

# PHOTO RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## Capital Area United Way Awards Grant to Big Buddy Program for Project Pathways

**Baton Rouge, La. (April 30, 2021)** – Capital Area United Way awarded the Big Buddy Program with a \$25,000 grant to assist with their Project Pathways program. This funding is part of the ALICE Grant Funding Opportunity that awarded \$409,000 to 21 nonprofits in the Capital area.

Project Pathways will seek to assist new and existing families of young students who are not attending school regularly and have been labeled, or at risk of being labeled, as truant. Assistance will be given to ALICE families with the focus to help these students attend school on a regular basis. Assistance will be given in the area of: quality care and education, food, transportation, healthcare, and technology. Focus will also be given to address immediate needs of the targeted population while wrap around services and the support provided by other partners are connected to the families.

ALICE Grants seek to address the barriers experienced by the Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) population, specifically the following head of household types: seniors over 65; veterans; families/individuals with children aged 0-5; ALICE households due to COVID-related unemployment.

**\*Photo Attached**

**Caption: Ascension Parish Head Start Photo 1:** Big Buddy staff, Capital Area United Way staff, and students from IDEA Bridge.

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**Capital Area United Way**

For more than 95 years, Capital Area United Way has touched thousands of lives in our 10-parish area. We envision a community where everyone is empowered to reach their full potential. Our mission is to solve our community's toughest challenges by leveraging partnerships to advance the common good in education, income stability, and healthy living. To learn more visit [www.cauw.org](http://www.cauw.org).