Text File

Introduced: 6/9/2009

Bill No: 2009-1498, Version: 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Best Buddies, Pennsylvania is part of an international 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded by Anthony Kennedy Shriver in 1989.

WHEREAS, Best Buddies was created to foster one-to-one friendships between people with and without intellectual disabilities which will help to increase self-esteem and confidence in people with intellectual disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, Best Buddies not only introduces socialization opportunities but also job coaching, providing the necessary tools for people with intellectual disabilities to become more independent and more included and accepted in the community; and,

WHEREAS, Best Buddies, International, Inc. grew from one original chapter to more than 1,400 middle school, high school, and college campuses across the country and internationally which will positively impact more than 350,000 individuals; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize Alexis Miller, Program Manager and Megan Carbaugh, Program Supervisor of Best Buddies Pennsylvania, in the Pittsburgh Office, who currently coordinate volunteers from eleven colleges, eight high schools and one middle school throughout Western Pennsylvania ; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize Jennifer Gruber and Dina Santucci of Brashear High School who sponsored the Best Buddies program with full support of Principal John Vater at Brashear High School and has paired 27 people with intellectual disabilities with Best Buddies volunteers whose names are listed below; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend and congratulate Best Buddies, Pittsburgh Office ; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, June 9, 2009, to be "BEST BUDDIES DAY" in the City of Pittsburgh.

<u>Best Buddies</u>: Nina Barone, Ryan Lipovsky, John Wetzel, Vincent Cutruzzula, Gabriella Lorusso, Kelly Booker, Tyrelle Farris, Amon Penny, Julian Patton, Jessica McGough, Tony Burke, Lashawna Richards, Monique Carter, Britney Buckner, Shanice Wannamaker, Jacqueline Ostrowski, Ashley Siweckyj, Nick Batyfefer, Kelsie Conley, Justin Chismar, Andria Halsey, Brandy Patterson, Andrew Dreshler, Amanda Young, Scott Weimer, Alferd Patella, LaRaisha Brown, William Lewis, Hadi Fuadin, Elijah Peterson. <u>Associate Buddies</u>: Megan Hoffman, Karissa Flynn, Kaitlyn Ferina, Jamilah Butler, Shanna Sunseri, India Thomas, Kailin Clawson, Holly Klein, Sara Murrio, Kristi Quinn, Bryan Woodfork, Casey Battista, Jake Gipko, Chantel Peterson, and David Wetzel.