



Buddies

(our most immediate need)

An adult, teenager, or peer is paired with an individual who has special needs during the typical activities of church life. These buddies support those with special needs so that they can participate to their full potential. Buddies are:

- *Friends*, NOT babysitters
- *Role models*, NOT lead teachers
- *Partners*, NOT parents
- *Advocates*, NOT agents





“I’ve Never Done This Before” ...No worries!

- *“I don’t have the time.”* – Buddies serve on Sunday mornings during a single service time... and not necessarily every Sunday. Dates and times are coordinated in advance.
- *“I don’t know what to do.”* – We’ll train you! We are partnered with Dr. Vicky Spencer who does this for a living. We will schedule a disability awareness session with Vicky as needed.
- *“What if the person I’m supporting has greater needs than I’m comfortable supporting?”* – That shouldn’t happen. The pairing of a buddy and a participant is VERY deliberate. The process begins with understanding the participant's needs and the family wants. We then discuss those needs with a buddy that we believe would be suitable. For example, if someone is high on the Autism Spectrum, we will pair them with an experienced buddy.
- *“Will I have assistance?”* – Yes. The Co-Directors will be available each Sunday as our needs grow. Also, there may be a case where a particular participant may require more than a single buddy.
- *“What’s required by CBC for me to begin?”* – A servant’s heart, training (if not already trained) and a simple background check (it takes ~4 minutes online to get that done).



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Embrace

Centreville Baptist Church
Special Needs Ministry

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