

**The Second Largest Mentoring Organization in Colorado!**

Dear Jamie,

**Four.**

I would like to call your attention to this special number for the Buddy Program. Four is special because it is the number of years that our Buddy Pairs stay together, on average. That number is also TWICE the average pair match length for national mentoring programs. The reason our pairs stay together so much longer is because of services, especially Case Management, that we provide to our pairs. When issues arise that might ordinarily derail a pairing, our Case Managers are there to help Buddy Pairs and families work through the issues, and allow them to get back on track. Without this support, many of our pairs would indeed not have lasted four years. And of course we have many pairs that are together much longer than that!

We, of course, support our Buddy Pairs for the entire length of time they are together. So when we make a commitment to create a new Buddy Pair, we are making a multi-year commitment, and that means we need to be able to ensure consistent funding from year to year. This is where you come in! By sustaining your support year after year, you allow our programs to flourish and grow.

We know that there are many organizations deserving of your support that are reaching out at this time of year. Thank you to all of you who support what we do, and who have helped us grow to be the second largest mentoring agency in Colorado. **If you have not yet had a chance to make your contribution to the Buddy Program, please [click here](#) to make a secure, online donation today!**

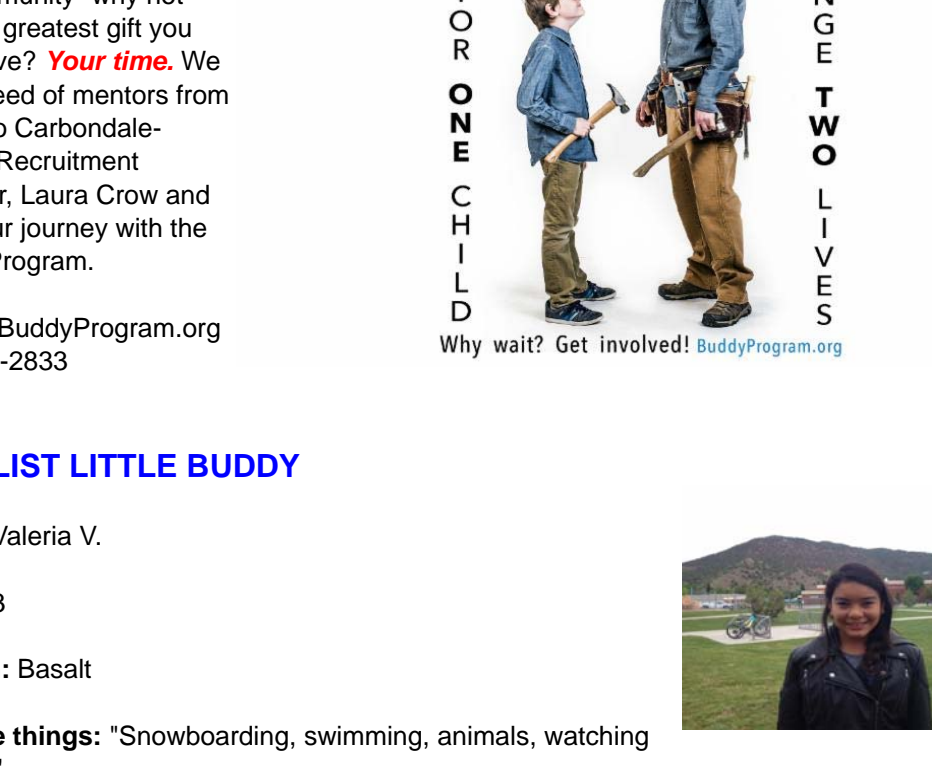
Make sure to check out these two articles in this week's newspapers that describes some of the ways the Buddy Program is working behind the scenes to help families up and down the valley!

[Project Hope: Nonprofits wrap services around beleaguered El Jebel family](#)  
[From Aspen to Carbondale, holiday baskets program helps more than 250 families](#)

Happy Holidays!

David Houggy  
Executive Director

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP**



The Buddy Program's 3rd Annual Gingerbread House Workshop, hosted by Helen DeFrance and Jim Fifield and presented by Nancy and Richard Rogers, was held on December 6th at The Little Nell. The room was packed to capacity with 140 Buddies creating warm holiday memories and the gingerbread houses of their dreams. Thanks to the generosity of our table sponsors, donors, volunteers and Board of Directors, more than \$65,000 was raised to support the Buddy Program!

A special thank you to Simon Chen and Pete Heyda for arranging the donation of the space at the Little Nell; to all of the wonderful staff of the Little Nell; to our fantastic volunteers; to Tony Mazza for donating some of his Bodega Chacra wines for our wine tasting reception; and to Master Sommelier Carlton McCoy for donating his time and opening the Nell's 22,000 bottle private cellar - what a treat!

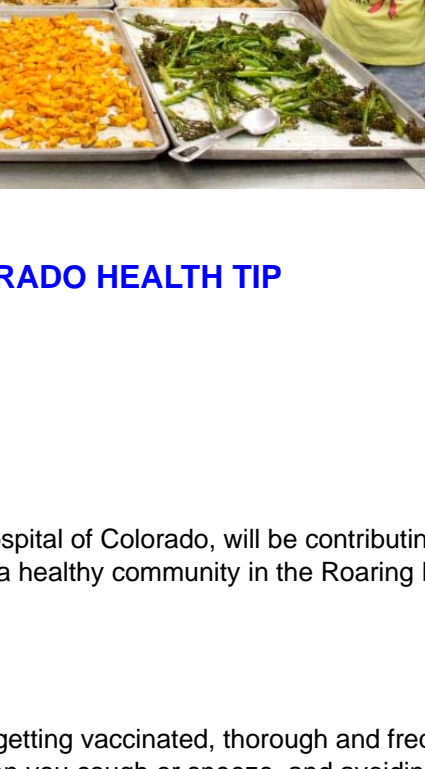
Thank you to our corporate sponsors:



**MENTOR**

The holidays are all about giving to others, family and the community- why not give the greatest gift you could give? **Your time.** We are in need of mentors from Aspen to Carbondale- contact Recruitment Manager, Laura Crow and start your journey with the Buddy Program.

Laura@BuddyProgram.org  
970-317-2833



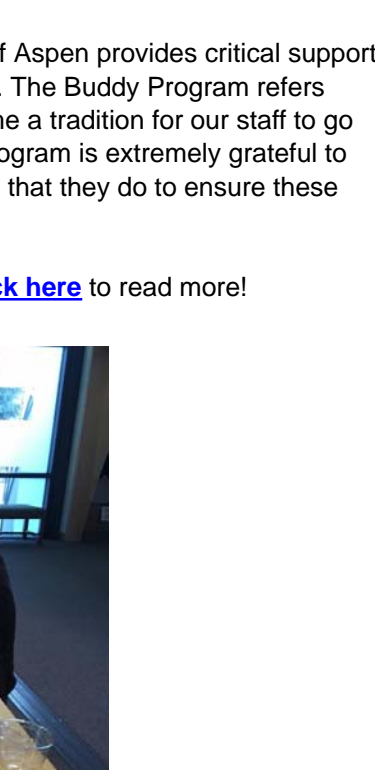
**WAIT LIST LITTLE BUDDY**

**Name:** Valeria V.

**Age:** 13

**Lives in:** Basalt

**Favorite things:** "Snowboarding, swimming, animals, watching movies."



**What kind of person she would like her Buddy to be:** "Someone who is fun and likes to do things outside!"

**NEW PAIRS**

**Names:** Barclay Lottimer & Adrian T.

**Community Program Buddies in:** Basalt

**Buddies since:** November

**Favorite activity together so far:** "Bowling!"



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**Names:** Angela Vichick & Azaneth R.

**Community Program Buddies in:** Aspen

**Buddies since:** November

**Favorite activity together so far:** "Playing in the game room at the Snowmass Club!"



**LEAD (LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXPLORATION, ACTION AND DISCOVERY)**

In early November, 14 teens in our LEAD program participated in a cooking workshop led by the Buddy Program's own David Houggy and professional chef Francis Stuckens of Green Cuisine Aspen. Under their tutelage, students gathered at the Basalt Middle School kitchen to prepare two kinds of soups, roast chicken, pasta with homemade sauce, roast vegetables, and apple puff pastry for dessert. This is the third annual Cooking Workshop offered by the Buddy Program in partnership with professional local chefs, and as one high school student said, "this event is my favorite thing!"



**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF COLORADO HEALTH TIP**



One of our corporate partners, Children's Hospital of Colorado, will be contributing a monthly health tip in order to continue to help create a healthy community in the Roaring Fork Valley!

**Preventing the Flu**

Some of the best things you can do include getting vaccinated, thorough and frequent hand washing, covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, and avoiding touching your face often. See more about preventing the flu and find out the difference between colds and flu at [childrenscolorado.org/flu](http://childrenscolorado.org/flu).

**HOLIDAY BASKETS**

The Holiday Baskets Program through Christ Episcopal Church of Aspen provides critical support to families in need from Aspen to Carbondale during the holidays. The Buddy Program refers numerous families throughout the valley each year and it's become a tradition for our staff to go to the church to help with the wrapping of the gifts. The Buddy Program is extremely grateful to the Christ Episcopal Church of Aspen and all its supporters for all that they do to ensure these families feel loved and supported during the holiday season.

This year, the Holiday Basket Program reached 250 families! [Click here](#) to read more!



Buddy Program staff, including John Brasier and Ainhoa Bujan pictured here, enjoyed an afternoon of gift wrapping at Christ Episcopal Church!

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

**2006**  
John Forster & Noah D.

**2007**  
Justin Hood & Carlos V.  
Logan Hood & Luis G.  
(Pictured: Logan, Luis and Carlos in 2009)

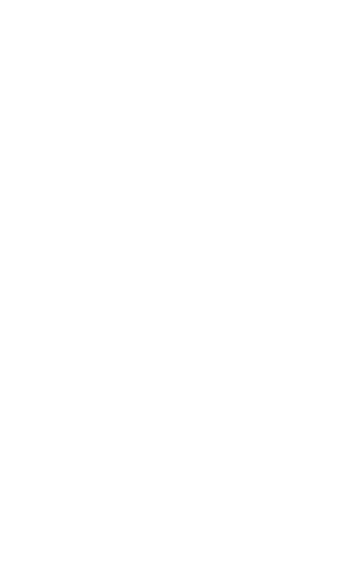
**2010**  
Susan Patterson & Clirnary S.

**2013**  
Peter and Sandy Johnson & Fernando R.  
Elizabeth Sinkinson & Maddi M.  
Bonnie McDill & Arleth H.  
Terrance Bannon & Gelvin A.

**2014**  
Vanessa Mercado & Caitlin A.  
Camilla Cohen & Shelby G.



**THIS MONTH, THE BUDDY PROGRAM THANKS THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT**



**the WHITE HOUSE TAVERN**

**STAY CONNECTED**



**#buddyprogramRFV**

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The Buddy Program | 110 East Hallam Street | Suite 125 | Aspen | CO | 81611