



2016-2017 Annual Report



Dear DSACO Supporters:

This has been a very eventful year for DSACO. We are in a period of rapid growth. Over the past year, we have expanded to the point where we have volunteers and kids in the office for events and programs four out of five week days each week. We have added several new programs, an event coordinator, and a part-time tutor for the tutoring lab. Looking back over the past couple of years, it's incredible how much growth and change has occurred. It's an exciting time!

DSACO had a record-setting year. The Festival & 5K raised a record \$171,409. For the second year in a row, the DSACO Cup golf tournament sold out. We sold our highest number of Bountiful



Blessings calendars yet. We also received two of the largest grants in DSACO history: \$25,000 from WalMart for Advocacy & Outreach programming, and \$28,000 from the Central Oklahoma Homebuilders Foundation for general operational support.

We have been able to funnel our fundraising dollars into new programs for our members. A new P2P group for parents of teens was developed in the fall. We are starting to plan summer camps for our kids. DSACO Club, a social group for teens and adults with Down syndrome, began in the fall and has 38 active members. We

have a new P2P group in Edmond and new Nutrition Club starting soon.

At the same time, we continue to support and expand our existing programs. We held four workshops for parents and educators, hosted our fourth annual DSACO summer Basketball Camp and expanded our outreach to medical professionals. Tutoring is full every week, as are our quarterly new parent breakfasts.

We couldn't have accomplished any of this without the support of generous donors, parents, volunteers and friends. Thank you for your support, and for the privilege of leading this organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Harrison, Executive Director



Early Years Programming



First Connection

The first few years can be emotionally overwhelming for parents of children with Down syndrome. Our First Connection program makes experienced parents of children with Down syndrome available to parents with a prenatal diagnosis or with children newly diagnosed with Down syndrome. In FY17, the First Connections team visited and/or sent new parent information to 14 new families.

New Parent Breakfasts and Mommy Mingle Playgroups

DSACO also hosted four new parent breakfasts. These breakfasts are for families with a child between the ages of birth to 3 years. Attendees are able to meet other families at a similar point in their parenting journey. Each breakfast had between 35 and 50 attendees. DSACO also holds Mommy Mingle playgroups twice a month at the DSACO office, which is another way for parents of young children to connect with one another.

Elementary-Age Programming

Elementary Adventure Club

DSACO's Elementary Adventure Club, a social group for children with Down syndrome ages 4-12 and their siblings, just finished up its inaugural year. The goal of this group is to give families a chance to connect with one another throughout the elementary school years, maintain friendships and have fun.

This year, the group visited splash pads, the Oklahoma Railway Museum, Oklahoma City Zoo, Martin Nature Park, had pumpkin painting and cookie decorating parties, made valentine crafts and ice cream sundaes, and got a special tour of the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. The group averages 12 attendees each month.



Afternoon Snacks Program

Also finishing up its inaugural year is the Afternoon Snacks Program. This program is an introduction to Kylee's Kitchen, and also serves our elementary-aged kids (ages 8-12). Participants follow a shorter, more simple recipe. The program gets kids used to the kitchen, so they can transition more easily into Kylee's Kitchen when they turn 13.



Teen & Adult Programming

DSACO believes in providing opportunities for teens and adults with Down syndrome as they progress throughout their lives. This year, DSACO held the always popular Halloween Dance and Valentine's Banquet, in October and February, respectively.

Kylee's Kitchen

Kylee's Kitchen, our Friday night microwave-based cooking classes, averages 8 attendees and 10 volunteers weekly. Participants learn how to safely make delicious meals, all using the microwave. The classes are meant to encourage independent living skills and foster new friendships. After cooking and eating together, the participants enjoy social time with their friends.



Self-Advocacy Workshop Series

This is the second year for the Self-Advocacy Workshop Series. Thanks to the success in 2015, the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services funded the entire series this year! This year's topics include dating, dining out, bullying, grocery shopping, workplace behavior and voting. The workshops are open to any teen or adult, age 14 or older, with any type of developmental disability. A total of 17 self-advocates signed up for the series this year.



DSACO Club

New this year, is DSACO Club. This is a social group for teens and adults with Down syndrome, ages 16 and older. The group has 38 active members and meets monthly. They participate in activities such as holiday parties, games and movie nights.

Programming for All Ages

DSACO Tutoring

Under the care of certified special education teacher, Karin Wallis, between 12 and 18 students receive free tutoring at the DSACO office each week. Parents can choose a subject for their child to focus on, and students can be tutored in math, reading, spelling, typing, colors, shapes or counting money. Children can begin in the tutoring lab as early as 3 years old. Students are given measurable goals, and assignments to complete between sessions. The tutoring lab is consistently 84% full during the school year, and 100% full during the summer.



Parent 2 Parent Support Groups

DSACO looks to connect parents with one another at every opportunity. One way this is accomplished is through P2P (Parent 2 Parent) Support Groups. These take place at different locations in and around the metro area. DSACO added one new P2P Group this year - P2P for Parents of Teens. This group meets monthly during Kylee's Kitchen. The P2P Hispanic, P2P West (Yukon) and D.A.D.S. (Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome) groups continue to meet monthly and provide valuable support to one another.

Quarterly Workshops

DSACO provided four parent and educator workshops during the 2016-2017 fiscal year. This year's workshops included: Effective Communication (22 attendees), Creating a Long-Term Plan for Your Child with Special Needs (32 attendees), Sexual Learning and Puberty Issues (35 attendees) and Supporting Healthy Dating Relationships (16 attendees).

Sign Language Classes

For the second year in a row, DSACO offered a sign language course for families. This 12-week course taught parents how to communicate with their children through sign. This class was made possible through the generosity of ASL Instructor Gwen Cox, who offered the class to DSACO families at a highly reduced cost.



Summer Basketball Camp

DSACO hosted its fourth annual basketball camp in Summer 2016. Because of a generous in-kind donation, the week-long camp was held at the Chesapeake Corporate Gymnasium. Children and teens with Down syndrome between the ages of 10 and 18 spent the week learning basic basketball skills, and tested their skills during a game at the end of the week. Participants left with increased confidence and new friendships. Thanks to our t-shirt sponsor, Commercial Cleaning Services.

Fundraising

DSACO does not receive any type of federal funding. The organization is supported solely through private donations, grants and fundraisers. Throughout the year, four main fundraisers are held: Bountiful Blessings Calendar sales throughout the year; "See the Poss-Abilities" Fundraising Luncheon, which occurs on World Down Syndrome Day (March 21); the Down Syndrome Festival & 5K in the fall; and the DSACO Cup, which is held in April each year.

2016-2017 Grants

In the 2016 - 2017 fiscal year, DSACO received \$63,600 in grant money to support its programs and services. This is an 85% increase from the previous fiscal year. DSACO received \$3,100 from two local WalMart stores to support Kylee's Kitchen; \$28,000 from the Central Oklahoma Homebuilders Foundation for operational support; \$25,000 from the WalMart Foundation for our Advocacy & Outreach programs; and \$7,500 from the Kirkpatrick Foundation for updates to the Tutoring Lab. DSACO is so grateful for community support!

2017 Bountiful Blessings Calendar

The 2017 Bountiful Blessings Calendar raised a gross revenue of \$25,118 - a 15% increase from the previous year. Thanks to committee chair Joni Nelson, and the entire calendar committee for their hard work. A special thanks to Taylor Made Photography for taking amazing photos of our kids. Money raised from the calendar will be used to continue providing valuable resources to families of and individuals with Down syndrome. Thank you to our 2017 Bountiful Blessings Calendar Sponsors:

The Puffinbarger Family
Saints Pediatrics
Aaron Tatum Homes
The Maschmeier Family
Chermac Energy
The Bowling Family
Midlands

Commercial Cleaning Services
JL and Delores Fuller
Richard and Elaine Randall
Great Plains Vision Center
Greenleaf Landscapes
Kathryn Bolay-Staude
Taylor Made Photography



“See the Poss-Abilities” Fundraising Luncheon

On World Down Syndrome Day, March 21, 2017, DSACO held its second annual “See the Poss-Abilities” Fundraising Luncheon at the Will Rogers Theatre. Each board member hosted tables of community members, and over the course of lunch, attendees learned how DSACO serves the community. Each guest was asked to make a donation or pledge to DSACO. The event brought in gross revenue of \$10,050, and had 197 people in attendance.



In addition to the luncheon, the Skydance Bridge in downtown Oklahoma City was lit up in blue and gold, the Down syndrome awareness colors. We also had a variety of billboards promoting World Down Syndrome Day, and urging people to visit the DSACO web site.



**SEE THE
POSS-ABILITIES**

DSACO
Down Syndrome Association
of Central Oklahoma

3.21.2017

**WORLD
DOWN SYNDROME DAY** www.dsaco.org

Down Syndrome Festival & 5K

The 2016 Down Syndrome Festival & 5K was our best year yet! The total number of runners in our 5K increased by 17%, from 350 to 423, and the event's gross revenue was \$171,409! Thank you to our families who worked extremely hard to raise money and awareness for DSACO. We hope you will join us on Sept. 23, 2017, as we celebrate this year's Festival & 5K!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our 2016 Down Syndrome Festival & 5K Sponsors.



Sponsors

The COHBA Foundation
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Life Circles/Jones Health Care
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Aaron Tatum Homes
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Nance Precast Concrete
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Terry Cavnar - State Farm
D.P. Odom Construction, LLC
Mary O's Creations
Vivint Gives Back
Brad Reiser - Keller Williams
Deer Creek Family Health Care and
Wellness Center
New Life Nutrition
Feria de San Marcos Restaurant
Michael Sohn - Liberty Mutual
P.B. Odom III Construction
Rick's House of Fire
Consolidated Builders Supply, Inc.
Steele Family Farm
Christensen Law Group
Devin Smith - State Farm
Davis Miller Insurance



2017 DSACO Cup

Our 2017 DSACO Cup was held at the Lincoln Park Golf Course on April 22, 2017. For the second year in a row, the tournament was sold out with 31 teams. Many volunteers, players and self-advocates braved the colder than usual weather for a good cause. The tournament raised a gross total of \$25,593!



Thank you to the DSACO Cup committee, and the committee chair, Kerri Brooks.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors of this year's tournament:

CoBank (Title Sponsor)
Sonic (In-Kind)
Evan's Building Concepts
CCRS
Red Earth Landscaping
Commercial Cleaning Services
Nance Precast Concrete
Ferguson Waterworks
Mallory Land & Cattle Co., LLC
Tinker Federal Credit Union
Oklahoma Fidelity Bank
Jacob's Posse
Dorothy Franck

R&R Land Development
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Jay Kyte
Ledbetter Insurance
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Fuller Miller Construction
Jitters Coffee
H&H Plumbing
Urban Spoon
Debbie Downey
St. Mark's Bethany Church
Terrell Electric
The Hollingshead Family

Northwestern Mutual
The Nelson Family
The Papirtis Family
The Palucci Family
The Hennen Family
The Steele Family
The Smith Family
The Brooks Family
The Gould Family
The Franks Family
The Mallory Family
The Kern Family
The Testerman Family

Advocacy & Outreach

The Education Outreach Committee completed 11 speaking engagements on college campuses, reaching 227 students. These presentations are meant to teach students the importance of people-first language, and that we are more alike than different! They are also planning a mailing to all elementary schools in the Oklahoma City district.

The Medical Outreach Committee continued its resident outreach program. Twenty-one medical residents from OU toured DSACO's offices and learned about Down syndrome and what the organization has to offer. The committee has also made visits to 12 medical facilities with information about DSACO.

This year DSACO sent three representatives to Buddy Walk on Washington, which is a two-day advocacy conference that brings together the Down syndrome community to advocate for people with disabilities. Eilene Franks, Mike Klehm and Heather Hancock attended on the organization's behalf, meeting with legislative staff and explaining the importance of supporting those who are differently-abled.

DSACO Staff

Jill Harrison joined the Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma as executive director in May 2015. Jill assists the organization with event planning, grant writing, publicity/awareness, advocacy and general office management. She was previously a DSACO board member and Festival & 5K chair.



Hannah Wallis joined the Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma as the program coordinator in February 2016. Hannah assists the organization with preparing and overseeing all programs, publicity/awareness, advocacy, recruiting volunteers, and general office management.

Rachel Leonard is the newest staff member at the Down Syndrome Association of Central Oklahoma and has taken on the role of event coordinator. Rachel's responsibilities include event planning - including the Fall Party, Easter Eggstravaganza, Valentine's Banquet and Holiday Party - publicity/awareness, advocacy and general office management.



DSACO Board of Directors

Sarah Soell – President
Dr. Bobby Kern – Vice President
Anthony Garcia – Treasurer
Leslee Boswell – Secretary
Lisa Hancock
Jenny Young
Chris Paynter
Anthony Garcia

Heather Hancock
Jamie Smith
Zach Tatum
Robert Powell
Eilene Franks
Jeanne Lowrey
Ashley Proctor
Tylicia Rollins

DSACO Financial Summary

Jul '16 - Jun 17

Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4050 · Donations - Direct	26,126.32
4100 · Event Registrations	30,490.01
4200 · Fundraising Income	175,528.12
4300 · Grants	73,376.43
4350 · Merchandise Sales	843.50
4550 · Sponsorships	42,336.00
Total Income	348,700.38
Gross Profit	348,700.38
Expense	
7010 · Accounting Services	3,625.00
7020 · Advertising & Marketing	2,456.06
7040 · Bank Fees	1,742.83
7060 · Books for Library	38.95
7100 · Dues and Memberships	1,472.80
7120 · Event Entertainment	5,788.38
7125 · Sports Tickets	1,092.94
7130 · Event Location/Food	23,848.26
7135 · Finance Charge	42.47
7140 · Online Donation Fees	2,057.56
7150 · Giving/Donations	100.00
7160 · Insurance	3,466.75
7180 · Meeting Expenses	258.42
7190 · Miscellaneous	417.12
7200 · New Parent Packets	197.71
7210 · Office Supplies	325.69
7212 · P2P All Locations	
7215 · P2P - D.A.D.S	132.52
7220 · P2P - Hispanic	468.75
7235 · P2P - First Connections	17.25
7246 · P2P Teen Parents	416.25
Total 7212 · P2P All Locations	1,034.77
7250 · Payroll Expenses	132,176.52
7260 · Postage	3,428.38
7270 · Printing & Photography	15,732.81
7275 · Prizes, Gifts and Awards	7,447.75
7277 · Professional Fees	16,838.54
7278 · Public Relations	87.50
7280 · Rent	32,818.64
7290 · Scholarships - Conf & Convetion	2,500.00
7325 · Supplies	3,917.46
7330 · Telephone and Internet Services	1,514.24
7340 · T-Shirts	6,586.22
7345 · Training & Education	120.00
7350 · Translation Equipment	97.50
7360 · Travel	3,827.39
7370 · Web Site & Computer Maintenance	1,307.98
Total Expense	276,366.64
Net Ordinary Income	72,333.74
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
9100 · Interest Income	911.56
Total Other Income	911.56
Other Expense	
9000 · Void	0.00
Total Other Expense	0.00
Net Other Income	911.56
Net Income	73,245.30



Our mission:

To raise awareness and provide resources, as well as promote acceptance and inclusion for people with Down syndrome

