



Celebrating 50 years of mentoring!



buddy
program

Empowering youth through mentoring
experiences to achieve their full potential
www.buddyprogram.org 970.920.2130

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Supporters,

“95% of my accomplishments I owe to you”



reflected Carla C, a former Little Buddy from our program who is now 26 years old. “You were that bridge that helped me get through to the other side.” Carla shared this statement with her former mentor, Sarah, in a series of videos we produced for our 50th Anniversary. Bringing former youth participants and their mentors, like Sarah and Carla, back together over the course of 2023 was one of the many highlights in our year-long celebration of 50 years of mentoring.

While many of these participants have grown up, grown their own families in some cases, grown a few gray hairs, and a bit taller, their stories and recollections of their participation at the Buddy Program sounded very much like the stories we hear from our current participants. The message is loud and clear: mentoring makes impacts. It makes impacts on youth, their families, and our Big Buddy volunteers. And those impacts last well beyond when our youth graduate from high school in the Roaring Fork or Colorado River Valley. **They last for life.**

2023 marked not only an important anniversary for the Buddy Program but the beginning of something new!

We launched our programs in Glenwood Springs for the first time ever. This was due to the vision and commitment of our Board of Directors and staff and could only have happened due to the success of our 50th Anniversary Impact Campaign! For the first time since our humble beginnings in 1973, we can say that our mission to empower youth through mentoring

experiences to reach their full potential now impacts youth from from Aspen to Glenwood Springs and in Rifle! This commitment to the entire Roaring Fork Valley is a recognition of the interconnectedness of our community and the importance for all in our community to have access to opportunities through mentoring.

We celebrate the commitment that MANY individuals and businesses made to create so much success for the Buddy Program in 2023, and more importantly these commitments celebrate the impact that our program has and will continue to have!

With gratitude,

Mark Iola
President of the Board

Katie Goldsmith
Vice President of the Board

Lindsay Lofaro
Executive Director

Brooke Bockelman
Assistant Director



In 2023 the Buddy Program worked with 466 youth, 122 adult Big Buddies, and 16 schools from Aspen to Glenwood Springs and Rifle through our 4 mentoring programs:

COMMUNITY-BASED

A Little Buddy (youth aged 6-18) is matched with a Big Buddy (adult mentor) and they participate in activities of their choice 3-4 times per month.

SCHOOL-BASED

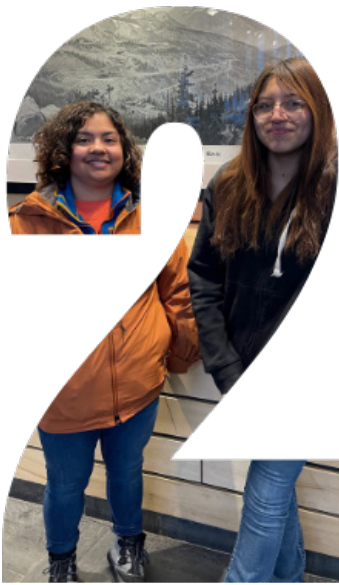
A Little Buddy is matched with a Big Buddy and they meet once per week at school during the student's lunch and recess.

PEER-TO-PEER

High school students mentor youth at elementary and middle schools.

KAREN & NATHAN SANDLER LEAD (LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXPLORATION, ACTION, AND DISCOVERY) PROGRAM

A group, experiential mentoring program that supports youth in grades 6-12 develop social-emotional learning skills through Outdoor Leadership classes at 4 high schools and 6 middle schools, two week-long summer camps, and monthly school-year activities.



EXPANSION OF SERVICES TO GLENWOOD SPRINGS

In addition to the celebration of our 50th anniversary, 2023 brought the expansion of our services to Glenwood Springs! 38 youth in Glenwood Springs participated in the Buddy Program in this inaugural year, and that number will grow steadily in 2024 as we continue to ramp up our programs.



MORE THAN MENTORING SERVICES

In addition to our 4 mentoring programs, the Buddy Program funded these additional supports and connected youth to the following opportunities in 2023:

- 152 youth were awarded \$14,457 of funding for extracurricular activities via our Empowerment Scholarship Fund
- \$4,635 from our Counseling Fund supported 8 youth with counseling services
- 35 families received holiday baskets via a partnership with St. Peter's Episcopal Church
- 5 high school youth received generous scholarships to travel to Alaska, British Columbia, Spain, and Massachusetts for month-long summer study abroad and college programs with our partners at Student Diplomacy Corps, and 1 youth received a generous scholarship via our partnership with Colorado Outward Bound School to complete a summer course



REFLECTING ON OUR 2023 DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND JUSTICE JOURNEY

In 2023, we leaned further into valuing, celebrating, and consciously cultivating diversity as we strive to achieve equity through the power of mentoring.

Our deep work in 2023 was to understand more about how we can equitably include our diverse community in our organization. We dug into understanding the culture of our community, nonprofits, and the Buddy Program. Specifically how these cultures have been built over centuries and decades by one group of individuals, white people, and oftentimes, how systems favor white individuals. A label that has been used for this is a *White Supremacy Culture* (for more information, we strongly encourage reading more at this website: www.whitesupremacyculture.info/).

In this culture, for example, one characteristic is perfectionism and it often shows up as an emphasis on acknowledging people's inadequacies or mistakes rather than showing appreciation and creating a culture of learning. Another example is a worship of the written word

which acknowledges that oftentimes in our culture if it isn't written in an email or on a Google or Word document it never happened, rather than honoring that there are many ways to share information, and many cultures have done this through other ways than writing (storytelling, etc). By leaning into other ways of working and intentionally practicing antidotes to characteristics that might not be best serving our community's interests, it is our hope that we can invite a more diverse population to come to the table and be a part of our work in the way that feels right to them; we are acknowledging there is more than one right way to achieve our vision.

We know that our mission to empower youth through mentoring experiences to achieve their full potential will only be enhanced by upholding the values and principles of our DEIB work. We are embracing this journey and invite anyone who has questions or wants to learn more to contact us today!



COMMUNITY AND SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS

NEW IN 2023! Buddy Program worked with schools, families, and community partners to invite youth from Glenwood Springs to get involved with our programs.

We also recruited Big Buddies from civic organizations, businesses, and community events to make an impact!

In 2023, Big Buddy, Candy Huffman and Little Buddy, Angie celebrated several milestones!



Our Big Buddies supported their Little Buddies in some powerful ways in 2023:

155

Little Buddies (youth mentees) participated in our Community and School-based programs.

40

Opportunities

Combined, the Buddy Program offered 17 free group activities and 23 other free opportunities (such as event tickets) to Buddy Pairs.

90%

of Little Buddies report that their Big Buddy challenged them to grow



77%

of Little Buddies report that their Big Buddy expanded their possibilities: by trying something new, or connecting them with people/places that broaden their world



100%

of Big Buddies expressed care for their Little Buddy by making them feel like they matter



91%

of Big Buddies provided support for their Little Buddy by talking about goals/plans for the future



100%

of Big Buddies shared power with their Little Buddy by giving a say in the relationship and making decisions together



PARTICIPATION DATA



The Buddy Pair Ski day at Buttermilk is a crowd favorite for Buddy Pairs. Whether they are seasoned skiers or trying it for the first time, this activity allows for a great time learning and laughing together.



It's a match! Big Buddy, Luis Arce and Little Buddy, Angel meet for the first time.

"I love the Buddy Program because the community is very nice and helpful in tough situations. Another reason why I love it is because of the awesome buddies they provide you with!"

Diego M.



What's a Buddy Pair? It's a dynamic pair committed to fostering friendship, support, and spending quality time engaging in our community. Meet Community-based Program Buddy Pair: Big Buddy, Mark Menscher and Little Buddy, Jhostine.

*Big Buddies
Make Big Impacts*

Mentoring takes commitment, but the rewards are endless. A heartfelt thanks to our dedicated Big Buddy volunteers for their unwavering commitment to enriching the lives of young individuals. From shared adventures to deep connections, it's a friendship journey that transcends generations and leaves a lasting impact.

MATCHED FOR 10 YEARS

Candy Huffman

MATCHED FOR 9 YEARS

Hailey Guglielmo
Carson Schmitz
Camilla Cohen

MATCHED FOR 8 YEARS

Danielle Grivalsky
Melissa Resutko
Ana Rodriguez
Megan Vrono

MATCHED FOR 7 YEARS

Hana Maclean
Alex Tiernan
Sarah Armstrong

MATCHED FOR 6 YEARS

Lorena Rojas
Erica Borum
Sam Gemus
John Gillies
Megan Ravenscraft
Gus Fitzgerald

MATCHED FOR 5 YEARS

D'aun Hajdu
Xan Demas
Janelle Sohner
Liz Rovira
Kara Lindahl

MATCHED FOR 5 YEARS CONT.

Tucker Burton
Wylie Chenoweth
Christie Potter
Austin Mably
Sean O'Bryant
Ryan Latham
Barb Wilson

MATCHED FOR 4 YEARS

Janice Forbes
Jack Burger
Kristin Jensen
Peter Westcott
Daylene Lichtenwatter
Izanami Diaz
Nancy Cohen

MATCHED FOR 3 YEARS

Mark Iola
Lisa DeLosso
Jeff Hansen
Ashley Connolly
Katie Goldsmith
Hal Williams
Jaila Jafarabadi
Vangel Yurukov
Raychelle Doane
Melanie Colvin
Brenna Young
Adelyn Massey
Sally Frankel
Alex Costa

MATCHED FOR 3 YEARS CONT.

Jill Gruenberg
Lucy Marolt

MATCHED FOR 2 YEARS

Quinn Donnelly
Cam Daniel
Roger Marolt
Holly Upper
Jared Kaplan
Amanda Gaube
Lauren Kaufman
Kim McHale Baillargeon
Katrin Luyten
Hannah Green
Camille North
Teresa Hall
Brendan Collins
Seth Beers
Debbie Kadota
Doug Peate
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Shawna Todd
Brenda Stockdale
Ashley Stahl
Natalie Garrett
Karla Stukey
Meredith Berman
Gabriela Alvarez Espinoza
Zach Benevento-Zahner
Keller McCall Smith
Grayson Rutherford

MATCHED FOR 1 YEAR

Kaitlin Roos
Michael Benge
Jaclyn Hoye
Engie Penalzoza
Lindsay Lofaro
Ali Royer
Margot Ellis
Kendall Kraus
Rhey Ann O'Brien
Amanda Grimsted
Kasey Furlong
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Nate Gillette
Alexandra Hughes
Noga Vardy
Roberta Darcy
Jennifer Mason

MATCHED IN 2023

Charley Fields
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Lorna Petersen
Paula Petersen
Taylor Comstock
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Michael Fox
Dan Andersen
Marlin Gonzalez
Mike Waters

MATCHED IN 2023 CONT.

Mike Lewis
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Emily Treme
Wes Stokes
Ashley McIntyre
Mark Meschner
Thor Knutson
Sam Merrill
Edlin Rdriguez
Lindsay Bischoff
Haley AnnTurner
Luis Arce



Little Buddy, Hannah and Big Buddy, Jaclyn Hoye



PEER-TO-PEER

DURING THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

Caring and consistent high school Big Buddies from Aspen, Basalt, and Roaring Fork High (Carbondale) Schools develop leadership, accountability, and communication skills while mentoring Little Buddies at Aspen Elementary, Basalt Middle, and Crystal River (Carbondale) elementary schools in a structured space supervised by Buddy Program staff weekly throughout the school year.

Thank You to Our 2022-2023 school year Big Buddy volunteers from Aspen, Basalt, and Roaring Fork high schools:

ASPEN HIGH SCHOOL

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Alika B. | Eli K. | Sophia P. | Caleb S. |
| Sophie G. | Maddy L. | Abigail P. | Sophia T. |
| Kiara G. | Eliza M. | Isabella P. | Lindsay W. |
| Caitlyn J. | Beckham N. | Gracen R. | Ally W. |

BASALT HIGH SCHOOL

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Alejandro A. | Maddie I. | Emely M. | Kade S. |
| Ana C. | Owen L. | Camila N. | Kyle S. |
| Dayana G. | Duncan L. | Yazmin R. | |
| Calum I. | Dylan M. | Luke R. | |

ROARING FORK HIGH SCHOOL

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Jake B. | Kira H. | Dayana P. | Perry S. |
| Noah B. | Bennett J. | Julissa P. | William W. |
| Genesis C. | Aniya J. | Lucianna P. | Ricardo Z. |
| Schanae D. | Audry S. | Maddox S. | |

45



47

Big Buddies

Little Buddies

6

partner schools (3 high schools, 2 elementary, 1 middle)



100%



of Peer-to-Peer Big Buddies and 83% of Peer-to-Peer Little Buddies would recommend the Peer-to-Peer Program to a friend

PARTICIPATION DATA



Creating together: Peer-to-Peer Buddy Pairs soar with creativity as they craft popsicle stick airplanes.



Buddy Pairs at Crystal River Elementary School painting chia pet planters.

"The Buddy Program has given me something that is incredibly valuable: experience. I have developed a perspective of patience, open-mindedness, and social skills. Through the Buddy Program, I am able to prove that I care for my community, and this is something I am truly grateful for."

Peer-to-Peer Big Buddy



KAREN AND NATHAN SANDLER LEAD PROGRAM (LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXPLORATION, ACTION, AND DISCOVERY)

NEW IN 2023! The Buddy Program partnered with Glenwood Springs Middle School and Glenwood Springs High School to begin Outdoor Leadership programs for youth in this community!

157  youth served (school year 2022-2023 and summer of 2023)

 **17,496**
combined hours spent in programming

39 nights under the stars 

101  days spent outdoors (rain, shine or snow)



OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

A year-long extracurricular opportunity for 7th and 8th grade students who participate in 2, 3-day outdoor experiences and single-day outings and meet monthly at their schools. Offered at Aspen, Basalt, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs (**NEW IN 2023!!**), and Rifle middle schools.



OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP (HIGH SCHOOL)

A year-long, school-day class providing 300 hours of instruction and earning dual high school and Colorado Mountain College credit through participation in single-day and multi-day field trips and classroom lessons. Offered at Basalt, Glenwood Springs (**NEW IN 2023!!**), Roaring Fork, and Rifle high schools.



YOUTH CAMP (HIGH SCHOOL)

A 5-day summer camp that builds a respectful overnight camp environment and explores outdoor activities in Moab, Utah.



DREAM DAY CAMP (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

A 5-day summer camp in the Roaring Fork Valley with hands-on activities including art projects, hiking, ropes course, rafting, and one overnight campout.

"I can't express how useful this program was for just getting to be outside and going places, It's such an amazing experience and lots of fun. I will never forget all the adventures."

Auryn

PARTICIPATION DATA

LEARNING SUCCESSSES

We measure youth participants' success in five Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) capacities:

SELF-MANAGEMENT

ACADEMIC SELF-EFFICACY



POSITIVE IDENTITY

CONTRIBUTION

SOCIAL SKILLS

94% of LEAD participants succeeded in 1 of these SEL capacities

87% succeeded in 2 of these SEL capacities

79% succeeded in 3 of these SEL capacities

DONOR CIRCLE

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we are able to offer all of our programs and services at no cost to all the youth, families, volunteers, and schools we work with.

\$100,000+

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Katie and Adam Goldsmith
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Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass

\$50,000+

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Ward Mulcahy
Stephanie Munk
Brittany Myers
K.C. Nash
Phillip Nevins
Carol Noland
Ana Quiceno
Andrew Reed
Rachel Richards
Mel Ronick
Ron Rosenwasser
Chrisie Schwab
Olivia Scott
Sarah Sharar
Gary Silverman
Larissa Slotkin
Christina Smith
Paul Sohn
Brad Strain
Tamara Susa
Harry Susman
Martin Swaggard
Target Corporation
Jennifer Thorne
Hin Tse
Carl Uyehara
Ginny West

The Buddy Program's Values



KINDNESS

We approach all people with benevolence and a gracious spirit.

INCLUSION

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



CONNECTION

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

EMPOWERMENT

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



DISCOVER

We embrace the illuminating power of the unknown.

"Thank you for letting me be part of the program for several years. This program is truly life-changing! Full of unique experiences!"

Jimena L.R.

50TH ANNIVERSARY IMPACT CAMPAIGN DONORS



Thanks to the generous support of our 50th Anniversary Impact Campaign donors, we are thrilled to announce the expansion of our programming to the Glenwood Springs community. This additional funding has enabled us to broaden our reach and impact, bringing our programs and services to even more youth, families, volunteers, and schools in the area.

\$300,000+

Sarah Clark and Mark Iola

\$100,000-\$299,999

Goldsmith Family Foundation
Melony and Adam Lewis
Mona Look-Mazza and Tony Mazza
Becky and Michael Murray
Erika and Karim Souki
Linda Vitti Herbst
Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass

\$50,000-\$99,999

Alpine Bank, Glenwood Springs
Erin and Doug Becker
Andrew Cader
Idit and Moti Ferder
Mary Rippey, Foundation for a Stable Childhood
Lauren and Michael Sorochinsky

\$25,000-\$49,999

Bank of Colorado
Douglas Elliman
Muriel and John Eulich
Jon Foley and Jeff Grinspoon
Karen and Jim Frank
Jessica and John Fullerton
Tracy and King Grant
Charles Hopton

\$10,000-\$24,999

Mike Connolly
Garfield County

\$10,000-\$24,999 CONT.

Jenny and Simon Elliot
Lindsay and Mark Gould Jr.
Amanda and Bret Hirsh
Hannah Mann
Iola Galerston, LLP
Marilee and Gregg Rippey
City of Glenwood Springs
Billy Stolz
Sara and Nathaniel Zilkha

\$5,000-\$9,999

Alpine Bank Colorado River Valley Region
Jennifer Engel
Caring for Community Fund
Marian and Leonard Lansburgh
Rocky Mountain Cattle Moovers, Inc.
Wagner Equipment Co.

\$1,000-\$4,999

Austin Memorial Foundation
Sonya Auvray
Terri and Tony Caine
Lisa Chiles, Austin Memorial Foundation
Mogli Cooper
Michelle and Jared Goldberg
Andy Gronik
Alexandra Hughes
Asa and Barbara Jones
Alex Kendrick
Tammy and Tom Kenning
Jennifer and Joe Mason

\$1,000-\$4,999 CONT.

Gael Neeson
Tanya and Michael Polsky
Dana Presutti
Rotary Club of Glenwood Springs
Carole and Gordon Segal
Tamara and Brian Shaver
Dana Stone
Gina and Andrew Turchin

\$999 AND BELOW

Tyler Barletta
Morgan and Matt Brown
Norma Canchola
Kendall Dalton
Bailey Everhart
Stephen Granoff
Nancy and Peter Hoffmann
Kara Lindahl
Lauren and Mark Munger
Lauren and Andy Myatt
Olivia Nobbs
Jessica and Matt Owings
Theresa Pena
Jamay Shook
Carlie and Mark Umbarger
Peter Waanders
Skye Weinglass

AUCTION DONORS AND GIFTS IN-KIND

10th Mountain Division Hut Association
Ace Hardware of Carbondale
Acquolina
AETHER Apparel
Ajax Adventure Camp
Alessandra Rivera
Alicia Adams Alpaca
Alpine Valley Services
Amanda Hirsh
Andrew Turchin, DMD
Aperture Cellars
Aspen Animal Shelter/Boarding Kennel
Aspen Art Museum
Aspen Babysitting and Nanny Company
Aspen Brewing Company
Aspen Center for Environmental Studies
Aspen Crossfit
Aspen Expeditions
Aspen Golf Club
Aspen Grog Shop
Aspen Historical Society
Aspen Jeeps
Aspen Luxe Med Spa
Aspen Music Festival & School
Aspen Paragliding
Aspen Police Department
Aspen Pro Cycling
Aspen Recreation Center
Aspen Rent-All
Aspen Skiing Company
Aspen Valley Eye Care
Aspen Vida Medi Spa
ASPENX
Avalanche Ranch
Barton Perreira
BEACH+PINE
Belly Up
Belmont Clean and Restore
Betula

Big Hoss Grill
Big O Tires
Big Wrap
Blazing Adventures
Bob Nix
BOSQ Aspen
Boulder Boat Works
Brass Anvil
Bristlecone Mountain Sports
BULL+BUCK
Bullbird Travel Gear
C Lazy U Ranch
Cache Cache Bistro
Caitlin Dunn Jewelry
Canyon Ranch
Capitol Creek Brewery
Carbondale Clay Center
Caribou Club
Casa D'Angelo Ristorante
Casa Tua
Chequers
Christopher Martin Gallery
Citizens of Humanity
Clark's Market
Colorado Symphony
Commissary BBQ
Consuela
Contour Body Aesthetics
Cooper Wine & Spirits
Corbeaux Clothing
Cottages at Healdsburg
Cozy Point Ranch
Cracks & Racks
Crown Mountain Express Lube
Cynwark Corporation
DanceAspen
David Bull Inc.
Defiance Rafting
dirt. Service Center

Duemani
EcoFlight
El Jebel Autowash
Element Hotel
eveeve Fine Clothing
Elliott Yeary Gallery
Entourage Rose
European Catering
Eye Pieces of Snowmass
Free Range Kitchen & Wine Bar
French Alpine Bistro
Fusion Design & Catering, Inc.
George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts
Gibson Guitars
Glenwood Hot Springs
Gorsuch Limited
Guadalupe Laiz
Hal Williams Photography
Harvest Roaring Fork
Heidi Hat
Here House
High Camp Flasks
High Goal Luxury Gin
High Q
Hill Climb Acupuncture + Bike Fit
Hotel Jerome
Hotel Teatro
Il Poggio
Ironbridge Golf Club
James Niehues
Jay's Valet
Jazz Aspen Snowmass
John Elliott
Joy Benenson
Kari Traa
Kendra Scott
Kenichi
Kuhl
La Adelita Tequila



Rifle High School Outdoor Leadership class kicked off their first backpacking trip in style. The Frying Pan Lakes adventure was all about teamwork, resilience, and connecting with the great outdoors.

AUCTION DONORS AND GIFTS IN-KIND CONTINUED

La Raza
Lea Novgrad
Leshem Loft
Liberty Puzzles
Lindsey Thornburg
LIV Aspen
Lizard Head Cycling Guides
Lugano Diamonds
Lulubelle Clothing
Main Street Gallery & The Framer
Marble Distilling Company
Maroon Bell Outdoor
MARS
Mary Barbour
Matt Power Photography
Max-Well Coaching LLC
Meat & Cheese
Mellie Test
Meow Wolf Denver
Meridian Jewelers
Mezzaluna
Michele Cardamone Photography
Mindy Vernon
Mineral + Mine
Miron Crosby
Misstyx
Montagave Tequila
Nautilus Puzzles
Neiman Marcus
New West KnifeWorks
Niyol Jewelry
Nuages
O2 Aspen
Oakley
Obermeyer

Odell Brewing Company
Of Grape and Grain
Osmia Skincare
Overland
Pamé Designs
Paragon Systems Integration
PARC Aspen
Plosky's Delicatessen
Powers Art Center
Printfresh
Raven Gallery
REI Glenwood Springs
Res Ipsa
Rhino Liquors
Ripple Effect Training
Ripton & Co.
River Valley Ranch
RJ Paddywacks
Rocky Mountain Pet Shop
Romero Britto
Salon Tullio
SAM+LEO
Sant Ambroeus
Santé Cycling
Sarah Graham Metalsmithing
Shelley Spalding Hair Design
Sherry Achi Skin Therapy Clinic
Sopris Fishing Outfitters, LLC
Sopris Liquor and Wine
St. Regis Resort, Aspen
Stio
Strafe Outerwear
Suitable for Framing
Summers Moore
Sundae

Surefoot
Susan & Robert Brown
Sweet Coloradough
T Lazy 7 Ranch
Tammie Lane
Taylor and Tessier
Terra Bikes Carbondale
The Aspen Clinic
The Aspen Hive
The Collective
The Crestwood
The Gant
The Pointed Arrow
The Pullman
The Woods Fine Jewelry
Theatre Aspen
Tito's Handmade Vodka
Tonic Method
True Nature Spa
Tuesday Foods
Two Leaves and a Bud
Ute Mountaineer
Valentino
Valley Fine Art
Valley Hopper
Valley Lidz
Viceroy Snowmass
Viewline Resort Snowmass
Village Smithy
W Aspen Hotel
West End Knits
WestEnd Med Spa
Wheeler Opera House
White House Pizza
Wild 'Bout You

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN 2023

10th Mountain Huts
5point Film Festival
Aspen Center for Environmental Studies
Aspen Elementary School
Aspen Family Connections
Aspen High School
Aspen Middle School
Aspen Music Festival & School
Aspen Recreation Center
Aspen School District
Aspen Science Center
Aspen Skiing Company
Aspen Valley Land Trust
Basalt Elementary School
Basalt High School
Basalt Middle School
Basalt Pool
Big Wrap
Blazing Adventures
Bowlski's
Bureau of Land Management, Moab, UT
Bureau of Land Management, Price, UT
Carbondale Arts
Carbondale Clay Center
Carbondale Middle School
Caribou Club
CCY Architects
CDOT Adopt-a-highway
Colorado Mountain College
Colorado National Monument
Crown Mountain Park and Recreation District
Crystal River Elementary School
Daly Diner
DanceAspen

Desert Mountain Medicine
Dinosaur National Monument
Dos Gringos Burritos
EcoFlight
El Bajon
Elk Mountain Expeditions
Family Resource Center of the
Roaring Fork Schools
Four Mountain Sports
Garfield County Outdoors
Garfield School District RE-2
Glenwood Caverns Adventure Park
Glenwood Springs Elementary School
Glenwood Springs High School
Glenwood Springs Middle School
Glenwood Springs Youth Hockey Association
Grateful Deli
Home Team BBQ
Jarid Rollins--Midvalley Family Practice
Jazz Aspen Snowmass
Kidtoons
Manaus
Moab Canyon Pizza Company
Moab Recreation and Aquatic Center
Navtec
Paradise Bakery
Peppino's Pizza
Phat Thai
Rifle High School
Rifle Middle School
Riverview School
Roaring Fork Conservancy
Roaring Fork High School
Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers

Roaring Fork School District
Snowmass Recreation Center
Snowmass Village Rodeo
Sol Theatre
Sopris Elementary School
Summit For Life
Sundae
Sunlight Ski Resort
TACAW
The Art Base
The Collective
The Hope Center
The Puoux
The Rolling Fork
Theatre Aspen
Third Street Center
Town of Carbondale
Town of Carbondale Recreation & Pool
Two Rivers Community School
United States Forest Service, Manti La Sal
US Forest Service Manti-LaSal
Wheeler Opera House
White House Pizza
Wilderness Workshop
WindWalkers
Winter X Games



Happy Birthday Blazing Adventures!
In 2023, Blazing Adventures also celebrated it's 50th anniversary of serving the community. Their dedication to youth was prominently showcased through their initiative of providing complimentary rafting tours to Buddy Pairs in the Community-based Program.



National Council Co-Chairs, Adam and Katie Goldsmith share inspiring insights at the National Council Reception, underscoring the profound impact that mentoring has on youth.

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donors who give \$3,000 or more are recognized as members of our National Council

Anonymous	Ed Freedman, Stable Road Foundation	Kelli and Allen Questrom
Connie and Buddy Bates	Jessica and John Fullerton	Lynda and Stewart Resnick
Erin and Doug Becker	Marni and Chris George	Kimberly and Scott Resnick
Bill Brandt	Molly and Will Gilmore	Mary Rippy, Foundation for a Stable Childhood
Donna Brittingham and Brian Sears	Katie and Adam Goldsmith	Madelyn Rosenthal
Susan and Robert Brown	Alicia Goldstein Prusky and Jim Prusky	Barb and Brad Sacks
Andrea and Chris Bryan	Lindsay and Mark Gould	Karen and Nathan Sandler
Andrew Cader	Tracy and King Grant	Clare and Marius Sanger
Susan Capiel and Tom Cooper	Jon Foley and Jeff Grinspoon	Lorraine and Mark Schapiro
Ruth Carver	Kim and Nick Hayman	Kaye Scoggin and Lewis LeClair
Amy and John Charters	Nynke and Brian Henderson	Carole and Gordon Segal
David Chazen	Amanda and Bret Hirsh	Sasha Semple
Mary and Adam Cherry	Charlie Hopton	Juliet Shield-Taylor
Tom Clark	Landscape Workshop	Yasmin and Jeffrey Simon
Sarah Clark and Mark Iola	Alexandra Hughes	Hillary and Scott Simon
Clough Family Foundation	Soledad and Bob Hurst	Bren Simon
Ashley and Wes Cole	Mary and Tom James	Lauren and Michael Sorochinsky
Mike Connolly	Laura and Mike Kaplan	Erika and Karim Souki
Kendall Dalton	Randy and Ken Kendrick	Angie and Gary Stewart
Autumn and Mike Davidson	Karessa and Stuart Lasher	Billy Stolz
Rod de Llano	Melony and Adam Lewis	Nicole and Lex Tarumianz
Double Diamond	Thomas Lewis	Gina and Andrew Turchin
Amy Elias and Richard Pearlstone	Warren Lichtenstein	Nicole and Jason VandeBoom
Josh Elkes	Daylene and Gary Lichtenwalter	Linda Vitti Herbst
Jenny and Simon Elliot	Hannah and Zack Mann	Jeanne and Ned Walker
Kiki and Steven Esrick	Andrea and Robert Marriott	Sarah and Michael Ward
Muriel and John Eulich	Jennifer and Joe Mason	Soffia Wardy and Pepper Weinglass
Darlynn and Tom Fellman	Mona Look-Mazza and Tony Mazza	Waters & Kraus
Idit and Moti Ferder	Susan and Lee McIntire	Ginny and Will Weathers
Barbara and Aaron Fleck	Craig Melville	Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass
Gina Berko and David Fleisher	Amy and Bill Moler	Diane and Gerald Wendel
Forum Phi	Becky and Mike Murray	Karen Wing
Anna Itenberg and James Fosnaught	Gael Neeson	Amy Witherite
Amy and Paul Fox	Matt Niemann	Tamara and Frank Woods
Karen and Jim Frank	Meghan and Aaron Pearlman	Sara and Nathaniel Zilkha

NATIONAL COUNCIL RECEPTION

Every year we are thrilled to celebrate the support of our National Council Members. In 2023, this event was hosted at the Little Nell in Aspen. The evening was filled not only with delectable delights but also with the cherished company of our National Council, a collective of the most generous and influential individuals dedicated to advancing the mission of our organization.



Happy Birthday Buddy Program!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MENTORING

From our humble beginnings pairing youth in Aspen to expanding our programs to families and volunteers in Glenwood Springs, it's been an incredible journey filled with love and support.

The Buddy Program welcomed the community on July 25 for a celebration of our 50th Anniversary at the Red Brick Center for the Arts. Gregg Anderson, the founder of the organization, shared remarks about the importance of mentoring and former and current staff, volunteers, community partners and youth participants shared in an afternoon to toast the milestone anniversary.



Founder Gregg Anderson reminiscing on the inception of the Buddy Program in 1973.



Buddy Program staff getting ready to cut into the cookie cake!



Past and present unite in celebration! Current and former Board Members, dedicated community supporters, and current Buddy Pairs joined us at the Lawn at the Red Brick Center for the Arts.

MENTORING MILESTONES



2023

We expand services and programs to work alongside youth and families in Glenwood Springs and celebrate our 50th Anniversary!

The Karen and Nathan Sandler LEAD Program Outdoor Leadership classes expand to serve youth in Rifle

2018



2013

The Karen and Nathan Sandler LEAD (Leadership through Exploration, Action and Discovery) Program starts as a way to work alongside teens in a hybrid classroom and outdoor experiential program model

We expand services and programs to empower youth in Carbondale

2010



2005

We start the Peer-to-Peer Program with high school students impacting lives of younger kids as Big Buddies

The first Bash for the Buddies fundraiser is held at the home of Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass

2001



1994

We start working with youth and families in the Mid-Valley in addition to Aspen

We become an official non profit with a 501c3 and open an office at the Red Brick Center for the Arts

1991



1987

Boogie's Diner takes on the sponsorship of the race on the 4th of July, formerly sponsored by the Aspen Times, and donates proceeds to local charities, eventually working solely with the Buddy Program to raise funds

Gregg Anderson, who was then employed at the Open Door, a counseling organization that is now Mind Springs Health, started matching community members with youth. Gregg had been a Big Brother in college and saw an opportunity to impact youth in the Aspen area through mentoring

1973



SIGNATURE EVENTS

EAST COAST ASSET MANAGEMENT, MIKE CONNOLLY, ASPEN PRESENTS THE 37TH ANNUAL BOOGIE'S BUDDY RACE, JULY 4, 2023

The 37th Annual Boogie's Buddy Race was back in the downtown core with the start and finish line at Wagner Park. We can't stop smiling as we look back on the fantastic time we had with all 869 of our amazing racers!

Participants chose the traditional 5-mile, or a more recent 5k addition and many families participated in the 1-mile fun run. This annual event brought in over \$75,000 in revenue for the organization!



Photo Credit: Be the Experience

U.S. BANK SPONSORS THE 24TH ANNUAL BASH FOR THE BUDDIES, JULY 7, 2023

Generously hosted again by Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass at their spectacular Merry-Go-Ranch, the Bash for the Buddies was attended by over 350 patrons.

The Buddy Program honored Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass for their years of service and generous support of the organization and our important work.

2023 Bash Honorees
Gail and Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass



THE BUDDY CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT AT IRONBRIDGE GOLF COURSE

The inaugural "Buddy Classic" Golf Tournament held at Ironbridge Golf Course in Glenwood Springs welcomed guests to a stunning day of golfing, all in support of the Buddy Program.

With 80 golfers participating, the course buzzed with camaraderie and competition. A day marked not only by friendly competition but also by the shared commitment to making a positive impact on the lives youth in our community.



SIGNATURE EVENTS

11TH ANNUAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP & RECEPTION

Hosted by: Molly Gilmore, Amanda Hirsh, Jennifer Mason, Dana Presutti, and Nicole VandeBoom With special thanks to Helen DeFrance for her 10 years of service, and the creation of this event!

This beloved annual Workshop brought over 160 Buddy Program participants together to decorate their gingerbread houses! We sold over 200 kits to generous community members to support this important fundraiser. Thanks to our sponsors and patrons, the Buddy Program raised over \$135,000 through this effort.



ST REGIS

A special thank you to the St. Regis Hotel for hosting our Gingerbread House Workshop!

LUGANO
DIAMONDS

A special thank you to Lugano Diamonds for hosting our Sponsor Reception this year!



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT BOARD'S SUMMER KICK OFF PARTY

As a way to introduce more young professionals to the work of the Buddy Program, our Leadership Development Board hosted the Summer Kick Off Party. A big thanks to hosts Anna and Matt Freedman and the many food and drink vendors who donated their products! Over \$3,000 was raised through generous donations from this event.

PITKIN COUNTY DRY GOODS ANNUAL HOLIDAY LOCAL'S SALE

We were thrilled to partner again with Pitkin County Dry Goods with an in-store event in December where 20% of all proceeds supported the Buddy Program!



A ROOFTOP INTRODUCTION

As newcomers to the Glenwood Springs community, we wanted to introduce ourselves to the community, eager to forge meaningful connections, marking the beginning of a promising journey together in Glenwood Springs. A social hour at "The Rooftop" at Hookers Fly Shop in downtown Glenwood Springs, offered an ample space for questions and discussions about our youth mentoring programs.

ASPEN SMILE MONTH

Thank you to Gina and Andrew Turchin, DMD for their continued support through the Aspen Smile Month initiative. During the month of September, Dr. Turchin donated 10% of proceeds to the Buddy Program.



ANDREW TURCHIN, DMD
Creating & Keeping Beautiful Smiles

FINANCIALS

In 2023 the Buddy Program achieved a major milestone of finalizing our 50th Anniversary Impact Campaign and raised \$2,250,000 to be used to expand the full breadth of our programs and services to youth and families in Glenwood Springs over the next three years. This achievement marks a big step in growth for the organization and allows us to continue the depth and strength of our important work throughout the Roaring Fork Valley while expanding. Pledges and collected revenues will allow us to work in Glenwood Springs through mid-2026 while we continue to find sources to sustain this growth. We are continuing to actively fundraise specifically for Glenwood Springs-based Programs in order to stretch these dollars as far as possible. Thank you to all who contributed to our success for this campaign!

In 2023 the Buddy Program's expenses exceeded income by approximately \$38,000 in our general fund. This slight deficit was due to fundraising events being slightly under budget while expenses in IT, bookkeeping fees as well as events exceeded budget. All direct program expenses were lower than budgeted. The Buddy Program maintains a reserve fund in investment accounts and the Board of Directors directs staff to use funds from this account to cover any deficits from year to year. The numbers below have not been audited; audited financial statements can be requested or found at www.buddyprogram.org.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

The Bash for the Buddies grossed over \$1,000,000 in revenue



The Buddy Program had its first ever Golf Tournament which exceeded revenue projections and had lower expenses than projected



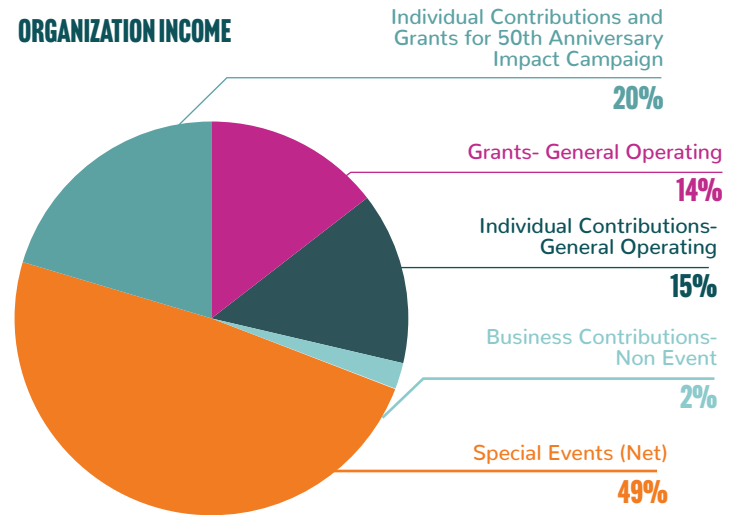
Grants income exceeded budget



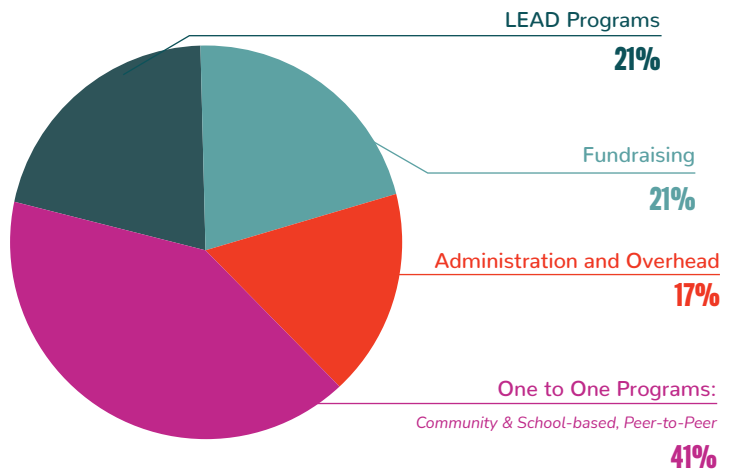
The Buddy Program provides all programs and services at no cost to our youth, and families and volunteers



ORGANIZATION INCOME

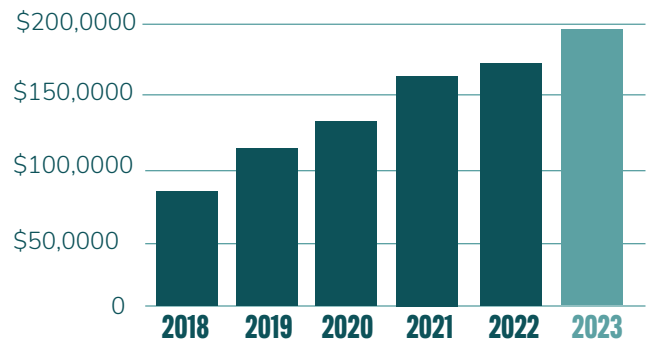


2023 ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES



RESERVE FUND BALANCE

(As of December 31 of each year)



The Buddy Program's reserve fund is invested in mutual funds and as of December 31, 2023 had a balance of \$1,959,177

STAFF AND BOARD

2023 PROGRAM STAFF

Lindsay Lofaro, Executive Director
Jennifer Balmes, Marketing and Communications Manager
Jared Berman, LEAD Program Coordinator
Brooke Bockelman, Assistant Director
Alex Braiedy, LEAD Program Coordinator
John Brasier, LEAD Program Director
Ainhoa Buján, Mentoring Program Director
Mindi Cabe, Grants and Data Manager
Sylvia Castorena, Mentoring Program Coordinator
Ruth Cover, LEAD Program Coordinator
Katie Garcia, Mentoring Program Coordinator
Stacy Grimm, Mentor Support and Activities Manager
Blanca Lara, Mentoring Program Coordinator
Molly O'Leary, Events Manager
Andrea Ring, Recruitment & Mentoring Program Coordinator
Bri Sanchez, Mentoring Program Coordinator
Nathan Perrault, LEAD Program Coordinator
Laura Seay, Community Relations Manager
Trish Shepard, Business and Events Manager
Ali Welch, Development Director
Andrew Zakerski, Development Coordinator

2023 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Morgan Brown, President
Tyler Barletta
Wheeler Clancy
Bailey Everhart
Shaun Hargrave
Lane Johnson
Lauren Myatt
Olivia Nobbs
Chris Striefel
Kendall Taylor
Brenna Young

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lenny "Boogie" Weinglass, Chairman
Mark Iola, President
Katie Goldsmith, Vice President
Mike Connolly, Treasurer
Erin Becker
Morgan Brown
Norma Canchola
Jenny Elliot
James Fosnaught
Adam Goldsmith
Amanda Hirsh
Alexandra Hughes
Alex Kendrick
Jennifer Mason
Lucy Moncada
Becky Murray
Dana Presutti
Erika Souki
Hannah Thompson
Gina Turchin
Gail Weinglass



Big Buddy, Olivia and Little Buddy, Julia enjoy coloring during their time together in the School-based Program.

"The school-based Buddy Program is an incredible way for our students to connect to a caring adult in our community. Our Little Buddies love that they have someone special who comes to the school just for them, just to sit with them, to play games with them, to talk with them. This program is so impactful because it allows our Little Buddies to have a Buddy that makes them feel valued, and important and allows them to find their worth."

-Lisa Lowsky, Basalt Elementary School counselor 9/22/23

The Buddy Program empowers youth through mentoring experiences to achieve their full potential.

We envision a thriving community in which all members are supported and connected through meaningful relationships and experiences to achieve success.

We value, celebrate, and consciously cultivate diversity as we strive to achieve equity through the power of mentoring.

