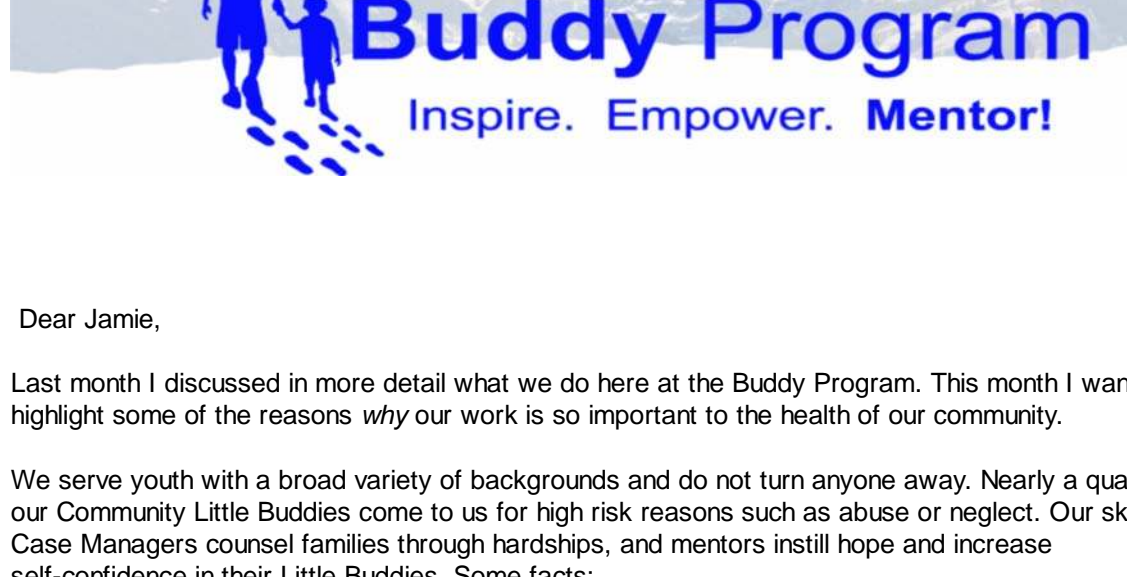




### October 16, 2014



Dear Jamie,

Last month I discussed in more detail what we do here at the Buddy Program. This month I want to highlight some of the reasons why our work is so important to the health of our community.

We serve youth with a broad variety of backgrounds and do not turn anyone away. Nearly a quarter of our Community Little Buddies come to us for high risk reasons such as abuse or neglect. Our skilled Case Managers counsel families through hardships, and mentors instill hope and increase self-confidence in their Little Buddies. Some facts:

- 56% of our youth come from families with household incomes less than \$50,000 per year, which is less than the subsistence level for our area (including things like health care and day care).
- 40% of our youth come from single parent families, much higher than the average of 24% for the counties in which we operate.

These statistics help to highlight why the work of the Buddy Program is so critical. The future health of our community depends on the health of our future citizens. If you haven't already, please consider a donation this year to help us reach our goal of empowering youth through mentoring experiences in order to achieve their full potential!

David Houggy  
Executive Director

#### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN OCTOBER

##### Donate financially: Gingerbread House Workshop, December 7, 2014

Support the second annual Buddy Program Gingerbread Workshop at The Little Nell hosted by Helen DeFrance and Jim Fifield. Little Buddies will gather with their Big Buddies for an afternoon of creativity and fun as they decorate their very own gingerbread houses to help ring in the holiday season! Helen will lend her expert guidance, and at the end each child will get to take his or her creation home to share with family and friends.



Your fully tax-deductible donation will ensure that the Buddy Program can continue its important work throughout the year.

[Donate now!](#)

##### Donate your time: Become a Big Buddy!

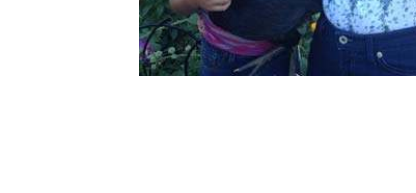
To date we have received 41 new Big Buddy applications this year from individuals who want to join our program as a volunteer mentor. In 2013, we received 54 new Big Buddy applications total. Help us reach our goal of matching more youth who are waiting for a mentor by applying today! For more information, contact Heather Hicks (970.920.2130, [heather@buddyprogram.org](mailto:heather@buddyprogram.org)), check out our website ([buddyprogram.org](http://buddyprogram.org)), and don't miss this fun, casual and informative evening at El Korita!

**When:** Tuesday, October 23, 2014, 6:00-8:00 pm

**Where:** El Korita Mexican Restaurant, Basalt

**What:** Enjoy complimentary refreshments and appetizers while learning how you can volunteer at the Buddy Program!

#### You're Invited!



Join us on Thursday, October 23, 2014 to learn how YOU can volunteer at the Buddy Program

El Korita Mexican Restaurant  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Complimentary refreshments and appetizers RSVP to [heather@buddyprogram.org](mailto:heather@buddyprogram.org) or 970.920.2130



#### WAIT LIST LITTLE BUDDY

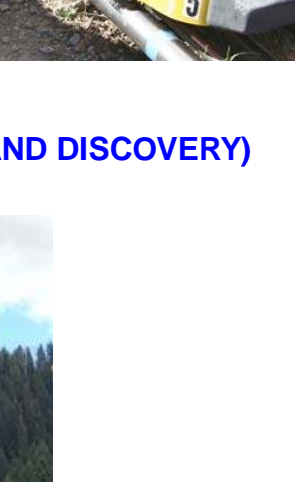
**Name:** Manuel M.

**Age:** 8

**Lives in:** Aspen

**Things he would like to do with his Big Buddy:** "Play soccer (I love soccer), baseball and go swimming."

**Why he would like a Big Buddy:** "To get away from my sister who is 2 and do sports."



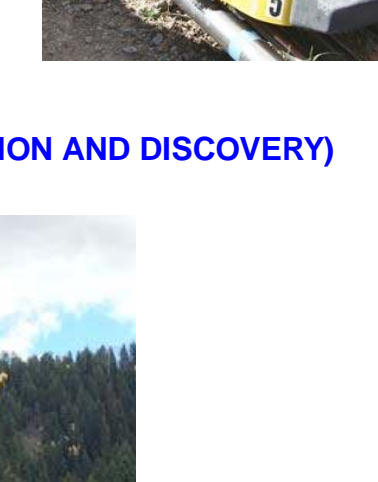
#### NEW PAIR

**Names:** Linda Donovan and Alondra V.

**Live in:** Basalt

**Buddies since:** September 18, 2014

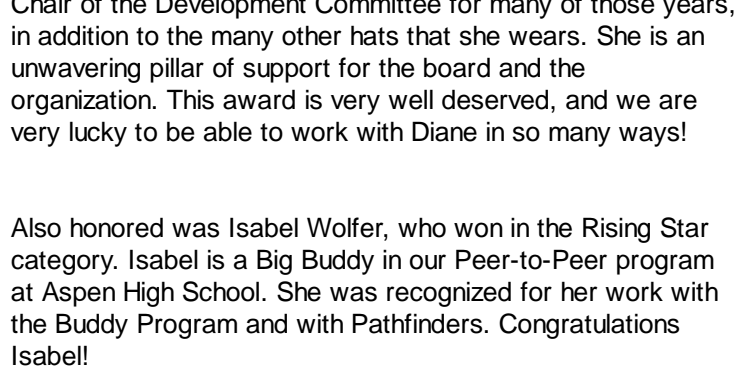
**Best day together so far:** "Last Saturday we went to the new art museum and walked around the farmers market!"



#### COMMUNITY BUDDY ACTIVITIES

##### Glenwood Caverns

An intrepid group of 24 Buddies met at the Glenwood Caverns & Adventure Park on Sunday, September 14th. They enjoyed a picture-perfect fall day at the top of the mountain and had the opportunity to explore the fascinating caves and ride the thrill rides to their hearts' content. A BIG thank you to all of the Big Buddies who, despite dizziness or queasiness, happily trudged along with their Little Buddies on ride after ride!



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



Students in our Outdoor Leadership class at Roaring Fork High School focused on building trust, teamwork, and communication skills this past weekend through rock climbing in the Crystal River valley.



Thirteen, 7th and 8th graders in our Carbondale Middle School Outdoor Leadership program took turns leading their group with map and compass up to Mt Yeckel from the Margy's Hut during a 2-day trip in September.

#### IN THE NEWS

We are proud to announce that our very own Diane Anderson, Buddy Program Board Member, won the 2014 Pitkin County Children/Youth award! Diane has served on the Buddy Program Board of Directors since 2004, and has been the Chair of the Development Committee for many of those years, in addition to the many other hats that she wears. She is an unwavering pillar of support for the board and the organization. This award is very well deserved, and we are very lucky to be able to work with Diane in so many ways!



Also honored was Isabel Wolff, in our Peer-to-Peer Star category. Isabel is a Big Buddy for the Peer-to-Peer program at Aspen High School. She was recognized for her work with the Buddy Program and with Pathfinders. Congratulations Isabel!

#### OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

**2010**  
Mike Tanguay & Axel Q.



**2012**  
Isaac Ellis & Donovan Daniel R.  
Josefina Mendez & Victoria N.  
Elizabeth DiMento & Lluvia & Maydalid C. (pictured)

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#thebuddyprogram

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