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We are at 873 to date!

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Remembering Helen Klanderud

As many non-profits are doing this month, the Buddy Program is also remembering and recognizing Helen's legacy on our program. A longtime supporter and National Council member, Helen was omnipresent at Buddy Program events. She supported the Buddy Program through her presence at the monthly Health and Human Services meetings, known as POD, always giving thoughtful feedback and furthering the discussion in the room. Helen was a role model for

Hi Jamie!

We are making the transition to winter here in the Roaring Fork Valley; a few days a week we wake up with a dusting of snow on the ground,and the peaks are swathed in their radiant white coats once again. This portends the final few months of 2013, and we are looking forward to the late-year traditions that are soon to come.

We will be hosting the Annual Celebration Dinner with our Big and Little Buddies this week, and are thankful for the generosity of the Caribou Club in underwriting this event once again! November brings Thanksgiving, of course, and the start of ski season. And then in December we have our first annual Buddy Program Gingerbread Workshop, hosted by Helen DeFrance and Jim Fifield. Helen and Jim are the driving force behind this fantastic event for our Buddies, and have been pivotal in both the design and execution of the event, and the fundraising to make this important new event happen. Thank you Helen and Jim! To find out more about registering a Buddy or supporting this great event, click here.

The staff just completed our annual offsite Strategic Planning Retreat at Coryell Ranch -- thank you to Chris Striefel for hosting us! We are busy hatching up our new ambitious plans for 2014! As you can see, the Buddy Program takes strategic planning VERY seriously!

I hope that the fall is a joyous time for you, and thank you again for all that you do for the Buddy Program!

Like the Buddy Program? Like us on Facebook today and help us get to 1,000 likes by 2014!

Regards,

David Houggy
Executive Director

women and men in our community; displaying consistency and care in her role as a public servant. Thank you Helen, you will be missed!

Become a Mentor

To date in 2013, we have received **40** 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.

A New Experience

By Ilse Gonzalez,
Grade 12 student in the Outdoor Leadership Class

On the backpacking trip, I challenge myself to not stop and keep on hiking, and I did it, I didn't stop! I was happy to go backpacking I wanted to go away from everything for a while, and when I was hiking I was thinking in a lot of things, one of them was "Don't turn around just keep on hiking" and I did I keep on going. I learn about myself that I am a strong person, I just have to work hard for what I want. I just have to keep on going and not give up, because we don't know how close we are from our goals.

...continue reading!

October Buddy Anniversaries, Community Program

2010

Wait List Little Buddy

Little Buddy: Adrian T.

Age: 11

Lives in: Basalt

Favorite things: Video-games, movies, swimming, soccer, basketball, skiing and nachos

Least favorite things: Homework and long road trips

Involved in: Boy Scouts

When I grow up: I want to be in the Army

New Buddy Pair

New Pair: Tristan M. & Charles Lucarelli

Age: 8

Lives in: Aspen

Date paired: September 11

Favorite activities with his Big Buddy so far: Playing Frisbee and watching Rugby in the park!

Peer-to-Peer Giving Back

The Buddy Program seeks to instill the value of service to others and the community in all aspects of its programs, including in the Little Buddies who typically are the recipients of so many wonderful resources. One of the most unique ways we see Little Buddies giving back is by becoming Big Buddies themselves in our Peer-to-Peer program. We caught up with one Big Buddy in this school-based program, who is a former Little Buddy in the Community Program:

TBP: Why did you decide to become a Big Buddy to a Middle Schooler?

Graciella: I like giving back. I had a Big Buddy when I was little, and I believe what goes around comes around.

TBP: What have you learned from being a Big Buddy?

Graciella: I've learned more about kids. This is my second year being a Big Buddy and I like seeing her progression. It's nice to see how kids grow up.

TBP: How has the Buddy Program helped you?

Graciella: It's helped me reach out to people and improve my social skills. I think this is important for college.

Sandra (Graciella's Little Buddy): I want to say that my Big Buddy is fun! She always smiles! And, she has a big heart.

For more information on how you can become a Big Buddy, contact Director of Recruitment Heather Hicks at 970-920-2130 or heather@buddyprogram.org.

Pitkin County Cares Awards

Congratulations to 4 of our caring Big Buddies who will be receiving Pitkin County Cares Awards in October!

Michael Mondry, Victor Robinson & Eli Alpern-

Mike Tanguay & Axel Q

2012
Isaac Ellis & Dani R.
Josefina Mendez & Victoria N. (pictured)

October: Relationships

By Lindsay Lofaro, Assistant Director

When people ask what we do at the Buddy Program, one of the first things I reply with is "we build relationships." And that does summarize a lot of what we do: we build relationships between Big and Little Buddies, with parents and Big Buddies, with our partners at the schools, amongst our staff and boards and with our funders. In fact, relationships are at the core of who we are at the Buddy Program.

In October we celebrate our commitment to relationships and recognize that these would not be possible without the hundreds of supporters and volunteers in our communities. So, thank YOU for making our community a richer, more related place to live, work and play. And thank you for your commitment to the Buddy Program.

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

- Snowshoes

- Board games and puzzles in good condition

- Rosetta Stone, Spanish

- Marriot points

- United or Delta Miles

For Sale

In 2011, Michael Mondry, Victor Robinson & Eli Alpern approached the Buddy Program about how they could get involved in a mentoring experience. Although the Buddy Program has a program for high school youth to mentor elementary or middle school students, Michael, Eli & Victor wanted to be able to create activities which the Little Buddies would not normally be able to do during the school day.

Out of their initial ideas, Super Buddies was born! This is a monthly mentoring experience for boys on the wait-list at the Buddy Program, who would not normally get a chance to do fun "guy" things as they are waiting for mentors. This dynamic trio acted as the mentors to these younger boys and organized monthly activities for the boys; attending the X-games, to building an ice sculpture for Winterskol, launching parachutes off of the Maroon Creek pedestrian bridge, etc.

Going into the third year, Super Buddies is alive and well, having served over 25 Little Buddies waiting to be matched with their own personal Big Buddy. Although Michael and Eli have graduated, we are adding two additional high school boys to our group and we are thrilled to have Victor on board for his third year. As graduating seniors, Michael and Eli were both honored with college scholarships from the Buddy Program for their outstanding leadership.

Adelaide Waters-

Since 2007, Adelaide Waters (Addie) has been matched with her Little Buddy. She initially met her Little Buddy by volunteering in our School-based Program- meeting her Little Buddy once a week at the school. Upon realizing their instant bond, the pair transitioned to the Community Program where they have been consistently spending time together for the past five years.

Her Little Buddy's many talents have become apparent as she is now a beautiful 16 year old. Most recently, the Buddy Program offered Sophia the opportunity to perform at our annual fundraiser- the Bash for the Buddies. This meant that Sophia needed to be at rehearsal at the Rock and Roll Academy 4 days prior to the event. Addie ensured that Sophia had transportation to and from the event and was there to support her, along with her family, the night of the event.

Addie embodies the true spirit of a mentor- she is kind, generous and gentle. She uses her experiences and knowledge to guide and inspire her Little Buddy and our staff has had the pleasure of working with her for the past six years.

Outdoor Leadership

Our new Outdoor Leadership class at Roaring Fork High School continues to adventure and engage in new opportunities. Students recently braved a 3-day backpack to Thomas Lakes on Mt. Sopris, battling the first snowstorm of the season, inches of hail, and heavy rains. The group maintained an impressively positive attitude and enjoyed hiking through the fall leaves, cooking on camp stoves, setting up camp, tending the fire, and spending some quality time together. See the reflective essay from Senior Ilse Gonzalez on the Blog this month to gain more insight into our trip. Thanks to Aspen Expeditions for helping to make this adventure a success!

Shortly after returning from camping, the class headed out for an afternoon of trail work on Red Hill in Carbondale. In partnership with Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers, students learned about preventing trail erosion, grabbed tools, and helped fortify water drainage systems along the trail. What's up next for this class? Student-driven service projects! Stay tuned to hear what students have planned for their community.

- 2 Mountain Hardware Kiva Light tents, $100 each ($200 new) and in very good condition, floorless, circus-style, 4 person, no footprint or mesh insert included. http://www.moontrail.com/mountain-hardwear-kiva-lite.php

- 3 MSR Whisperlite stoves, $50 each ($80 new) and in gently used condition, first 2 stoves sold include fuel bottle. http://www.backcountry.com/msr-whisperlite-stove

Free stuff!!

- 12 quality teepees, made of canvas and wood, life-size, in varying condition. Free to a good home! Please call for information.

Carbondale Chamber

The Buddy Program is proud to have been selected as the first non-profit beneficiary for the Carbondale Chamber's annual Business Conference, Golf Tournament and Ball Drop on September 19th and 20th!

The Chamber selected the Buddy Program for its leadership in the community. Director of Recruitment Heather Hicks and Experiential Program Manager Brook Tuveson were on hand to present our new program, Outdoor Leadership Education, being taught at Carbondale's Roaring Fork High School this year and to receive a check for $500 from Andrea Stewart of the Chamber -- thank you for your support!

(L to R: Cynthia, Heather, Brooke, Cindy, Andrea)

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