

DSACO Representative for 2019 Buddy Walk on Washington Application

DSACO strives to take an active part in advocating for policies that may improve the lives of our families touched by Down syndrome and others with disabilities. Almost every year a representative from DSACO is selected to attend the NDSS Buddy Walk® on Washington. It is an annual two-day advocacy conference that brings the Down syndrome community together to advocate for legislative priorities that impact the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families. During the NDSS Buddy Walk® on Washington, advocates meet with members of Congress and their staff on Capitol Hill to advance education, research and healthcare for people with Down syndrome. Registration for the 2019 Buddy Walk® on Washington is now open. The 2019 Buddy Walk on Washington will be held at the Sheraton Pentagon City in Arlington, VA on March 5-6, 2019.

If you are interested in applying to be a DSACO representative/advocate to this event with expenses paid by the organization, please send in your application by December 23, 2018.

Once applications are received and candidates are narrowed down, a phone and/or in-person interview may be conducted to choose the final candidate(s). **Please send applications to:**

DSACO
Buddy Walk on Washington Committee
521 W Wilshire Blvd. Suite 130
OKC, OK 73116
Or email to info@dsaco.org

Please print or type information clearly. If you require an escort, please include your companion's information (note: DSACO is not providing for an entire family to attend, it is meant for an individual representative.)

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____
Circle relationship to person w/ Down syndrome:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

Additional attendees/escort:

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____
Circle relationship to person attending the event:
Self-Advocate Parent Grandparent Sibling Legal Guardian Escort

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please respond to the following. A separate sheet of paper may be used if necessary.

1) Describe how Down syndrome has impacted you or your family.

2) How long have you been a member of DSACO? (Note: receiving mailings and

notifications from DSACO denotes membership)

3) If you have participated as a volunteer working on one or more of DSACO's committees and/or projects please describe your involvement.

4) Have you attended any advocating classes, sessions, workshops or seminars? Please describe.

5) How have YOU impacted your community by advocating?

6) Have you written, spoken with or met any of your legislators (state or federal)? If so, what was the circumstance?

7) Are there any current bills or legislation you hope to advocate for or against when you meet your representatives? If so, what?

9) What do you hope to achieve by attending this event?

10) When you return to Oklahoma, how will this help you to advocate in your community?

The CONSENT FORM must be signed to be considered for the DSACO Representative to the Buddy Walk on Washington.

I understand that funds may be paid to me in advance of my event attendance. I agree that if I do not attend the event, I will repay any amount paid to me.

Signed (applicant) _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Applications must be postmarked by December 23, 2018, & mailed to address on page 1.

DSACO Assistance for Buddy Walk on Washington Guidelines & Eligibility

Eligibility:

In order to be eligible to be the DSACO Buddy Walk on Washington Representative, applicants:

- Must have Down syndrome or be an immediate family member such as parent, legal guardian, sibling, a grandparent or a professional who works with a person(s) with Down syndrome.
- Must live within the DSACO outreach area.
- Must sign and agree to the consent form located at the bottom of the application in order to be considered. Under certain circumstances, if the assistance recipient withdraws, he/she will be required to repay the event assistance amount received.
- Must report to the **Governmental Affairs Committee and/or Executive Committee** about the event by one or more of the following within 90 days of returning from the convention:
 - Written report of the events and the contacts made during the event
 - Verbal report of the events and the contacts made during the event
- Must complete the Assistance Report and send in copies of receipts.

Guidelines:

If you are applying for assistance, you cannot be involved in the application selection process.

All funds will be paid directly to the event assistance recipient no later than June 23, 2019.

DSACO will reimburse up to \$1,000 of travel expenses. For self-advocates, additional funding may be available for support staff.

Failure of the event assistance recipient to comply with the policies governing this assistance may be

grounds for denial of any future consideration by DSACO for any of its programs.

Selection process may require an interview.

Event assistance recipients will be notified by phone, email or mail by December 23, 2018.

Applicants are responsible for registering/coordinating all travel plans related to this event.

Other terms and conditions may apply.

*****Application must be postmarked by December 23, 2018.*****

Send applications to 521 W Wilshire Blvd. Suite 130 OKC, OK 73116 or email to Info@DSACO.org. For additional information regarding convention assistance, please contact the DSACO office at 405-600-9981. Applications will be available on the DSACO website, www.dsaco.org. For additional information regarding the NDSS Buddy Walk® on Washington, please contact the National Down Syndrome Society at 800-221-4602, via email at info@ndss.org or visit their website... <http://www.ndss.org/Advocacy/Buddy-Walk-on-Washington/>.

Note The NDSS Buddy Walk® on Washington is not an actual walk but was given its name to maintain the message of the National Buddy Walk® Program - to raise awareness and inclusion for people with Down syndrome. The funds raised by the National Buddy Walk® Program directly support the annual Buddy Walk® on Washington and the work that NDSS does in Washington, DC.