

**Buddy Program Open House**

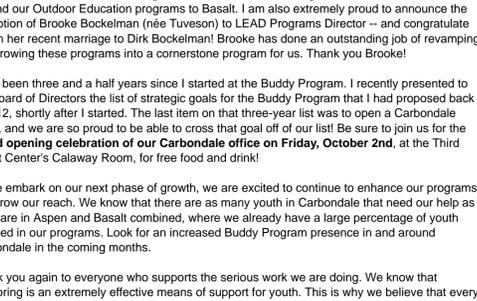
**Third Street Center  
Calaway Room  
Friday, Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
4:00-7:00pm**

I heard there's going to be FREE food, FREE drinks and even giveaways!

*We're your neighbors now, Carbondale!!*

**Buddy Program**  
Inspire. Empower. Mentor!

**THIRD STREET CENTER**  
520 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Please RSVP to [laura@buddyprogram.org](mailto:laura@buddyprogram.org) [www.buddyprogram.org](http://www.buddyprogram.org)



Dear Jamie,

Good things continue to happen here at the Buddy Program! As you will see below, we recently hired TWO new staff members. Laura joins us to take over Big Buddy recruiting as well as other program duties, and John is serving in the new role of LEAD Programs Coordinator, as we expand our Outdoor Education programs to Basalt. I am also extremely proud to announce the promotion of Brooke Bockelman (née Tuveson) to LEAD Programs Director -- and congratulate her on her recent marriage to Dirk Bockelman! Brooke has done an outstanding job of revamping and growing these programs into a cornerstone program for us. Thank you Brooke!

It has been three and a half years since I started at the Buddy Program. I recently presented to our Board of Directors the list of strategic goals for the Buddy Program that I had proposed back in 2012, and we are so proud to be able to cross that goal off of our list! Be sure to join us for the grand opening celebration of our Carbondale office on Friday, October 2nd, at the Third Street Center's Calaway Room, for free food and drink!

As we embark on our next phase of growth, we are excited to continue to enhance our programs and grow our reach. We know that there are as many youth in Carbondale that need our help as there are in Aspen and Basalt combined, where we already have a large percentage of youth involved in our programs. Look for an increased Buddy Program presence in and around Carbondale in the coming months.

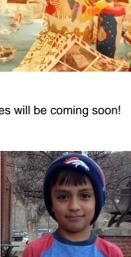
Thank you again to everyone who supports the serious work we are doing. We know that mentoring is an extremely effective means of support for youth. This is why we believe that every child deserves a mentor!

David Houggy  
Executive Director

p.s. If you missed my guest column in The Aspen Times on *Marijuana, Alcohol and Young People*, be sure to check out the blog below.

**WELCOME, LAURA AND JOHN!**

**Laura Crow, Recruitment Manager**  
[Laura@buddyprogram.org](mailto:Laura@buddyprogram.org)



Laura joined the Buddy Program in August as our Recruitment Manager and Program Coordinator! She graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a B.A. in Theatre Arts and minor in Photography. At LMU she was president of the oldest student run club on campus, The Del Rey Players. She immediately went to work for Hillstone Restaurant Group in Los Angeles in 2005, eventually training new staff, managers and assisting in the continued rebranding of two restaurant locations. Implementing the Hillstone culture, which now thrives at the White House Tavern, brought Laura to Aspen. Since 2008, Laura has volunteered as a counselor and fundraiser with The Laurel Foundation- a camp that provides educational programs to children, youth and families affected by or living with HIV/AIDS. She will continue to volunteer with this foundation that is very close to her heart. Laura is thrilled to join the Buddy Program team and dive even deeper into this wonderful Roaring Fork Valley community. She delights in traveling, movies, theatre, Yellowstone, photography and all things outdoors.

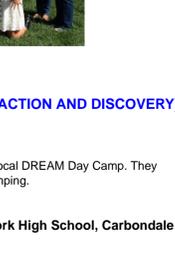
**John Brasier, LEAD Programs Coordinator**  
[John@buddyprogram.org](mailto:John@buddyprogram.org)



John joined the Buddy Program as the LEAD Programs Coordinator at the end of August. His professional background includes Colorado Outward Bound School Instructor, Assistant Brew Master, Jeep tour driver, Land Surveying Technician, & Production Manager in a custom 4WD shop and most recently in the reclaimed barn wood industry. John graduated from Fort Lewis College with a BA in Spanish Language/Culture and minors in Biology and Sociology. After college graduation, he traveled extensively in Mexico and Central America and would love to someday explore more of this world, especially in Spanish speaking countries. His interests include tinkering and resurrecting vintage 4WD's but he is most passionate about exploring the Colorado high country as well as the deserts of Utah whether it be by foot, mountain bike, raft or vintage 4WD.

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP**

The Buddy Program's 3rd Annual Gingerbread House Workshop, hosted by Helen DeFrance and Jim Fifield, will be held on December 6th at The Little Nell. This incredible event is a special opportunity for Buddy Pairs to come together to create the gingerbread houses of their dreams, with Helen's expert guidance.



Last year, 80 Buddy Pairs attended this fun event! Thanks in large part to our table sponsors, over \$50,000 was raised to help the Buddy Program continue to serve over 1,000 youth throughout the Roaring Fork Valley through our five high-quality youth mentoring programs and other critical services. If you are interested in sponsoring a table at the Gingerbread House Workshop on December 6th, please contact Development Manager Meghan Pearlman, [Meghan@buddyprogram.org](mailto:Meghan@buddyprogram.org).

More information about signing up for this event for Big and Little Buddies will be coming soon!

**WAIT LIST LITTLE BUDDY**

**Name:** Brian M.

**Age:** 8

**Lives in:** El Jebel

**Favorite things:** Soccer, basketball, Lego's, oranges and lions

**When he grows up:** "I want to be a policeman, to help people."



**NEW PAIR**

**Names:** David De L'Arbre and Tenjing S.

**Community Program Buddies in:** Aspen

**Buddies since:** August 19th

**Favorite activity together so far:** Hiking!



**Why this pair works:** They both love the outdoors and David is willing to go above and beyond to make sure they see each other!

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

**August 29th, Fishing**

On Saturday, August 29th The Buddy Program, in partnership with Trout Unlimited, hosted a fishing day for Buddy Pairs at the River Valley Ranch pond. Even though the fish weren't biting too much, the day was beautiful and the kids all had a great time. A big THANK YOU to Trout Unlimited and our fishing guides that day: Jason, Greg and Derek for the instruction, lunch and fishing rods that were gifted to the kids.



**September 6th, JAS Aspen Snowmass**

On Sunday, September 6th, 8 Buddy Pairs attended our annual Meet and Greet at JAS Aspen Snowmass with The Fray and Lenny Kravitz! A huge thank you to JAS Aspen Snowmass for making this opportunity available to our Big and Little Buddies!



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

**August 3-7th, DREAM Day Camp**

In early August, 20 middle-school campers participated in our local DREAM Day Camp. They enjoyed art projects, rock climbing, hiking, river rafting, and camping.

**August 25th, Outdoor Leadership Class at Roaring Fork High School, Carbondale Middle School and Basalt High School**

Outdoor Leadership, the Buddy Program's unique class and curriculum, is officially up and running at RFHS and CMS for the third year! It's great to see so much student interest in the classes. We are excited to expand to BHS in January- stay tuned!



**BLOG**

**Marijuana, Alcohol, and Young People**  
David Houggy, Executive Director



On Monday, August 17th, the Buddy Program hosted a community conversation, "Talking to Your Kids About Marijuana," featuring Erin Flynn from the Colorado Department of Public Health. Because the human brain continues to develop up to age 25, the longer a young person waits to start using substances such as alcohol and marijuana, the less likely she is to have problems with substance abuse. Furthermore, regularly consuming these substances under age 25 can adversely affect brain and overall development. These facts make it crucial that we work as a community to delay the use of alcohol and marijuana by our youth as long as we can. This is particularly true for a community where substance use, abuse and partying are known phenomena. Because of our role in working with so many youth in the valley, the Buddy Program is calling attention to this idea to help generate a broader conversation on the topic.

[Click here to continue reading!](#)

[Click here for links to marijuana awareness resources!](#)

**SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

**2006**  
John Forster & Noah D. (pictured)



**2010**  
Rodney Hill & Javier C.

**2011**  
John Eaton & Elmer B.  
Ainhoa Bujan & Ximena G.



**2014**  
Braulio Jerez & Abraham A.  
Linda Donovan & Alondra V. (pictured)  
Wheeler Clancy & Boden H.

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