

# BESTBUDDIES®

Friendship, Leadership Development & Jobs



## OUR ADULT PROGRAMS

**Best Buddies Citizens** pairs adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in one-to-one friendships with adult volunteers in the community. Best Buddies Illinois is proud to serve more than 200 participants in the Chicago area. Buddy pairs are asked to commit to a one-year friendship (that often continues longer). During that time, the Buddy and Peer Buddy agree to talk once a week and see each other twice a month.

In addition, the Citizens program plans group outings six times per year, allowing all participants to meet in a larger group to continue expanding their social networks. Typical hangouts include bowling, Chicago sporting events and trips to museums and zoos!

**Best Buddies Jobs** is a supported employment program that secures competitive paying jobs for people with IDD, therefore enabling them to work as respected individuals. The program develops partnerships with employers, assists with the hiring process, and provides ongoing support to the employee and employer.

## OUR MISSION

Best Buddies mission is to establish a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

## OUR MOVEMENT

Best Buddies envisions a world where people with IDD are so successfully integrated into our schools, our workplaces and our general communities that our current efforts and services will be unnecessary.

Until that vision becomes a reality, we will continue to educate middle school, high school and college students, community members, corporations, and employers about the emotional, functional and natural needs and abilities of people with IDD.

To get involved with Best Buddies Illinois, please call 312.828.9313. or email [Joshuakaye@bestbuddies.org](mailto:Joshuakaye@bestbuddies.org)