

For Immediate Release

## **Best Buddies International and Franklin Group Announce Marketing Partnership Agreement**

*Deal Establishes Marketing Solutions Company As Proud Partner of National Nonprofit Organization*

April 26, 2018 — Franklin Group announced today an official partnership with Best Buddies International, the world’s largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Franklin Group will serve as the marketing solutions partner for Best Buddies Friendship Walks, a community philanthropic fundraiser that supports local Best Buddies programs of inclusion. In the multiyear deal, Franklin Group will provide design, print and promotional expertise for the organization.

“Franklin Group is extremely honored to partner with Best Buddies,” said Steven Zuller, Chief Executive Officer, Franklin Group. “Best Buddies has impacted the lives of individuals with IDD across all 50 states and 50 countries spanning six continents. Their mission is truly inspiring, and we are proud to have the opportunity to help support and promote their programs for others in need.”

“The Best Buddies Friendship Walks play a key role in the expansion of our programs that creates one-to-one friendships, leadership development, and integrated job opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities , and one that also allows the community to see our mission in action at the local level,” said David M. Quilleon, Senior Vice President, Global Mission, State Development & Operations at Best Buddies International. “We are excited to partner with a company that is equally as passionate about our mission and paving the way for a more inclusive society for individuals with IDD.”

### **ABOUT FRANKLIN GROUP**

Since 1988, Franklin Group has been designing, printing and distributing innovative marketing materials and promotional products for a wide range of sports organizations and commercial entities. Headquartered in Brooklyn, NY, the company serves as a printing and promotions partner for 70 professional and collegiate elite sports organizations in leagues which include the NHL, NBA, MLB, MLS, WNBA and NCAA, along with five sports venues. Franklin Group is also consistently involved in extensive marketing, printing and promotional work in the healthcare, real-estate and non-profit sectors.

For more information please visit us at [www.franklingroupusa.com](http://www.franklingroupusa.com) or email us at [sales@franklingroupusa.com](mailto:sales@franklingroupusa.com). Follow Franklin Group on Twitter at [@Franklin\\_Group](https://twitter.com/Franklin_Group), and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/franklin-group/>.

### **ABOUT BEST BUDDIES INTERNATIONAL**

Best Buddies® is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated *to establishing a global volunteer movement that creates opportunities for one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities*. Founded in 1989 by Anthony K. Shriver, Best Buddies is a vibrant organization that has grown from one original chapter to nearly 2,500 middle school, high school, and college chapters worldwide. Today, Best Buddies' eight formal programs — *Middle Schools, High Schools, Colleges, Citizens, e-Buddies®*, *Jobs, Ambassadors*, and *Promoters* — engage participants in each of the 50 states and in 50 countries, positively impacting the lives of more than 1.2 million people with and without disabilities around the world. In many cases, as a result of their involvement with Best Buddies, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities secure rewarding jobs, live on their own, become inspirational leaders, and make lifelong friendships. For more information, please visit [www.bestbuddies.org](http://www.bestbuddies.org), [facebook.com/bestbuddies](https://facebook.com/bestbuddies) or [twitter.com/bestbuddies](https://twitter.com/bestbuddies).