

# Let's Play Ball!! 2023 Annual Report











### Executive Director Russ Oberbroeckling

#### **Board of Directors**

Jim Carlstedt, Treasurer Jeanette Miller, Secretary Barry Clements Jay Fox Phyllis Guthman Sherri Johnson Dennis Mueller

### **Contact Buddy Baseball**

Buddy Baseball, Inc. P.O. Box 290361 Temple Terrace, FL 33687-0361 russ@buddybaseball.org 813-416-5742

#### **Fields**

Temple Terrace Parks & Recreation Family Recreation Complex Fields behind Lewis Elementary 6700 E. Whiteway Dr Temple Terrace, FL 33617

#### Connect

Web: www.buddybaseball.org Facebook: @buddybaseball Instagram: @buddybaseballtampa

Buddy Baseball is a 501©(3) nonprofit organization.



We are so thrilled to have DJ, a part of Buddy Baseball! Thank you for creating such a wonderful organization for kids like him. You gave him a home and he is so excited about coming there every weekend. I can't thank you enough for having the vision to get this started for children like DJ.

David S.





## Boys and Girls with Special Needs Playing Ball with a Buddy

It has been another great year for Buddy Baseball! Our 15th year! We went from 16 teams in the Spring to 20 teams in the Fall season. That was an increase of 124 more participants than we had in 2022.

This past year we completed our picnic pavilion, and it is used every week for birthday parties, team get-togethers or a place for a family to hang out in the shade. It is a great addition to the league.

The highlight of the year was being awarded the "Community Hero" award from the Tampa Bay Lightning. We were treated to a wonderful night in a suite at a game with a few of our families and guests. We were presented with a \$50,000 check and plan on putting that money towards the construction of a second handicap accessible synthetic field.

The Tampa Bay Rays once again stepped up to support the league to the highest level. Not only did they continue to provide financial support, but for the third year they put on the Rays Magic Clinic for the league at Tropicana Field. This year they also had "Magic Mondays." For the four Monday home games, we were able to invite players and their families from one of our teams to attend the game. We were down on the field for batting practice and had a chance to meet and talk with some of the players. Our players and coaches joined the Rays on the field for the National Anthem, then headed back up to a suite to enjoy the game with their families.

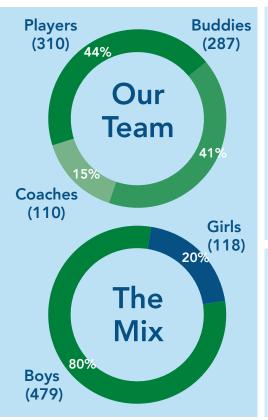
2024 is going to be another fantastic year for Buddy Baseball! PLAY BALL!!

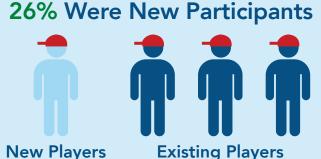
Sincerely,

Russ Oberbroeckling Executive Director

### Making a Difference in 2023

Buddy Baseball is a non-competitive recreational league for boys and girls ages 8 to 22 with special needs. Each player is paired with a buddy to assist them on the field and in the dugout. The league runs for seven weeks with a Spring and Fall season.





Players receiving financial assistance

15%

Public, private, home school and special needs schools represented by players and buddies

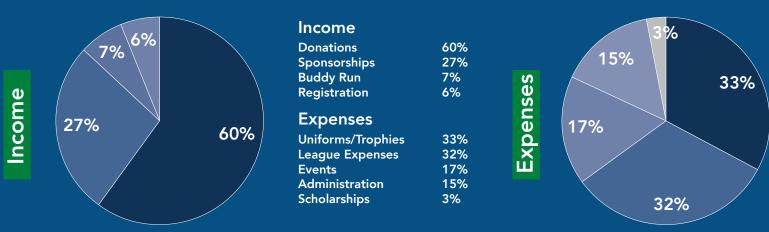
152

**597**Players & Buddies

Average Age 14

- 16 Teams for Spring Season
- Teams for Fall Season
- 126 Games

### Keeping the League Running Successfully







### Thank You to Our 2023 Sponsors and Supporters

Buddy Baseball could not operate without the generosity of our sponsors and supporters. We appreciate your help!

### **Sponsorship Levels**

Hall of Fame \$10,000+ MVP \$5,000 Grand Slam \$2,500 Home Run \$1,000

One Team Financial Group

Steve and Mallory Gerstein

Tampa Pulmonary and Sleep Specialist

Temple Terrace Firefighters Benevolent

Triple \$ 750
Double \$ 500
Single \$ 250

**Grand Slam** 

**Grand Slam** 

Home Run

Double

Double

Single

### **Sponsors and Supporters**

### 25+ Seasons

Alvarez Roofing Home Run Carlstedt, CPA, Precisely **Grand Slam** City of Temple Terrace In Kind Gibbs & Parnell, P.A. Single Tampa Bay Rays Hall of Fame Tampa Breakfast Sertoma Club Double Tampa Electric Big Bend Station MVP Single Tampa Machinery Auction The Sod Depot Single

### The Guthman Family 5+ Seasons

The Battino Family

Diane and Arnold Ross Hall of Fame Fizen Technology Home Run **GFWC Temple Terrace Junior Women** Single Live at Home Senior Care Single MVP Mortellaro Law Rotary Club of Temple Terrace Double The Costantino Family Double The Schneider Family **MVP** 

### 20+ Seasons

Andrew's Family Double Choinque Single MVP Congregation Beth Am Dr. Duga Dr. Feeney Pediatric Dentistry Double **Drummond Wehle Yonge** Single Gaspar's Patio Bar & Grille Single Lake Michigan Credit Union Double Tampa Metro Civitan Club Single The Brink Foundation Grand Slam Tracy Johnston & Associates Single

### 1 to 4 Seasons

Alliance General Contracting Sinale Home Run American Fabric Filter Co. Hall of Fame **Anonymous** Bertic Home Improvements Sinale Cardwell Buck Family Home Run Charitable Signatures **Grand Slam** Down Syndrome of Tampa Bay Double Focus Academy Single G.L Polk & Company Inc. Double Jon's Journey #strikeoutbatten Sinale Magazine & Light Law Group Home Run North 30th Sports Pub and Grille Single PIM Scrap Sinale Ramada by Wyndham Double Sifter Parts & Service Double The Goldman Family Double The Stanziani Family Double

### 15+ Seasons

10+ Seasons

MCCSingleDeBartolo Family FoundationSingleImage Depot ExpressSingleTemple Terrace Masonic LodgeSingle

Chick Fil A Temple Terrace In Kind
Dick's Sporting Goods Home Run
Friends of Tampa Firefighters Grand Slam
Gibbons Neuman Single
Law Office of Robert Geller Single
Law Office of Tim Taylor Double
Oliver & Fox Double

### 2023 Highlights

- Over 1,300 games played since 2009.
- Over 53,000 volunteer community service hours since 2009.
- Congregation Beth Am donated \$9300 from the 13th annual Buddy Run over \$91,000 donated since 2011.
- Three \$1,000 and five \$100 college scholarships awarded to buddies from the Sarah Otteson Scholarship Fund – over \$29,000 awarded to 75 buddies since 2013.
- \$7,500 donation from MLB Charities on behalf of Shane McClanahan, Roberto Clemente nominee for the Tampa Bay Rays.
- \$10,000 donation from Tampa Bay Rays pitcher Zach Eflin Big League Impact and \$10,000 matching donation from the Rays Win campaign.



