

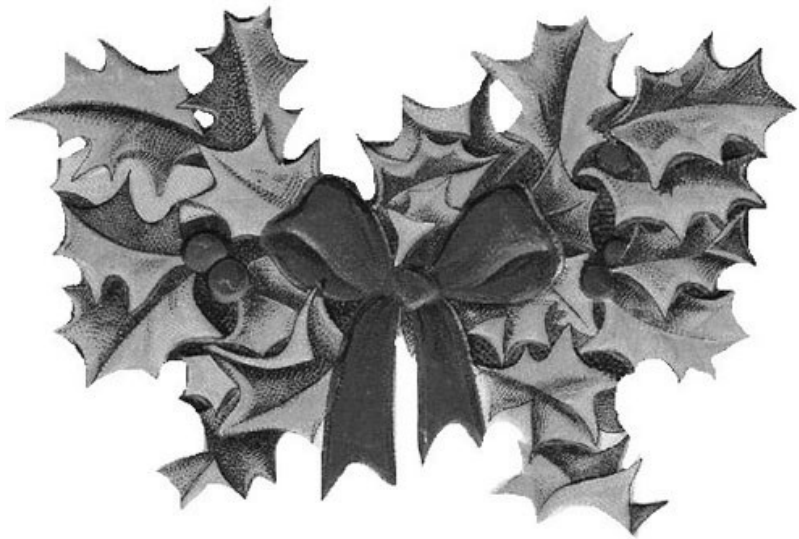
DSACO *News*



***Have you
visited the
DSACO
website
lately?***

www.dsaco.org

Pass it on!
When you're
through with
this newslet-
ter...pass it on
to another
family who
might benefit
from DSACO.



Deck the Halls with DSACO

The Annual Christmas Party, Deck the Halls with DSACO, will be held on Saturday, December 6th, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., at the Oklahoma City Community College. (Please note the location change.) There will be lots of holiday festivities, food, and special entertainment for the children. Be watching for a postcard with all of the details or check out www.dsaco.org.

Hi Everyone-

Wow! What a great time we all had at the Buddy Walk. Thank you to all the family teams that came out and supported DSACO. Families are the heart of DSACO and we have the best families in the world. A special "Thank You" to Bill Lovell, Leslee Boswell, and the Buddy Walk Committee for planning another spectacular Buddy Walk. Make plans to attend the November Bi-monthly to pay special recognition to our family teams and learn more about Special Olympics.

Sincerely,

Lori Wathen

President
Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma

parent²parent
supporting all parents

DSACO offers regular meetings to provide education and support for parents and families of children with Down syndrome. The meetings also offer an opportunity for parents to meet other families. They are informal gatherings that allow individuals and families an opportunity to share experiences while creating new friendships.

SOUTH P2P MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Moore (135 & 27th Street in Moore). Topic: Special Olympics. We will meet at **Johnnies Charbroiler** for DSACO night at 5:30 p.m. (a portion of whatever you spend goes to DSACO). Childcare is provided by RSVP only. RSVP to Melissa Smith at 405-378-2577 or p2psouth@dsaco.org.

NORTH P2P MEETING

NO NOVEMBER MEETING. December 13, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Quail Springs Church of Christ, 14401 North May (between Memorial Road & 150th Street on west side). TOPIC: Transition from Sooner Start. Childcare provided by RSVP only. Contact Cindy Gould at 405-620-7501 or at agould2@cox.net.

STILLWATER P2P MEETING

November 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 504 S Knoblock (enter at far Northeast door). TOPIC: TBD. Contact Jeanita Kearns-Shook at 405-372-5680 or Shelly Sitton at 405-641-0302.

HISPANIC P2P MEETING

November 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints (2440 SW 55th St., OKC). If you have questions please call Cathy Cardenas (405) 819-8963/email at JULIACARDENAS@aol.com or Olga DeLoera (405) 692-6156/email at olgadoera@yahoo.com.mx.

15 de noviembre, 6:00-8:00 p.m. GRUPO DE APOYO PARA PADRES DE NIÑOS CON SINDROME DE DOWN. El grupo tiene encuentros mensuales. Las reuniones serán el tercer martes de cada mes. Lugar: La iglesia de Jesus Christ Saints 2440 SW 55th, Oklahoma City, OK. 73119 (La SW55 y Miller # 2440 esquina Villa) Para más información, por favor contacto: Cathy Cardenas (405) 819-8963/email at JULIACARDENAS@aol.com y Olga DeLoera (405) 692-6156/email at olgadoera@yahoo.com.mx.

December Planning/Board Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend the December Planning/Board Meeting. Come and be a part of making DSACO a successful organization in 2009.

When: Thursday, December 11th

Where: Baptist Medical Center,
Room F&G

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Childcare will not be provided.*



Thanks to all of you who responded so quickly to the application for the 2010 Bountiful Blessings Calendar! You will hear from the committee soon.

A Personal Note from a Much Loved DSACO Family

It has now been almost 6 ½ years that our family has been “Okies.” This has not always been easy as we did miss our trees, but mostly our family that have been 1,000 plus miles away. However, I can sincerely say that it has been easy and so rewarding being a part of the Down Syndrome Association of Central OK. Rodney has just started his 19th year with the FAA and for those of you that may not know, they have created a job for him as Environmental Equipment Specialist and he has been transferred back to the Atlanta area. He began his duties there the end of September while the girls and I remain here in OK trying to sell our house.

I want to thank you all for the wonderful reception that was given in our honor on Monday, October 20 as well as the beautiful plaque that was made for us. The plaque has the story of “Welcome to Holland” that so many of us have come to cherish as parents of a child with Down syndrome. Added to the plaque at the bottom reads...”We have been blessed that your trip to Holland had a layover in Oklahoma. You will be deeply missed.” I could not have asked for anything that could mean more to me as we now journey back to GA.

***Thank you
Killingsworth
family for your
selfless service!***

Our family has always felt that God moved us to Oklahoma for a purpose and He has shown us that purpose through the 150+ families that we have had an opportunity to support and encourage during the first few days of their new journey. Each of you hold a very special place in our hearts and I can only hope that our family was able to share something that has made your journey more rewarding.

DSACO has been such a large part of my life while living in Oklahoma. You have enabled me to begin programs that were dear to my heart, such as the Parent to Parent Hispanic group, Sibshops, Couples’ Conferences and coming in 2009, Down Syndrome: Reaching Across the Plains Conference just to name a few. I am very proud to be a part of DSACO and I can only hope that God has great plans for our family in Georgia, just as he has given us opportunities in Oklahoma. DSACO and its members will be with us as we move on because that is who we have become. Many of you have become a part of our daily lives and I will miss you all dearly. There are great things to come within DSACO and through services for families in OK in the near future. I am honored that our family has taken a small part in making some of these things happen.

With much love and sadness,
Rodney, Juanita, Kayla & Katy Ann Killingsworth

2008 Buddy Walk Memories...



THANK YOU TO THESE BUDDY WALK SPONSORS!



Pediatric Surgery
David W. Tuggle, M.D.
P. Cameron Mantor, M.D.
Nikola K. Puffinbarger, M.D.
Robert W. Letton, M.D.



TATE PUBLISHING

Buddy Walk 2008 a BIG success!!

The family teams had another record breaking year at the 2008 Buddy Walk. Altogether the family teams have raised over \$138,000. The Top Five Family Teams were honored at the November bi-monthly meeting

Big thanks goes out to all the Family Teams that raised the money. Every team did a great job no matter how big or small the contribution. Every penny helps! Here are this year's family teams:

Addison Trout Troopers
Addison's Army
Alayna's Wiggle Worms
Ariel's Team
Austin's Odyssey
Ayden's Ambassadors
Bella's Buddies
Ben's Buddies
Beta Kappa Chapter for Cameron
Bethany's Buddies
Brian's Buccaneers
Bryceman's Buddies
Camdyn's Cruisers
Captain Beckett's Crew
Cassidy's Club
Chase's Cubbies
Christian's Crusaders
Danielle's Dashers
Drew's Crew
Eric the Great
FIT
Heartbreaker
Jabari Jedis
Jammin' for Justin
James' Buddies
Joey's Blessed Buddies
Joseph's Joggers

Josie & Co.
JTF Gavin
Julia's Joggers
Karli's Angels
Katy Ann's Kissers
Kelli's Klan
Kennedy's Crew
Kerstin's Kisses
Kiki's Team
Kylee McFarlane
Maddie's Team
Marka's Miracles
Matthew's Mob
Miris Pinkis Team
Nathaniel Daniel's Gang
Nyiah's Family
OWEN'S ALLIANCE
Parker's People
Partners4Paris
Payton's Colorful Penguins
Payton's Pals
PETERS POWER TEAM
Precious Peyton
Reis Renegades
Rylee's Ramblers

Saharah's Sidekicks
Sam's Fan Club
Sarah's Club
Sarah's Friend
Seth's Steppers
Shortt Steppers
Simon's Snowflake Squad
Sister Act
Sitton SuperStars
Tanner's Troop
Tanner's Trotters
Tara's Tag-a-Longs
Taylor's T-Steppers
Team Cianna
Team Josh
Team Lilly
Team Willa
Terri's Turtle Team
The "N" Crowd
Tiffany's Friends
Trafford's Troop
Trotter Walkers
Ty Ty's Troop
Ty's Troopers

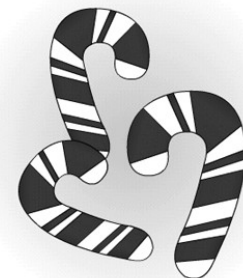
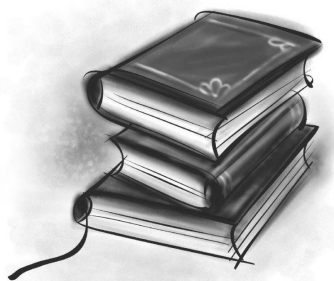
DSACO Lending Library

We are in the process of updating the DSACO lending library. This will be a traveling library and made available to you at the Saturday Bi-Monthly Meetings to check out and return books.

Currently we have about 75 books on hand. If you have any books, article, tapes, CD's, or DVD's that you would like to donate, please contact me dana@heartlandsolutionsllc.com or bring them with you to the DSACO Bi-Monthly meeting. We are looking for current updated information to include in the library.

In addition, if you have suggestions of great material to include in the library, your input would be most welcome.

We are working on getting a link set up through the website and a list of books available for those who would like access to the library between the Bi-Monthly meetings and for those who are unable to attend.



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Deck the Halls with DSACO

Saturday, December 6

2:00-5:00 pm

See www.dsaco.org for
more information!



DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION
of Central Oklahoma
PO BOX 892592
Oklahoma City, OK 7315-2592

www.dsaco.org



SAVE THE DATE!

2009 OK Statewide Down Syndrome Conference

When: Saturday, March 7, 2009, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Moore Norman Technology Center, South Penn Campus,
Oklahoma City, OK

What: All day conference including Keynote Speakers, Self-Advocates and workshops to learn more about helping individuals with Down syndrome to live productive, independent, successful lives.

More information will be coming soon. If you have any questions about the conference, please email conferenceinfo@dsaco.org.

DISCLAIMER: DSACONews does not promote or recommend any therapy, products, treatment, etc., and will not espouse any particular political or religious view. Individuals or organizations referred to, do not necessarily endorse this publication. We wish to bring together those interested in Down syndrome and attempt to create an optimistic outlook and attitude. DSACO leadership and contributors endeavor to use People First Language. The contributors write as non-professionals, and reserve the right to make corrections and revisions as needed or where appropriate in accord with established editorial practices in material submitted for publication. Submission deadlines are always the 15th day of the months in which the DSACONews is published: January, March, May, July, September, and November. Contact the editor of DSACONews at dsaconews@sbcglobal.net.