

BEST BUDDIES®



BESTBUDDIES®

Friendship, Jobs & Leadership Development



VISION

To put Best Buddies out of business

HISTORY

- **Founded in 1989 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver**
- **First Chapter started at Georgetown University**
- **From one chapter to a leading non-profit**
- **Present in over 50 countries on 6 continents**
- **It's a global thing!**

Best Buddies Programs

One-to-One Friendships



Integrated Employment



Leadership Development



One-To-One Friendships

Builds friendships between people with and without IDD, offering social mentoring while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion for a population that is often isolated and excluded.

BEST BUDDIES



Jason Delconte & Matthew Barron
Friendship program
Clovercroft Elementary School





One-to-One Friendships

BESTBUDDIES® Middle Schools,
High Schools and Colleges

Creates an inclusive school environment for students with and without IDD during times of social and emotional development.

BESTBUDDIES® Citizens

Helps adults with and without IDD develop meaningful friendships and become more involved in their local communities.

e-BUDDIES®

Offers an e-mail program, in which a participant with IDD communicates online with a friend without IDD.

Mason Shank & Matt Moore
Best Buddies Citizen program participants



Integrated Employment

Since its inception, Best Buddies Jobs has assisted thousands of participants in earning an income, paying taxes, receiving benefits, and working in an environment alongside others in the community. The Jobs program offers the opportunity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to become financially independent through their own efforts, and removes the need for government assistance or parental support. This program focuses on white-collar jobs, which sets it apart from so many others, because Best Buddies assists individuals in careers that are not only enjoyable, but also inclusive and competitive in terms of pay.

Integrated Employment

Secures integrated employment for people with IDD, allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and continuously and independently support themselves.

BESTBUDDIES. Jobs

Matches skilled, qualified individuals with IDD with businesses seeking enthusiastic and dedicated employees. Through the Jobs program, Best Buddies develops partnerships with employers, assists with the hiring process and provides ongoing support to the employee and employer.

A man with short dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a dark blue vest, is standing at a clear acrylic podium. He is speaking into a microphone and gesturing with his right hand. The background is dark, suggesting an indoor event or stage setting.

Leadership Development

Best Buddies educates and empowers individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to become powerful public speakers, self-advocates and active agents of change. These leaders inspire their peers within the IDD community, employers and the government to join Best Buddies' global movement of friendship and social inclusion.

Paul Brooks
Best Buddies Global Ambassador and Jobs program participant

BESTBUDDIES. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

54 Countries



6 Continents



Global Programs Snapshot:

2,151
Total Chapters

109,033
Total Participants

1,090,330
IMPACTED

50 States



54 Countries

6 Continents



Middle Schools

329 = **10,044**
Chapters Total Participants



High Schools

1,107 = **59,629**
Chapters Total Participants



Colleges

444 = **27,968**
Chapters Total Participants



Citizens

2,990
Total Participants



e-Buddies

1,923
Total Participants



Jobs

755
Total Buddies Employed

16,459

Avg. Wkly. Hours Worked

\$9,605,307

Avg. Yrly. Wages Earned

806,491

Avg. Yrly. Hours Worked

\$1,921,061

Avg. Yrly. Taxes Paid



Ambassadors

943
Total Participants



Promoters

271 = **4,781**
Chapters Total Participants

The Impact of Best Buddies



BEST BUDDIES PARTICIPANTS WITHOUT IDD



95%
Enjoy Best Buddies



95%
Want their child to attend school with a person with IDD



94%
Recommend to others



98%
Support having a neighbor with IDD



89%
More aware people with IDD hold jobs



95%
Would work at a company that employs people with IDD

BEST BUDDIES PARTICIPANTS WITH IDD



84%

Enjoy Best Buddies



16%

Plan to go to college



80%

Recommend to others



69%

Feel accepted by friends and the community



70%

Currently have a job



66%

Use a computer to communicate with family and friends

Questions

