

**ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT** 

Educate • Empower • Engage



# CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **OFFICERS**

Jessee Helbert, President Branches of Life

Mark Boone, Vice-President Aegis Limited

Debbie Plowman, Treasurer UPS Freight

Carole Ivey, Secretary

VCU Department of Occupational Therapy

### **DIRECTORS**

Kimberly Boose Infant Services Coordinator – Chesterfield County

Amy Bravo Art Teacher

Stephanie Cattie VCU Hospitals

William Hamm Genworth Financial

Tom Haskins Retired Attorney

Shelley Lantz, Self-Advocate The Next Move Program CVS Pharmacy

Richard Lewis Keiter CPA

Charles Meacham Retired – Dominion Energy

Alison Moorehead Powhatan Public Schools

## **STAFF**

Terri Lancaster, Executive Director
Kim Owens, Education Director
Mary Margaret Brown, Program Director
Bobbi Jones, Finance Director
Jennifer Leleux, Administrative Assistant

# LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

2020 started like any other normal year. We kicked off the year with our 8th Annual Disability Education and Transition Conference which brought over 330 educators, parents and community leaders together to learn more about how to better include individuals with disabilities in our schools and communities. What a day we had!

A month later we put the brakes on and had to stop all in-person programming and events due to a global pandemic. We paused, thought, collaborated and then created a completely new virtual program series. The transformation from in-person to virtual programs allowed DSAGR to stay in touch with and continue to serve our families during a very difficult time.

Between March 31 and December 31, 2020 DSAGR was able to provide 147 social and educational opportunities to 931 individuals with Down syndrome of all ages, parents, and grandparents from near and far. The excitement was unimaginable!

DSAGR's First Call Program continued to **provide support** for our newest families. We met these families the moment their child was born or they received a prenatal diagnosis and we provided them resources, guidance and courage to get started on this journey of raising a child with Down syndrome. Serving the 24 new First Call families during the pandemic was certainly different but we did it! Zoom calls, porch drops, hospital deliveries and drive-by visits allowed these families to receive the necessary support and resources needed to start their new journey.

Our **DREAM** is to continue to foster a community that **embraces**, **supports and inspires** individuals with Down syndrome to live healthy and fulfilling lives of their choosing.

Our Strategic Priorities are to continue to **EDUCATE** families and the community through resources of all types, mentoring, and educational support throughout life; **EMPOWER** independence, advocacy, life planning and increase program capacity ethnically and geographically to meet the needs of our families and to **ENGAGE** the community by expanding outreach, increasing diversity and creating a wide variety of opportunities for volunteers.

The DSAGR Board of Directors worked very hard behind the scenes during the pandemic to ensure that DSAGR would weather the storm. And weather the storm we did! Their leadership, financial decisions and encouragement made during 2020 has set the stage for a very successful 2021. We are proud to have such a strong leadership team and of the hard work they do each day for DSAGR.

We have truly missed seeing all of our families, community partners and volunteers over the past year. Getting to see everyone in person is on the horizon and we can't wait!



Terri Lancaster Executive Director



**Jessee Helbert** President

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Down Syndrome Association of Greater Richmond is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that benefits the lives of individuals with Down syndrome and their families through individual and family support, education, community awareness and advocacy.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

- EDUCATE families and the community through resources of all types, mentoring, and educational support throughout life
- **EMPOWER** independence, advocacy, life planning and increase program capacity ethnically and geographically to meet the needs of our families
- **ENGAGE** the community by expanding outreach, increasing diversity and creating a wide variety of opportunities for volunteers.

# **EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY**

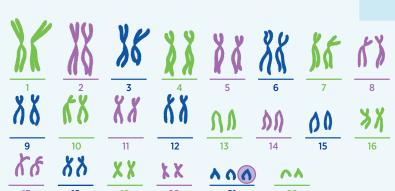


# What is Down syndrome?

Down syndrome is the most common genetic condition, yet its cause is still unknown. While there are some common characteristics and physical traits associated with Down syndrome, each individual with Down syndrome is unique. The additional genetic material impacts an individual's course of development.

- People with Down syndrome have an increased risk for certain medical conditions, including congenital heart defects, respiratory problems, hearing impairments and Alzheimer's disease.
- Down syndrome is the leading cause of intellectual and developmental delays, which are typically mild to moderate. More importantly, each individual also has many strengths and talents to be celebrated.

Typically, the nucleus of each cell contains 23 pairs of chromosomes.



# In 2020 DSAGR:

Served 560 families...

Engaged **352** Amazing Volunteers who gave **2,274** Hours of Service

Provided **\$229,000**for education programs, social opportunities, conferences & seminars for individuals with Down syndrome, their families and other professionals

Provided Support &
Program Services to
Williamsburg, Charlottesville,
The Central Shenandoah Valley
& Southern Virginia

Continued to provide "New Parent Resource Packets" to **11** hospitals and medical professionals

**Provided Continuing Education** 

to **330** Educators, Families & Community Leaders



Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial extra copy of chromosome 21.

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# **EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY**

## **DSAGR Educational Programs**

- Annual Disability Education & Transition Conference
- The Learning Program Levels I, II & III
- DS 101 Webinar for Educators
- Community Educational Seminars
- Learn and Grow Baby Series
- Summer Employment Academy
- Moving On! Road to Independence

## **DSAGR Programs & Services**

- First Call for New or Expectant Parents
- Community Engagement & Education Scholarships
- Dual Diagnosis Support Group (DS Plus)
- Moms Night Out
- D.A.D.S. (Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome)
- Hispanic Outreach
- Grandparent to Grandparent Support Group
- Social Groups for all ages
- Virtual Education Programs
- Advocacy & Awareness
- Individual & Family Support
- Employment Outreach
- · Health Outreach
- Volunteer Engagement

## **NEW Virtual Programs 2020**

- Summer Camp
- Mom's Night In
- · D.A.D.S. Night In
- Reading Bingo
- Yoga/Piyo
- Name that Tune
- Math Concepts
- Effective Communication
- Dress for Success
- Home School Tips
- Dance Everyone

- Employment 101 Series
- Learn Your Colors
- Fostering Independence
- Signing
- Morning Coffee Chats
- Lunch Club
- · Back-to-School Chat
- Afterschool Social Club
- DS Plus Parent chat
- Music Classes
- Crisis Management







# **ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY**







## Successes 2020

- Provided \$10,967 in Scholarships to 30 individuals with Down syndrome
- Provided 147 Social & Educational Opportunities to 931 individuals with Down syndrome and their families
- Created the First Comprehensive Virtual Program that provided learning and social experiences 4-5 times per week for 9 months
- Provided Socially Distanced Santa Visits for 59 Families
- Launched DSAGR's first ever summer camp an 8-week Virtual Camp that was robust and very creative
- Celebrated the 14th Annual Step Up for Down Syndrome 5K with a drive through car parade that had 110 cars

# 2021 and Beyond

- Implement the NEW 5-Year Strategic Plan
- Continue to provide high quality programs and services live and virtually to better meet the needs of all families in our expansive service area
- Continue to grow community partnerships and collaborators in Virginia
- Continue to expand programs services to various regions in Virginia
- Continue to expand diversity; ethnically and geographically
- Rebrand DSAGR to better reflect the expansive area served
- Create a State-Wide First Call Collaborative



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# FINANCIAL DATA AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Arc of Virginia

Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

**Dominion Energy** 

Home Care Delivered

**Knights of Columbus** 

**Longwood University** 

Partnership for People with Disabilities

Parent Education Advocacy Training Center

T/TAC at VCU

VA Department of Education

**VCU** Department of Occupational Therapy

VCU Rehabilitative Research Training Center

**VCU School of Dentistry** 

VCU School of Medicine

**VCU School of Physical Therapy** 

# NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action

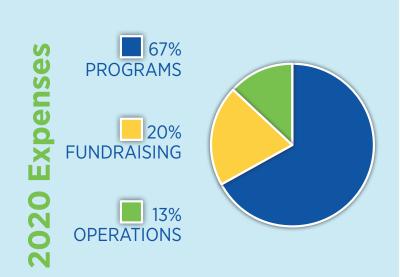
Global Down Syndrome Foundation

National Down Syndrome Congress

National Down Syndrome Society

# Summary





# SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

### **Presenting (\$10,000+)**

Estes Express Lines
JR Maintenance Services
KOVAR

OurHealth Richmond Magazine & OurHealth Charlottesville & Shendandoah Valley Richmond Magazine West Charitable Trust

### Partner (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Best Version Media Dominion Energy Mix 98.1 Richmond Family Magazine **UPS** Foundation

### Step UP (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Aetna Better Health of Virginia Barclays Investment New York Capital One Custom Creation Lightshow Inc. FOX Richmond Home Care Delivered Image Designers The Featherston Foundation The Titmus Foundation Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Virginia Board for People with Disabilities Virginia Business Systems

## Team (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Anthem Healthkeepers
Blakemore Construction
C&F Bank
Center for Family Involvement at VCU
Global Down Syndrome Foundation
Junior Woman's Club of Willamsburg
Macaroni Kid & Knowdifferent.net

Manchester Richmond Moose Lodge 699
Miller & Associates
National Down Syndrome Society
NBA Senior Basketball League
P.D. Brooks Traffic Control
PotBelly Sandwich Shop

REACH Magazine
Richmond Family Magazine
Richmond Moose Lodge #1947
Rituals Salon-Spa
TBL Networks, Inc
tek rva, LLC
UnitedHealthcare Community & State

# **FUNDRAISERS**

### Distinguished (\$7,500+)

Bobby & Debbie Abernathey Angie Evans Bob & Terri Lancaster Steven & Leah Ridge David Smith Clarence & Carol Williams

## Champion (\$5,000 - \$7,499)

Jonathan & Amanda Arno

Brandon & Landynn Gulledge

Greg & Maura Weeda

### Superstar (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Christian & Sandra Emery Tom & Kristina Haskins Ken & Cynthia Lantz David & Jamie Nicholls

## Premier (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Joel & Heather Abe
Paris Ball & Maria Gullickson
Michael & Laura Barker
Mark & Vicki Boone
Fred & Amy Bravo
Matt & Mary Margaret Brown
Scott & Kendall Bruington
Scott & Stephanie Cattie
Sunil Jha & Aparajita Choudhary
Adrian & Neely Cooke
Luke & Laurie Davis
Steven Dillard
Andre Dinkins & Melanie Kirwin
Eric & Mindy Director
Jason & Kate Doctor

J. Michael Duke
George & Mary Gibrall
Toni & Monica Grillo
William & Teresa Hamm
Jessee Helbert
Timothy Hubert
Amy & Kevin Hughes
Stephen & Sara Hughes
David & Carole Ivey
Tim & Kristy Jansen
Mike & Bobbi Jones
Paul Kessler
Ryan & Jennifer Krajewski
Ben Lent & Angela Cimmino
Steve & Miriam Lindsey

Charles & Marybeth Meacham
David & Christie Murphy
Justin & Krissy Noel
Mark & Kim Owens
Jan Richter & Dewey Taylor
Robert & Jacqueline Royall
Kevin & Allison Seabolt
Jeff & Lauren Schooler
Vince & Kerensa Sheehan
Aundrea Smith
Aaron Steelman & Tracy Robinson
Tony & Suzanne Villani
Christopher & Julie Waskey
Meade Welch
Seth & Leigh Woods

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WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT

- Having all of these virtual classes helped our daughter develop her independence and computer skills. She learned how to manage email and Zoom and is so good at it!
- I really appreciate all that you and the staff have been doing to keep DSAGR supporting our families during these challenging times!
- Just wanted to thank you for the Lunch Club and all your efforts to coordinate them.
- He has done the dishwasher successfully with improvement each weekday since we started the program. He now only needs distance supervision.
- I really appreciate you always looking for opportunities for our kids!
- C, thank you for the Zoom Bingo yesterday. It was so much fun to meet the other grandparents and A and his mother. We are so far away at this time, it brightened our day!
- Summer in the Cloud was AWESOME! Thanks so much for doing that, and for the cool prizes that were sent.
- T is unbelievably excited about his prize kit for summer camp! Thanks so much!
- I was informed, empowered and appreciate the networking opportunities.
- I would like to thank you for all of the guidance you offered S over the past month. You have a way about you that allowed her to feel comfortable in each class.
- · Your virtual sessions were well worth the time!
- I just wanted to say thank you to DSAGR for everything that you do.
- This was the first time since we've moved here that A has been engaged and wanted to talk with others in the group.
- The Lunch Club helps me learn new skills.
- Wonderful! They are having the best time. We wrote to our pen pals the other day and N has heard back from hers. You guys did an awesome job matching the girls they have so much in common!!! Definitely going to keep this pen pal.
- Glad to see the donation made it through the corporate pipes to you. We live right next to the J Family and are honored to support them, and especially their son, in this way. Thanks for helping families like our neighbors.
- A just delights in getting everything together as well as the social time of Lunch Club.
- Your organization always amazes me! I feel fortunate to have your guidance and wisdom as our group strives to flourish in our homeland.
- We have deep gratitude for the time and energy you placed into making this event a success.
- Excellent, excellent job on the Car Parade as well! The hard work you all put into it was obvious!
- Congratulations on a very creative DSAGR event. You did a fabulous job in a very challenging environment. DSAGR is so lucky to have such a great team.
- Congrats to all for a great event today! You had every reason to moan and groan and throw up your hands, but instead you rose to the occasion and orchestrated a great event that everyone could enjoy. The volunteers were very helpful and the staff knew exactly what was going on at every turn.

