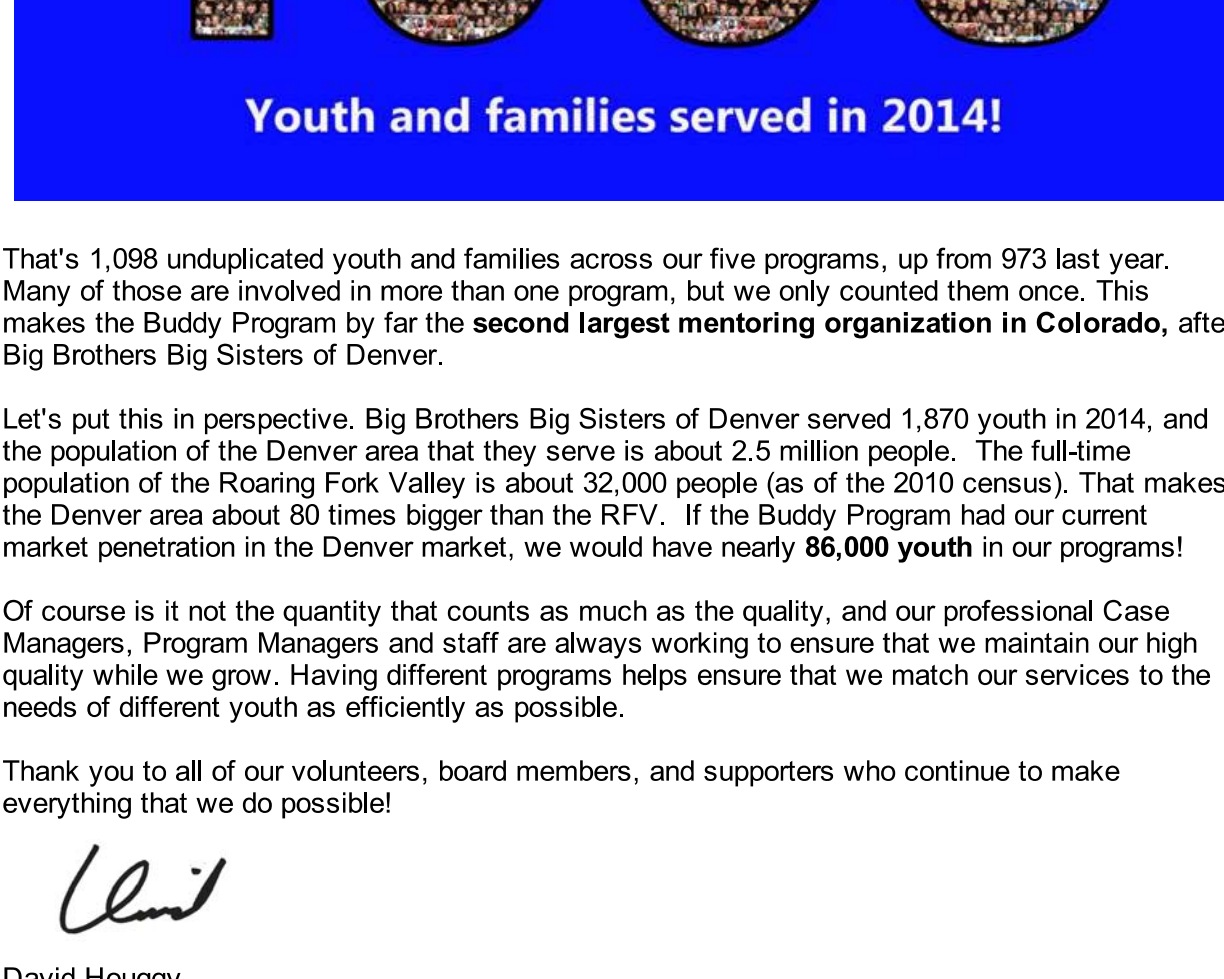




Dear Jamie,

We are thrilled to announce that the Buddy Program hit a major milestone in 2014:



That's 1,098 unduplicated youth and families across our five programs, up from 973 last year. Many of those are involved in more than one program, but we only counted them once. This makes the Buddy Program by far the **second largest mentoring organization in Colorado**, after Big Brothers Big Sisters of Denver.

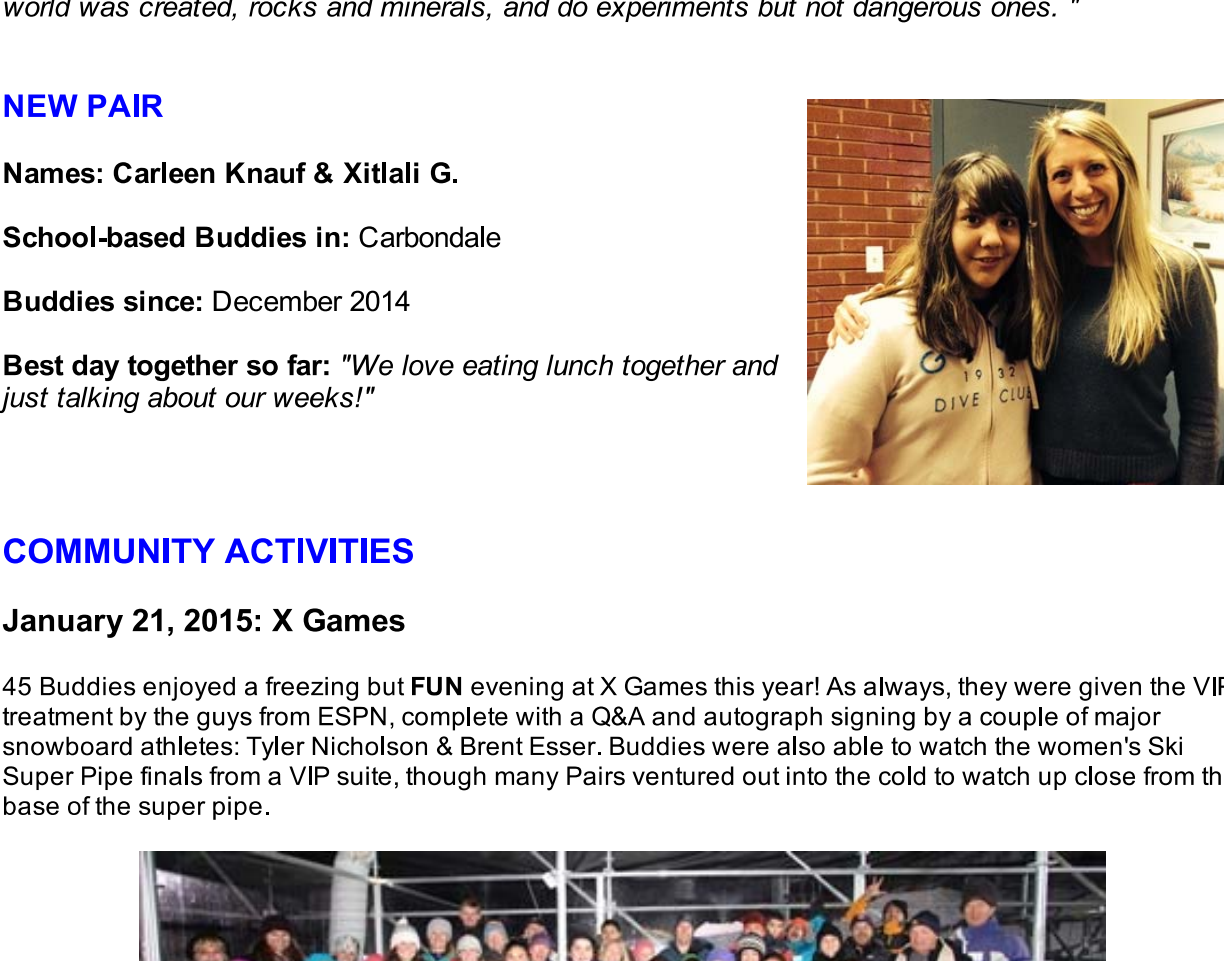
Let's put this in perspective. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Denver reported 1,870 youth in 2014, and the population of the Denver area that they serve is about 2.5 million people. The full-time population of the Roaring Fork Valley is about 32,000 people (as of the 2010 census). That makes the Denver area about 90 times bigger than the RFV. If the Buddy Program had our current market penetration in the Denver market, we would have nearly **86,000 youth** in our programs!

Of course is it not the quantity that counts as much as the quality, and our professional Case Managers, Program Managers and staff are always working to ensure that we maintain our high quality while we grow. Having different programs helps ensure that we match our services to the needs of different youth as efficiently as possible.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, board members, and supporters who continue to make everything that we do possible!

David Houggy
Executive Director

147 DAYS UNTIL...THE 2015 BASH FOR THE BUDDIES! July 9, 2015



WAIT LIST LITTLE BUDDY

Name: Lily O.

Age: 8

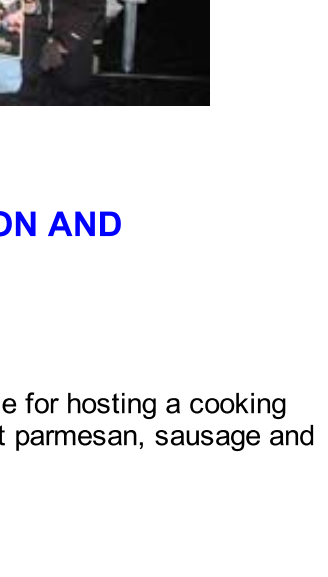
Lives in: Basalt

Loves: "SCIENCE! I've been wanting someone to do science with me- like mixing things together!"

Favorite foods: "Pasta, pizza, salami, meat- I'm a big carnivore."

Favorite animals: "Hippos, snakes and rabbits- I'm scared of spiders but without them, bugs would take over the world."

Things she would like to do with her Big Buddy: "Talk about history- the Indians, how the world was created, rocks and minerals, and do experiments but not dangerous ones."



NEW PAIR

Names: Carleen Knauf & Xitlali G.

School-based Buddies in: Carbondale

Buddies since: December 2014

Best day together so far: "We love eating lunch together and just talking about our weeks!"



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

January 21, 2015: X Games

45 Buddies enjoyed a freezing but FUN evening at X Games this year! As always, they were given the VIP treatment by the guys from ESPN, complete with a Q&A and autograph signing by a couple of major snowboard athletes: Tyler Nicholson & Brent Esser. Buddies were also able to watch the women's Ski Super Pipe finals from a VIP suite, though many Pairs ventured out into the cold to watch up close from the base of the super pipe.

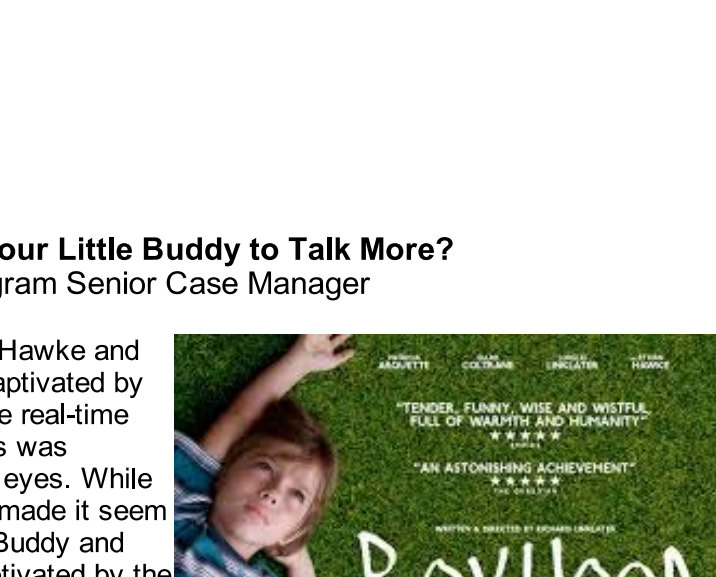


Photo courtesy of Stacy Grimm

LEAD (LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXPLORATION, ACTION AND DISCOVERY)

February 3, 2015: Glenwood Springs Cooking Class

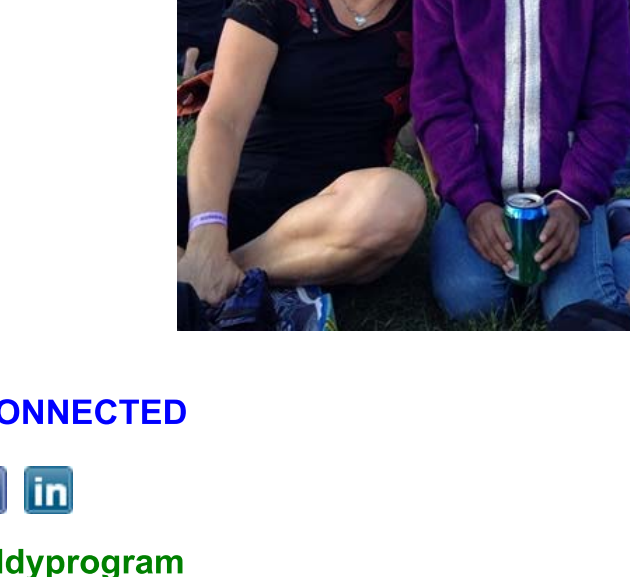
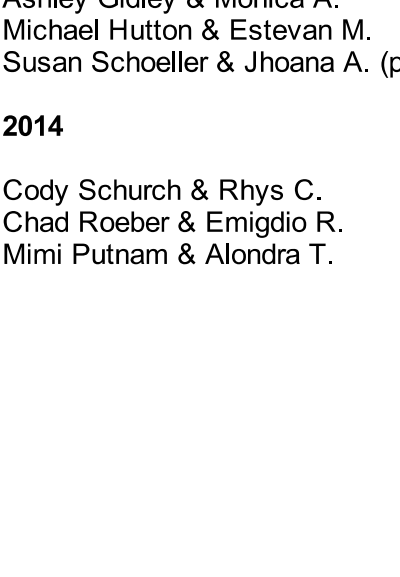
A huge thank you to Chef Andreas Fischbacher of Allegria in Carbondale for hosting a cooking class for 14 teens in the LEAD program this week! We cooked eggplant parmesan, sausage and peppers, and salad.



MENTOR & MINGLE

In celebration of National Mentoring Month, the Buddy Program hosted an event at Woody Creek Distillers for attendees to learn more about mentoring while enjoying a signature Buddy cocktail and appetizers. Current Big Buddies and community members spoke about the importance of mentoring and the need for mentors in the Roaring Fork Valley.

Jacque Whitsit, Mayor of Basalt (left) and Reede Hoskin and Obed G. (right), Buddies since April 2014.



Photos courtesy of Kendall Cafritz

BLOG

Are You Wondering How to Get Your Little Buddy to Talk More?

Written by Sarah Evans, Buddy Program Senior Case Manager

If you saw the film *Boyhood* with Ethan Hawke and Patricia Arquette, you may have been captivated by the movie for the same reasons as I. The real-time span as a film project was fascinating as was watching children grow up in front of my eyes. While the film was fiction, the style and genre made it seem like a documentary. If you have a Little Buddy and you saw the film, you probably were captivated by the children in the film because their behavior and moods were so very real, perhaps very similar to what you experience in your Little Buddy. If you haven't seen it and you're a Big Buddy, I recommend it.



Listen to [this wonderful interview](#) by Terry Gross of Ethan Hawke and Patricia Arquette; they talk about their experience making the film and so much of their conversation has to do with kids - both young children and teenagers. While I realize Big Buddies aren't parents, the commentary is applicable to any adult who has young people in his or her life, as it is more about young people and how adults relate to them and role-model for them. **If you don't have a full hour to dedicate to this downloaded podcast, fast forward to minute 24.40 and listen for about five minutes instead.** If you ever experience general frustration in having a conversation with your Little Buddy, Ethan Hawke's insightful synopsis of his character's conversation with his children (starting at minute 24.40) will surely enlighten you. Let us know your thoughts!

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

2011

Ashley Gidley & Monica A.
Michael Hutton & Estevan M.
Susan Schoeller & Joana A. (pictured)

2014

Cody Schurch & Rhys C.
Chad Roeber & Emigdio R.
Mimi Putnam & Alondra T.



STAY CONNECTED

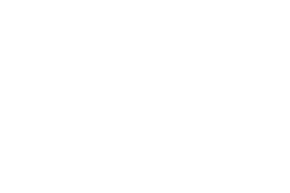


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Try it FREE today.

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