



You...



To everyone who donated to the Buddy Program through Colorado Gives Day, and Becky and Mike Murray for matching each of these donations.

Your support matters.

Greetings!

As we enter this magical holiday season, I am reflecting on the gifts the Buddy Program gives to our community, especially the gift of hope. In December, we will match five Little Buddies with Big Buddies, bringing our annual total to 31 new matches! With each new match, we give the gift of hope to a child and family. I think about the 80 youth and their Big Buddies who attended our Gingerbread House event full of hope for their own holiday season. I think about our 50 high school Big Buddies who bring hope to their 50 Little Buddies each week at their respective schools and share their hopes and dreams with each other. The feeling of hope is also alive and being shared with others through our high school students in the Karen and Nathan Sandler LEAD Outdoor Leadership classes at Basalt and Roaring Fork High Schools as they prepare and implement their service learning projects (read more below).

During this season, [please remember the Buddy Program in your year-end giving](#). The hope we instill to youth and their families in this community is only possible through *your* generous support.

In the spirit of hope,

Lindsay H. Lofaro
Executive Director



Donate now!

26
baskets were distributed to 26 Buddy Program families through the Christ Church Holiday Basket Program this year!

Thank you to the following organizations for their support this month!

Gingerbread House Workshop
Lead Corporate Sponsors:



THE
LITTLE
NELL



Gingerbread House Workshop



Over 125 Big and Little Buddies, volunteers and guests gathered at The Little Nell for our 5th annual Gingerbread House Workshop hosted by Helen and Jim Fifeild, Nancy and Richard Rogers and Karen Wing. The event, our largest Buddy activity and second largest fundraiser, brings the true holiday spirit to all involved!

In addition to our hosts and The Little Nell, we would like to thank the 91 individuals and businesses that donated to raise \$91,000 to support the Buddy Program's important programs and services! [Click here to see the full list of donors and sponsors.](#)

MENTEE WAITLIST

Name: Ozley C. **Age:** 8 **Lives in:** Aspen

Ozley is an only child who would benefit from a positive male role model. Ozley's mom describes him as full of energy, intelligent, sensitive, intuitive, caring, a go-getter, and an old soul who loves everyone. Ozley likes to sing and dance, do handstands and bridges, play board games and cards, play "fantasy" with his friends, bike, ski, swim, do art projects, and write stories. Ozley wants a Big Buddy who will teach him to ride a scooter and/or skateboard and play basketball. Ozley has plans to write books in the next few years and when he grows up he wants a job that allows him to do art, sing, and dance because this is what he loves.



Contact Recruitment Manager, Laura Seay, for more information on becoming a Big Buddy! LauraS@buddyprogram.org

COMMUNITY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Celebration Dinner



CHARLES CUNIFFE
ARCHITECTS



MASON MORSE



Other generous Buddy Program supporters this month:



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2007

Logan Hood & Luis G.

2010

Susan Patterson & Climary S.

2013

Bonnie McDill & Arleth H.

Peter and Sandy Johnson & Fernando R.

(Pictured below with his Big Buddies and with his own Peer-to-Peer Little Buddy!)

2014



Over 115 people joined us for our annual Celebration Dinner at the Caribou Club. Buddies had fun with face-painting, playing games and posing in the photo booth. After a delicious buffet dinner, the Buddies danced and enjoyed the legendary chocolate fountain. The night was made all the more special by the Big and Little Buddies writing notes of appreciation to one another.

NEW PAIRS

Welcome Tatiana Ceresa & Mieke W., Teresa Salvadore & Jocy J., Dr. Nami Kazemi & Tomas R., and Gus Fitzgerald & Stephen B.!



LEAD (Leadership through Exploration, Action and Discovery)

Tis' the season for community service projects

Camilla Cohen & Shelby G.

2015

Rebecca Polan & Maya A.

Angela Vichick & Azaneth R.



STAY CONNECTED:

#buddyprogramRFV



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The LEAD participants are diving into the holiday season with the Basalt and Roaring Fork High School Outdoor Leadership classes spearheading community service projects. Each class is challenged with designing, coordinating, and implementing several projects to give back to those in need. This season's projects include working with animals, the environment, and the elderly. It's a great opportunity for the students to show gratitude for the wonderful communities that we live in!

Pictured above: The Basalt High School Outdoor Leadership Class hike at the Ruedi Overlook Trail in November

ASPEN FILM

Academy Screenings: *Coco*



Saturday, December 30, 5 PM
Paepcke Auditorium
Free admission for children 14 and under

Winner of several awards for Best Animation, this film about a young boy's adventures with music and mystery is not to be missed! For more information on this and other Aspen Film Academy Screenings, [click here.](#)

Thank you Aspen Film, for discounting tickets for our Big Buddies!