

# 45<sup>th</sup> Buddy Program

Inspire. Empower. Mentor!

## Celebrating 45 years of mentoring

Greetings!

Each year, the Buddy Program analyzes and identifies trends to help us understand how we are currently meeting the needs of the community and how we can do more of it. We are thrilled to report these strong outcomes to our community.

**In 2017 we served 529 unduplicated youth.** Our matches are staying together over 4.6 years on average compared to the National Average of 23 months, and up from 4 years on average a year ago. Students in our LEAD Program are receiving up to 300 hours in the classroom and backcountry while being mentored in a group setting by our staff. We continue to see a trend of serving more youth through their involvement in more than one program. This matters to us because we know that the more a youth is involved with us, the more likely they will have positive outcomes in regard to graduating from high school on time, making positive life choices and attending secondary education.

And of course, the experiences that we hear about every day from our volunteer Big Buddies, family members and kids in our program cannot be quantified but can be shared! It is these stories and experiences that help us to know we are making an impact! Again, we are making a call to all former Big and Little Buddies to hear those stories. [Click here](#) to complete our 45th Anniversary Form!

In the spirit of qualified and quantified numbers and with gratitude for each of you,



Lindsay H. Lofaro  
Executive Director



**PURCHASE BASH  
TICKETS AND TABLES**

**Donate now!**

**CALLING ALL FORMER  
BIG AND LITTLE  
BUDDIES!**

*We would love to  
reconnect with you!*  
[Click here!](#)



**THANK YOU TO THE  
FOLLOWING  
ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR  
SUPPORT THIS MONTH!**

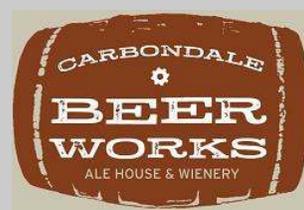


Come One, come All to the  
Big Top Bash for the Buddies on Friday, July 6!

Tables and Tickets are now on sale!



[Click the image below to register for the Race and receive EARLY BIRD PRICING!](#)



COMPASS

DOUG LEIBINGER  
TEAM



**MARCH  
ANNIVERSARIES**

**2012**

Will Rutledge & Bodi

**2015**

Stewart Curry & Gandhy  
Danielle Grivalsky & Alondra  
Melissa Resutko & Phoebe  
Ana Rodriguez & Alejandra

**2017**

Trish Shepard & Janette  
Jeanne Walker & Suci beth  
Coulter Burch & Devis  
Landen Saks & Morgan  
Parker Lemire & Jimmy  
Bartlett & Valeria  
Ben Sachdeva & Sky

EAST COAST  
ASSET MANAGEMENT  
MICHAEL CONNOLLY

PRESENTS THE 32ND ANNUAL  
**BOOGIE'S  
BUDDY RACE**

5 MILE RACE AND 1 MILE FAMILY FUN WALK  
July 4, 2018 | 8am start  
Rio Grande Park, Aspen, CO  
EARLYBIRD PRICING AVAILABLE NOW!



Pictured: Trish Shepard & Janette at the 2017 Celebration Dinner

### BUDDIES IN ACTION



New Pair Hannah Thompson and Maya getting their hands dirty cooking and getting to know each other!

### MENTEE WAITLIST

**Name: Melissa    Age: 8    Lives in: El Jebel**

Melissa is an 8 year in El Jebel. Her two older sisters already have Big Buddies and Melissa is eager to have one of her own. She wants a Big Buddy who is "young and active, like her sisters". Melissa is busy outside of school and participates in Aspen Santa Fe Ballet Folklorico (she loves to dance!) and Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club.



Melissa is energetic, talkative and likes to be outside singing, dancing, and playing. Melissa gets along well with her two sisters and always wants to tag along on their outings with their Buddies. She had the chance to participate in last December's Gingerbread House Workshop and was very enthusiastic and determined to create a masterpiece, as you can see from her photo!

Contact Recruitment Manager, Laura Seay, for more information on becoming a Big Buddy! [LauraS@buddyprogram.org](mailto:LauraS@buddyprogram.org)



Big Buddy Laura Crow and her Little Buddy Ella enjoying first Friday in Carbondale together!

### STAY CONNECTED:

[#buddyprogramRFV](https://www.instagram.com/buddyprogramRFV)

### NEW PAIRS

Welcome Carolina Silva & Vanessa and Michelle Goldberg & Chloe



BINGO night at Carbondale Beer Works to support the Buddy Program!



Wed, March 21 7:00pm

4 games - each with a prize!

**45 YEARS OF BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: STORIES OF IMPACT**

**A Friendship to Last a Lifetime**



What does 25 years of friendship look like? Tony Mazza and Colin were matched as Big and Little Buddies when Colin was 10. In February, Colin returned to Aspen for a visit and caught up with Tony over dinner. This Buddy Pair has stayed in touch and maintained a strong friendship beyond their time at the Buddy Program.

**MENTOR SPOTLIGHT**

**Dana's Thoughtful Approach to Mentoring**

Dana is diligent in providing her Buddy Judith with consistency, compassion, and trust. She attends her school performances with



Join our mailing list



Visit our website



Forward to a Friend



bouquets of flowers and plans thoughtful activities, creating new experiences for them to share. Dana is always a positive force for Judith to rely on. Having raised daughters of her own, Dana is constantly thinking of fun activities and encouraging words that she knows a teenager will appreciate. Dana always prioritizes her time with Judith and it is evident when you see them together just how much support and joy they bring one another. Thank you, Dana, for being such an enthusiastic mentor and solid rock for your mentee!



## **LEAD (Leadership through Exploration, Action and Discovery)**

### **February snow makes for learning opportunities in LEAD**

February has been an exciting month for the LEAD Programs. The Basalt and Roaring Fork High School classes teamed up with ACES for a snow science course on top of Ajax Mountain. Students ventured out on snowshoes on Richmond Ridge where they dug snow pits to look at avalanche conditions as well as practice some of their new Wilderness First Aid skills they learned in January.

The following week, several of our LEAD students from all over the valley gathered at the Carbondale Clay Center for a night of pottery and pizza. At the end of February, both Basalt and Roaring Fork High School Outdoor Leadership students participated in a moonlit snowshoe in preparation for our winter hut trips this month.



## **COMMUNITY PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

### **Pottery and Pizza**



11 Buddy Pairs got their wheels spinning at the Carbondale Clay Center this month, after a delicious dinner at Peppinos Pizza! The facilitator at the Clay Center designed an activity that wasn't only about throwing pottery, but also about communicating, problem-solving together, and encouraging each other.