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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

DSANV Members and Supporters,

Thank you for another wonderful year! During 2018, we continued to provide valuable services to the Northern Virginia community through our parent support offerings, the Learning Program, conference and camp scholarships, IEP consultations, and community building events. We served over 500 households in the Northern Virginia area!

While our existing programs continued to flourish, we also laid the groundwork for new and innovative programs to bring to our members in 2019. We began development on a pilot program to bring the award-winning Circles® curriculum, which provides a framework for understanding social boundaries and promoting healthy relationships for individuals with intellectual disabilities, to our young adult members.

We also began planning to reinvigorate our self-advocate wellness program and expand the variety of topics we provide in a parent education series. In the coming year, we also plan to establish additional social-educational programming, such as an inclusive civic club, a cooking class to promote independence, and a summer book club.

We are excited for all that 2019 has to offer for DSANV and appreciate your continued support. Your engagement is what allows us to grow and expand our offerings that enable individuals with Down syndrome and their families the resources they need to thrive and create an increasingly inclusive community here in Northern Virginia.

With gratitude,

KATIE RAMCHAND
DSANV PRESIDENT
PROGRAMMING

DSANV offers educational, social and recreational programs to individuals with Down syndrome and their families. Our flagship educational program, The Learning Program®, teaches literacy, math, fine motor, and communication skills to children with Down syndrome while teaching their parents to become effective first teachers for their students. DSANV also offers summer reading programs and a variety of self-help skills training. We host quarterly New Parent breakfasts and provide one-on-one Parent-to-Parent support to help strengthen families living with Down syndrome across Northern Virginia.

DSANV hosts several inclusive community events each year where DSANV members gather to help promote awareness of Down syndrome, to invite new families who may need our services and to attract allies to promote inclusion of our families in the larger community. In May, we host our annual Spring Picnic and annual membership meeting. Each October we host our annual Buddy Walk® and Family Festival. In December we host an annual Holiday Party. Highlights of 2018 events are provided below.
Every December existing and new DSANV member families gather to share a pancake breakfast, have their photo taken with Santa, decorate cookies, play games, dance and celebrate the holiday season!

With annual attendance of 500, the Holiday Party our second largest community event each year.

The Learning Program®, developed by the Down Syndrome Foundation of Orange County, CA (DSFOC), delivers evidence-based instruction to children with Down syndrome and their parents. In monthly classroom sessions, children ages 2-10, and their parents meet with professionals from local school districts with the goal of improving the students' overall development and academic success. DSANV has been an affiliate partner of DSFOC since 2009.
The annual DSANV Buddy Walk® is our largest community event each year as well as our primary annual fundraiser. 1,461 individuals registered for our 2018 event at Signal Hill Park in Manassas. 101 member families created teams who raised funds together over the summer and then walked together on October 14th to celebrate their family member with Down syndrome and to promote DSANV's mission. Donations helped us educate, support and promote the inclusion of many of the 39,000 families living with Down syndrome and other intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Northern Virginia area.

The 2018 Buddy Walk® and Family Festival raised $158,000. DSANV secured $24,000 in sponsor donations which significantly helped defray the cost of the festival. This allowed member donations to be reinvested in member benefits to include DSANV programs and other Down syndrome community events like our Spring Picnic and Holiday Party.

Internationally known disability advocate, actor and athlete Frank Stephens served as the 2018 Buddy Walk® Grand Marshall. His remarks to the group assembled at Signal Hill Park included words of encouragement to individuals with Down syndrome to advocate for their future. He also repeated his famous words from his testimony to the US Congress to the appreciative crowd, "I am a man with Down syndrome, and my life is worth living."
2018 BUDDY WALK®

DSANV is grateful to our top fundraising teams for the success of our 2018 event. Thanks to team Flower Power, Sofia’s Skywalkers, Brody’s Buddies, Sophie June Platoon, and Bananas for Benjamin! We also appreciate our 2018 Platinum Sponsor: Fairfax Neonatal Associates.

The Family Festival was filled with exciting entertainment for all ages to include live music from The Real Geniuses, inflatable bounce houses from Hop on Pops, horse rides from Hazelwilde Farm, a petting zoo provided by Zoo-to-You, face painting and balloons provided by the Singing Princesses, and a video arcade from Rolling Video.

There was also a delicious selection of meal options from food trucks, including Ben and Jerry’s Ice Cream, Vocelli’s Pizza, Chix ‘N Stix, and gourmet salads, wraps, and famous ’tots from Two Smooth Dudes.

Many Buddy Walk® sponsors also came in person to inform members about their services to include Washington Speech, Aveanna Healthcare, Building Blocks Therapy, Sign Gypsies and occupational therapists from the Exceptional Children’s Center. We love our sponsors! Volunteers from the Young Men’s Service League, the National Charity League, the Knights of Columbus, the Bishop Ireton Cheer Squad and the Potomac Patriots Youth Hockey league assisted with set up and clean up and supported children at the myriad of entertainment options. The annual DSANV Buddy Walk® would not be possible without the generous contributions of time by our volunteers. We are grateful to all of the teams, sponsors, and volunteers who made this event a huge success!
2018 REVENUE

Total revenue from all sources in 2018 was $211,469.96

2018 EXPENSES

2018 expenses totaled $246,237.22
The Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia (DSANV) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that provides support for individuals with Down syndrome and their families.

Our mission is to ensure that all individuals with Down syndrome receive the support necessary to participate in, contribute to, and achieve fulfillment of life in their communities.

2018 DSANV Board of Directors

President: Kathryn Ramchand  
Vice President: Justin Knapp  
Treasurer: Dorene Ryder  
Secretary: Casey Craig  
Executive Director: Mary Ford

Nora Bahamonde  
MarCinda Buttie  
Sean Salins  
Abel Sussman  
David Egan  
Erin Thompson  
Samantha Fredieu  
Heather A. Trammell  
David Hoffman  
Charlotte Woodward

MAJOR SPONSORS

Top Buddy Walk® Team Captains  
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Building Blocks Therapy  
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Exceptional Children's Center  
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Hess Mechanical  
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Lindamood-Bell  
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SCA Charitable Foundation  
Skill Builders  
United Bank  
United Healthcare  
The Washington Group Special Planning Care Team  
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