stakeholders. We do this by continuously challenging our assumptions, investing in authentic relationship building with underrepresented people, and adopting a sense of humility as we work to provide greater access to our community and our programs.

CONNECTION

We bring people together to expand potential and engage with the community in ways that deepen a collective sense of belonging.

We believe that genuine contact with one another makes us more rooted and valued as individuals and a collective. We commit to fostering a sense of belonging for all people by offering opportunities to forge positive bonds with one another and local institutions. We do this through programming and events that bring people together and by conscientiously guiding individuals to community resources that will enrich their lives.

EMPOWERMENT

We facilitate the expression of our staff, youth participants, volunteers, partners, and supporters' limitless potential.

We believe that all people are endowed with self-determination. We commit to seeing unbound capacity, genius, and talent in every individual. We do this by nurturing and honoring people's individuality and innate ability to expand themselves through mentorship and thoughtful human connection.

DISCOVERY

We embrace the illuminating power of the unknown.

We believe that a single imaginative spark can transform a life. We commit to a culture of growth, curiosity, and exploration of self, one another, and the world around us. We do this by embracing experiences and relationships that generate joy, revelation, challenge, and opportunity.

