

Friendship Walk

Best Buddies is an international organization that “offers members opportunities for socialization, leadership development, and integrated employment, thereby providing the necessary tools for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to become more independent and more included in the community” (www.bestbuddies.org).

On April 6, 2014 Jenica Acheta, coordinated her second Friendship Walk team, named Ballston Buddies. Acheta was responsible for recruiting new members from her local community to join the team as well as motivate all to fundraise for the cause. Thanks to her personal drive nearly 50 people proudly joined numerous others at Crossgates Mall in Albany, NY to support the mission of Best Buddies. Together the Ballston Buddies were able to donate \$1305 to this worthy cause.

Acheta initial inspiration to join Best Buddies was her sister. “I am grateful to her that she has led me to this point because being a part of a club so spectacular is truly rewarding.” In her recruitment of supporters prior to the Friendship Walk Acheta said, “This is your chance to make a real difference in someone’s life; someone neglected of life’s most essential needs, like friendship, community involvement, and a sense of belonging. These things are critical in a person’s confidence, self-worth, and identity. It is our goal that every person has the opportunity to experience these things.”

Thanks to Acheta’s selfless actions dozens more people in the Ballston Spa community are now aware of Best Buddies and it’s global purpose. To learn more and participate in a future Friendship Walk Acheta and all those involved in Best Buddies encourages you to visit <http://www.bestbuddies.org>.

