

BEST BUDDIES®



Best Buddies Jobs Program

Introduction and Overview for
TPC

May 12, 2021



What is Best Buddies?

Global nonprofit dedicated to inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities .

Who We Serve

The IDD community that Best Buddies serves includes, but is not limited to, people with Down syndrome, autism, fragile X syndrome, Williams syndrome, cerebral palsy, traumatic brain injury and other undiagnosed disabilities.

Our Mission

Friendship, Jobs, Leadership Development & Living

Empowering people with disabilities by helping them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure rewarding jobs, live independently, and feel valued by society .



Friendship program Participants at the Best Buddies Leadership Conference

How Our Programs Work

Our Key Mission Pillars



One-To-One Friendship

Builds friendships between people with and w/o IDD, offering social mentoring while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion.



Integrated Employment

Secures jobs for people with IDD, allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and support themselves.



Leadership Development

Educates and empowers people with and without IDD to be leaders, public speakers and advocates.



Inclusive Living

Fosters an integrated experience for people with and without IDD to live independently in a dynamic environment where they can learn, grow, and thrive.

Integrated Employment

Best Buddies Jobs secures employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), allowing them to earn an income, pay taxes, and continuously and independently support themselves.

The Jobs program places focus beyond the typical jobs in which a person with IDD might be placed. Best Buddies focuses on finding work that matches the job seeker's interests and talents.



Carlos
Jobs program participant
Best Buddies Colombia

Local Illinois Data



Placed **52**
individuals in
supportive
integrated
employment

Average time to
place a participant
is **5.5** months

Earn on average
of **\$12.50** per
hour

We maintain an
90% retention
rate

Central Illinois Opening Year

Best Buddies Jobs Program Central IL 2020

Total Participants: 18

Percentage Hired: 54%

Average Time Before Hired: 83 days

Counties Served: 3

Average Hours Worked: 24 hours/wk

Average Wages: \$11.58/hr



Employer Partners



Employment Services

Successful and Stable Placements for Candidates and Employers



Best Buddies provides ongoing retention support for both the employer and candidate throughout the lifecycle of their employment

ORIENTATIONS & TRAININGS

A Best Buddies Employment Consultant will be present for all orientations and trainings provided.

RETENTION SUPPORT

Employment Consultants provide ongoing retention support on-site at the workplace.

CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Employment Consultants provide consistent communication with employer partners and support teams

How Does the Program Work

How The Program Works



- Milestone or SEP referral from DRS
- Referral Call
- Acceptance to program, Introductory Meeting
- Orientation Meeting

- Skills Discovery & IWPP
- Job Development
- Interview Support
- New Hire Support
- Job Coaching

Lifespan Job Support

Program Outline

Services Provided During the Job Search Process

Job Development

Resume updates, cover letter, thank you follow ups, emails to inquire about positions, and job applications.



Weekly Virtual Class

Trainings are virtual working on hard and soft skills for job readiness



Bi-Weekly Webinars

Job Exploration, Job Discovery, Educational Trainings, and Employer Events.



Weekly Meetings

Employment Consultants work with participants on applications, mock interviews and skill development



REMOTE COACHING

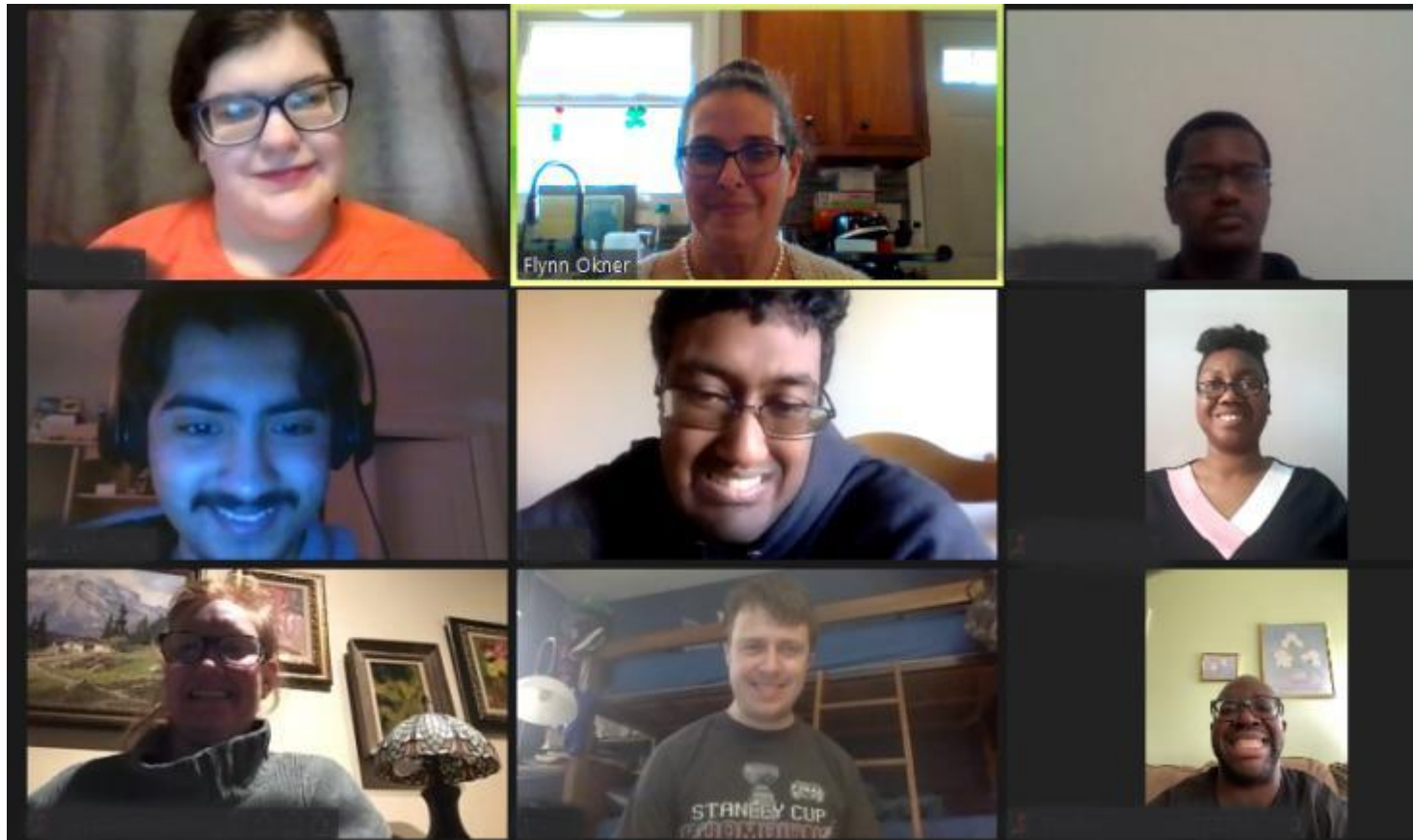
Employment Consultants use remote means to check-in and provide job coaching.



Social Hour

Opportunities for participants to engage with each other, forming peer relationships, friendships, and networking like a Happy Hour

Weekly Class and Webinars



Job Development Classes to focus on soft and hard skills during their job search and Workplace Class to address weekly issues on the job.



Industries of Interest



Admin/Clerical



Retail



Accounting



Geography/Meteorology



Computer software &
development



Animals



Childcare



Writing

Remote Supports

How Best Buddies is Adapting to a Remote Landscape

FRIENDSHIP

Buddy pairs and chapters are meeting online for game nights, karaoke, and more.



LEADERSHIP

Trainings are virtual, allowing speech coaches to volunteer from anywhere!



TECH ACCESS

Some grants or vocational rehab agencies assist in obtaining devices.



TASK CARVING

Employment Consultants match skills of employees to emerging employer needs.



REMOTE COACHING

Employment Consultants use remote means to check-in and provide job coaching.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities for companies to participate in trainings, and for job-seekers to sharpen professional skills.

Questions



THANK YOU!

Keep in Touch



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