

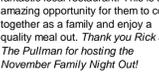


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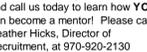
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[The Buddy Program page has 1,079 "Likes" and counting! Don't forget our Lemonade Day page too!](#)



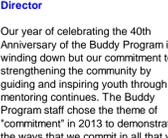
Donate while you shop! Follow [this link](#) and register for Amazon Smiles, and the Buddy Program gets 0.5% of every qualifying purchase from Amazon!



Thank You Family Night Out Host- The Pullman!

Each month, as a way of celebrating our families' involvement in the Buddy Program and giving them a chance to relax and enjoy themselves, the Buddy Program selects one family to enjoy an all-expenses-paid dinner at a fantastic local restaurant. This is an amazing opportunity for them to come together as a family and enjoy a quality meal out. Thank you Rick and The Pullman for hosting the November Family Night Out!

If your restaurant would like to participate in Family Night Out, please email liz@buddyprogram.org



Become a Mentor

To date in 2013, we have received **50** new Big Buddy applications from people who want to join our program as a mentor! In 2012, we received 30 applications in total for the entire year! Get on board and call us today to learn how YOU can become a mentor! Please call Heather Hicks, Director of Recruitment, at 970-920-2130 or [click here](#) to fill out an online inquiry form for more information.

December Buddy Anniversaries, Community Program

2004
Larry Ermini & Cesar G. (pictured)

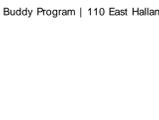
2006
John Forster & Noah D.

2007
Justin Hood & Carlos V.
Logan Hood & Luis G.

2010
Rodney Hill & Javier C.
Susan Patterson & Climary S.

2011
Bob D'Alessio & Parker Y.

2012
William Guth & Christian M.



December: The Next 40 Years

By Lindsay Lofaro, Assistant Director

Our year of celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Buddy Program is winding down but our commitment to strengthening the community by guiding and inspiring youth through mentoring continues. The Buddy Program staff chose the theme of "commitment" in 2013 to demonstrate the ways that we commit in all that we do. Throughout the year, we celebrated commitment through different themes:

January- commitment
February- youth
March- healthy decisions
April- quality of services
May- self-esteem
June- inspiring youth to dream big
July- our donors and the success of the programs
August- volunteers
September- academics
October- relationships
November- community

In December, we are celebrating our commitment to the next 40 years of serving youth in the Roaring Fork Valley. I don't know if I will be here to see the celebration in 2053, but it is sure to be a big one, celebrating the THOUSANDS of youth and volunteers who have helped change their lives.

Wish List

The Buddy Program is looking for some items to help us support our programs and defray expenses! Contact liz@buddyprogram.org if you would like to donate to our Wish List!

- 2, 3 or 4-man tents
- Backpacking backpacks
- Board games and puzzles in good condition
- Rosetta Stone, Spanish
- Marriott points
- United or Delta Miles

The Buddy Program | (970)920-2130 | liz@buddyprogram.org

<http://www.buddyprogram.org>
110 East Hallam Street | Suite 125 | Aspen, CO 81611

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



Try it FREE today.

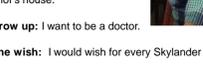
Dear Jamie,

From all of us at the Buddy Program, I hope that you have a great holiday season!

Best wishes for the new year,

David Hougy
Executive Director

It's Not Too Late - Donate Now!



Wait List Little Buddy

Little Buddy: Terrance W.

Age: 8

Lives in: Basalt

Favorite things: I like sports, air hockey, Football, and playing at my friend Taylor's house.

When I grow up: I want to be a doctor.

If I had one wish: I would wish for every Skylander in the world!



New Buddy Pair

New Pair: Bonnie McMill and Arleth H.



Lives in: Carbondale

Date paired: December 10, 2013

Favorite activity with her Big Buddy so far: Going to the library together!

Mentor & Mingle

January 16th

4:30-7 PM

Please mark your calendars for our 2nd annual Mentor and Mingle recruitment event to take place on Thursday, January 16th, 2014, National Mentoring Month, at the Sky Hotel's Aspen Mountain Room. We will offer complimentary appetizers and beverages and a discussion with Buddy Pairs and staff to potential Big Buddies.

We encourage you to stop by to learn more about how you can become a Big Buddy and bring a friend interested in volunteering!

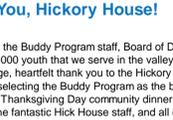
Contact Heather Hicks
(heather@buddyprogram.org)



Experiential Program Activities

Snowshoeing

This past Saturday 12 Middle and High School students from our Experiential Program enjoyed a day of snowshoeing and touring the natural world on Aspen Mountain's Richmond Ridge with Matt Reed, Naturalist at Aspen Center for Environmental Studies. Students rode the gondola, experienced what it's like to travel as a group through the snow with snowshoes on their feet, spotted animal tracks including a snowshoe hare and a weasel, learned about winter animal habitat and snow science, and generally appreciated the pause from life's bustle and the quiet of a forest covered in a blanket of snow. Thanks to Aspen Ski Co. and ACES for helping to support this experience for our students!



Buddy Program Blog

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

By Beth Slater
Development Manager

There are many reasons that we love the weeks that stretch from Thanksgiving to New Year's. The mountains open for skiing, gatherings with friends and family abound, and at the Buddy Program we are reminded what makes the Roaring Fork Valley such a special place. On Thanksgiving Day, Aspen's Hickory House once again selected the Buddy Program as the recipient of its donation-based Thanksgiving Dinner. Hundreds of community members were treated to an incredible meal and were asked to donate \$5-totalling in over \$4,000 in donations! A week and a half later...



Little Buddy, Parker, enjoying pie at the Hickory House and Zuleika and Teraissa at the Gingerbread House Workshop!

Continue reading!

The Thrift Shop of Aspen and Peer-to-Peer

Thank you to The Thrift Shop of Aspen for the generous grant towards the Buddy Program's Aspen Peer-to-Peer Programs. This grant will help support over 100 Big Buddies from Aspen High School who work with students at Aspen Middle & Aspen Elementary's schools. Without the support of the generous funders such as The Thrift Shop of Aspen, these programs would not be possible. Please remember to visit shop and donate gently used goods to The Thrift Shop!



Thank You, Hickory House!

On behalf of the Buddy Program staff, Board of Directors and the nearly 1,000 youth that we serve in the valley, I would like to extend a huge, heartfelt thank you to the Hickory House for once again selecting the Buddy Program as the beneficiary of their annual Thanksgiving Day community dinner! Owner Paul Dioguardi, the fantastic Hick House staff, and all of the volunteers who contribute their time during their days off are heroes and set a shining example of the spirit of the holidays. The event would not have been possible without generous contributions from Alisco Linen, Aspen Caterers, Neal Henley, The Chris King family, the Luu family, Main Street Bakery, Paradise Bakery and U.S. Food Service. And thank you to The Aspen Daily News and Aspen Times for helping to publicize the event!

Thanks to all of you in the community who came out for dinner, over **\$4,300** was raised for the Buddy Program, 100% of which supports the youth that we serve.



Our beautiful greeters, Jade and June, and racks of golden turkeys!