



2023

Annual Financials

Community

IMPACT REPORT

Down Syndrome Network Arizona



Education

Advocacy

Support

IMPACT

DSNetwork has been supporting people touched by Down syndrome since 2002. From the initial diagnosis through school-aged years and beyond, individuals with Down syndrome and their families face a wide range of challenges and find themselves immersed in an ever-changing, often complicated journey to learn how to best support and nurture their loved ones. We are action-oriented – always striving to improve the options and opportunities available for people with Down syndrome. We are committed to ensuring that all individuals with Down syndrome have the opportunity to fully participate in society. Down Syndrome Network helps every step of the way.

MISSION

Our mission at DSNetwork is to educate, support and advocate for those in our community touched by Down syndrome. DSNetwork achieves this goal through an open, supportive and collaborative network that connects individuals and families with needed resources and information.

VISION

A community that embraces, supports and inspires individuals with Down syndrome to live healthy, self-determined and fulfilling lives.



2023 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jennifer O'Connell, Executive Director
Brenda Quiñones, Manager of Family Resources
& Enrichment Center
Lori Matlock, Manager of Programs, Events &
Volunteer Engagement
Mel Tepeyac, Community Support
Brendan Gersten, Enrichment Center Assistant
Hector Bonilla, Garden Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Cassie Laughrey, DPT, Chair
Andrea O'Brien, Vice Chair
Chandra Williamson, Treasurer
Dr. Dannah Raz, Secretary

Members-at-Large

Gonzalo Catañeda
Chris Dietz
John Escobar
Rebeca Lopez
Betsy Lynch
Mandy Rivas
Emily Taylor

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mary Brumand
Laura Chapnek
Michele Fiorenza
Jill Nico
Liz Perez





3,240

Individuals with Down syndrome and their families were reached with essential services

Enrichment Center

- Provided a myriad of resources for families, educators, service providers and health care professionals
- Over 200 people have viewed the informative quarterly webinars on important topics. DSNetwork offered professional development to dozens of resident doctors on Down syndrome and role played delivering the diagnosis.
- Over 125 families reached out for information and support including 29 parents who learned their baby has Down syndrome



Volunteer Engagement

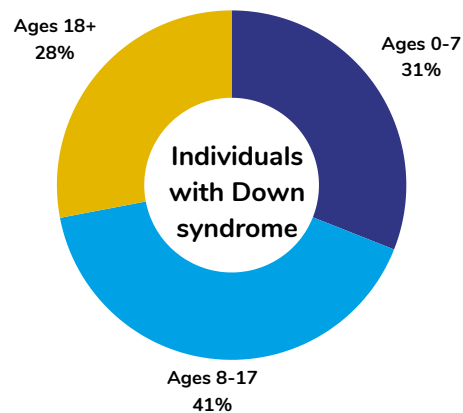
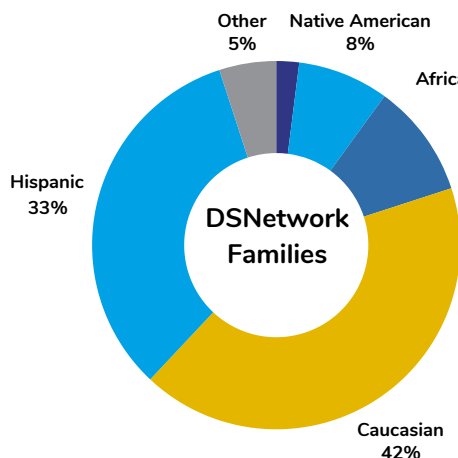
2,182

Volunteer hours valued at \$69,388

- Close to 200 generous volunteers played a crucial role in programs and events, supporting every aspect from planning, organization, setup, cheering on participants to assisting and cleaning up afterward.



DEMOGRAPHICS





29

resource packets were provided to parents who learned their baby has Down syndrome

161

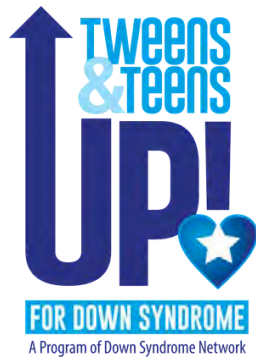
babies a year are born in the state of Arizona

Programs for all ages

0 - 7 YEARS



8 - 17 YEARS



18+ YEARS



- Over 450 children, youth and adults with Down syndrome participated in Club Xtra, Tween & Teen UP, DSConnex and XCell program activities and community outings which included adaptive swim lessons, tickets to local events, fitness classes and Buddy Up Tennis
- New in 2023 - Prom Night - 100 teens and adults with Down syndrome dressed up and danced in the Alice in Wonderland themed Spring Dance Formal/Social
- New in 2023 - DSConnex West Valley Families - 75 participants from the West Valley gathered to connect in the west side of the Valley of the Sun

Awareness Calendar

Over 100 individuals with Down syndrome of all ages had their photo taken for the 2024 calendar - the Faces of DSN. The annual DSNetwork calendar has been a treasured tradition for over 20 years to celebrate the beauty of Down syndrome and increase awareness. The calendar is launched each Fall at Down Syndrome Walk Arizona.



Therapeutic Garden

DOWN TO EARTH - NEW!

DSNetwork added a new community and therapeutic gardening program in 2023 with over 50 total participants every Sunday morning during planting and harvest seasons. We have six dedicated and irrigated plots in the Spaces of Opportunity community garden in South Phoenix. This program open to all ages and focused on teens and adults with Down syndrome to try their hand at farming, to be a little more self-sufficient, to learn something and connect with nature and others. Learning about plants and gardening teaches people about the earth and life cycles, how to grow food, how to appreciate healthy foods and change nutrition habits, environmental awareness, hands-on life skills experience, and much more. With so many benefits, gardening truly has the power to transform, regardless of age or ability.





DOWN SYNDROME WALK ARIZONA

- ASU Homecoming Parade & Block Party - October 28, 2023
- 21st annual Down Syndrome Walk Arizona was a record success with 1,062 registered walkers, and 71 volunteers
- Raised \$98,444 benefiting the programs and services for individuals with Down syndrome and their families
- Back to the 80's Theme - Celebrating all the strides made since the 1980's

Connecting Families

SPRING FLING



SPRING FAMILY PICNIC

Over 200 people connected at the family picnic and enjoyed a fun egg hunt, outdoor games, and lunch together in the park.

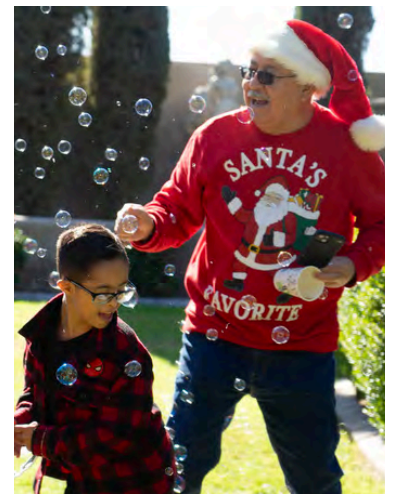
WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY



KINDNESS, ACCEPTANCE, AND INCLUSION!

In collaboration with GiGi's Playhouse, over 600 people gathered in Peoria to celebrate this important global awareness day. In 2023, the state of Arizona and many local cities officially named March 21st as World Down Syndrome Day.

HOLIDAY PARTY

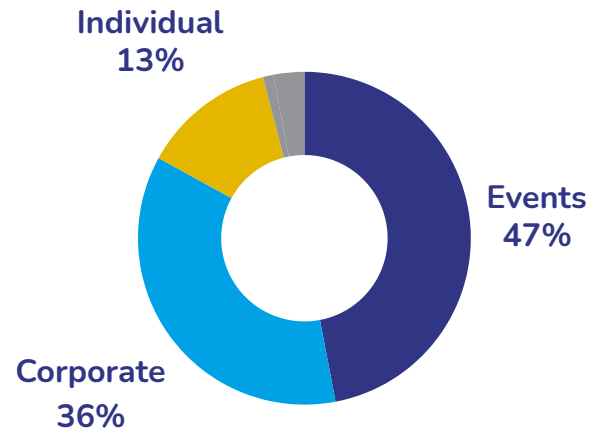


WINTER WONDERLAND

Over 550 people gathered to celebrate the holiday season with a catered brunch, gifts, crafts, market, photos with Santa and much holiday cheer at the gorgeous Ashley Castle in Chandler.

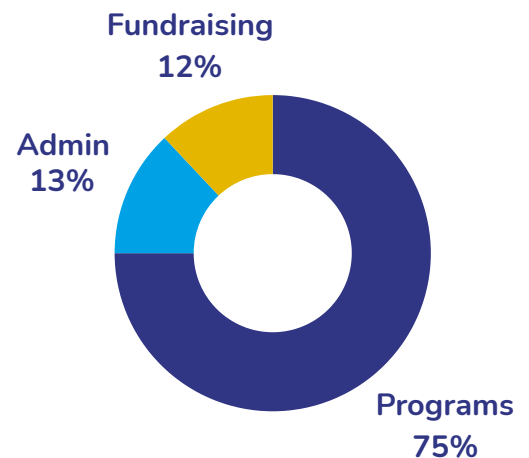
Revenue & Support

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Corporate & Foundation | \$ 117,134 |
| Special Events & Sponsorships | \$ 153,767 |
| Individual Contributions | \$ 43,865 |
| Restricted Grants | \$ 2,000 |
| Program Services | \$ 9,460 |
| Interest Earned | \$ 46 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 326,272 |



Total Operating Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Program Services | \$ 232,254 |
| Administrative | \$ 44,262 |
| Fundraising | \$ 40,984 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 317,500 |



Total Net Assets

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Beginning | \$ 135,402 |
| Ending | \$ 144,174 |

2023 Top Contributors

Northern AZ Regional Behavior (NARBHA), Kemper & Ethel Marley Foundation, Thunderbird Charities, Hastings & Hastings, Town of Gilbert, Arizona Financial, Absolute HCBS, Phoenix Children's, Waymo, Global Down Syndrome Foundation, Step Stone Family Services, Emily Taylor Law, SRP and Rivers & Moorehead



LIGHTS, CAMERA, AUCTION AWARDS GALA

With a Hot Havana Nights theme, the gala returned for it's 8th annual Spark of Awesome awards ceremony at the Phoenix Art Museum for a successful fundraiser, silent and live auctions, salsa dancing, and casino night.



75

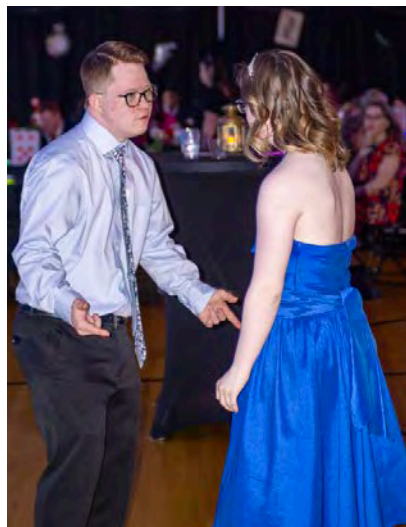
Moms, dads and other caregivers connected at Mom's Night Out & D.A.D.S. meetings



53

Youth had their hands in the soil and the Down to Earth, Therapeutic & Community Garden

3240
Individuals with Down syndrome and their families receive essential services from DSNetwork



108

Teen & Adults with Down syndrome danced in the 2023 Wonderland Spring Prom



800

Family members participated in meaningful seasonal celebrations throughout the 2023 year



2182

Volunteer hours valued at \$69,388 supported events, programming and activities

DSNetworkAZ.org

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