

AFK Youth Mentoring



Newsletter - December 2020



Mentor Reece and buddy

“As a mentor in the AFK program, I have been a part of a great community which has taught me important life skills I use every day. Over the past couple of years, my relationship between my buddy and I has grown into a true friendship. I always look forward to seeing my buddy and making him laugh or smile. He never fails to brighten up my day. I have learned so much from my buddy and I feel like I benefit just as much from our relationship as he does. Joining Athletes for Kids has been an amazing experience and I have grown so much from being a part of the program.”

We can honestly say participating in Athletes for Kids has been one of the most rewarding experiences of our son's life. The highlight of his week is knowing he will be having an outing with his mentor, Reece.

Our son has been paired with Reece for over two years. Reece is a very thoughtful, patient, and compassionate young man. They have weekly outings

doing the many activities they both enjoy; typically outdoor oriented and adventure seeking. Some of their recent outings have included mini golf, zip swings, urban hikes, and lake swims.

Although this has not been the senior year that either our son or Reece anticipated, our son has been steadied by the constant of having Reece to share time with. We have nothing but gratitude and appreciation for having Reece involved in our son's life.

Beneath the Same Sky Virtual Auction

We are pleased to announce that AFK's first ever virtual auction was a huge success! Our amazing donors, sponsors, bidders, challenge funders and volunteers came together and supported Athletes for Kids by raising more than \$85,000. The even better news is that you can [still donate](#) to Athletes for Kids, on our main website at [**www.athletesforkids.org**](http://www.athletesforkids.org). Our absolutely tireless donation button is ready and waiting to accept your generous post-auction gift through our secure online giving portal. You and your ongoing support are the reasons we can keep "impacting lives, one mentorship at a time."

Upcoming Events



Give the Gift of Friendship

Giving Tuesday is on December 1st, a global giving movement to give back to your community.

When you give to Athletes For Kids your gift ensures we continue to impact the lives of children with special needs and the high school athletes who mentor them. By modeling Acceptance, Friendship and Kindness we strengthen our community. Thank you for your gift!

[Click here to donate](#)



It's Frosty Time!

Join us on Saturday, December 12th from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm for a "Frosty Day"! We will watch the movie, draw a Snowman and make an easy no bake treat. Mentors, buddies, siblings and friends can all Zoom in for a great time. Feel free to free to wear a holiday sweater, hat or outfit!

[Click here to register](#)

Year End Gift



2020 has been a year full of challenges and disappointments. We have missed graduations, family reunions, birthday parties, in person learning and so much more. However, the one constant that has remained is the gift of friendship. Our mentors and buddies have kept the light of connection ablaze and we are proud and grateful that Athletes for Kids is and will continue to be an organization that promotes acceptance and inclusion.

This is your last chance to make a year-end tax-deductible gift to make a difference in the lives of children with special needs and the high school athletes who mentor them. With your gift we can continue to spread the gift of friendship.

[Click here to give your year end gift](#)

AFK Moments



As November comes to a close, we welcome December and say goodbye to another year shared with friends and continue to celebrate the impact of kindness, acceptance and inclusion in mentors, buddies and our community.

[Donate Now](#)

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Thank you to our 2020 Beneath the Same Sky Auction Sponsors

