Can you believe that we are preparing for our 13th annual Buddy Walk®? With a few changes happening this year, we are excited to host another great celebration! Registration is now open. Visit dsfsenm.org to register (if you would like to request a paper copy of the registration form, please contact the office).

The Buddy Walk® will be held on Saturday, October 21 from 9-1pm at the Spring River Park and Zoo. The walk consists of a 1 mile walk around the zoo finishing up at the main area for an afterparty!

This year we have added a talent show that will begin shortly after the walk. In previous years we have had the talent show at the family dinner the night before and we want everyone to be able to experience the talents that are represented from each family.

The Buddy Walk® is the biggest awareness and fundraising event that we host. Funds from this event help to provide programs, events, and scholarships to individuals with Down syndrome and their families all over Southeast New Mexico.

We appreciate all the families’ hard work in raising funds for their teams and for the foundation. We thank everyone who donates for this cause. We truly couldn’t do what we do without the support from the community and families that we depend on so much.

Join us for this day of celebration and fun. We look forward to seeing each and everyone of you!!

As always if you would like to volunteer for this event or any other program that we offer, please call the office at 575-622-1099.
Upcoming Events

September 9
Bowling Outing

October 20
Buddy Walk®
Family Dinner

October 21
13th Annual
Buddy Walk®

December 2
Santa Breakfast
- Roswell

December 9
Santa Breakfast
- Artesia

Bowling Party!!!
Join us Saturday, September 9 from 3-5pm for some bowling fun!
Where: City Center Lanes
3905 SE Main, Roswell, NM 88203
Cost: $18.75 per hour, $2.50 shoe rental
The DSF will pay for all individuals with Down syndrome to play and rent shoes.
RSVP by September 5th!

OUR SUMMER 2017!

Summer 2017 was a blast!!! Thank you to everyone that participated and all who volunteered. Special thank you to Laurie Burrow for teaching handwriting without tears, Heather Palmer who taught swim lessons, and First Tee for partnering with us to provide golf. We appreciate you all so much!!!!!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We are moving to electronic newsletters by the end of 2017! Please call or email the office to make sure we have your updated email address so that you can continue to receive up to date information as to what is going on with the Down Syndrome Foundation!!
“2017 National Down Syndrome Convention Experience” The Garcia’s Story

“WOW! WOW! WOW! is all I have to say about our experience in attending the National Down Syndrome Convention in Sacramento California with myself (Jacob), my wife, Lola, and daughter Shanmaree. It never fails, we learn something different every year we go. This was our 3rd year and we had a blast. So much knowledge at different times throughout the convention. In our family, we see this event as a must! It’s not only a bunch of classes, it is a “pick-me-up” each year. I can’t say enough to convince families to attend at least one convention. There are no words to explain the energy & love that all the families embrace.

All these classes are different and are not only for families who have someone in their family with Down syndrome. These classes are also for doctors, teachers, advocates, caregivers, therapist, or anyone else to recognize the awareness of how important it is to learn more of the 3-21 population. You will find yourself and your partner splitting up and attending different classes to try to get as much knowledge to take home with you. We find ourselves saying “I thought we were the only ones” or “we thought our child was just not listening” and the other saying “Wow! I didn’t know my child would be able to learn and do so much.” Trust me we all have similar experiences. At last you feel like you’re not alone and isolated. You’re pretty much on track. Families meet each other and trade contact information for support and friendship. Trust me it goes on and on with fun. We love all of you reading this! And we will see you in Dallas, TX!!!"

Thank you, Garcia Family

We are so happy that we were able to provide a scholarship for Lola, Jacob, and Shanmaree to have this experience thanks to the Buddy Walk® this past year! If you are interested in this opportunity, we offer scholarships every year for Down syndrome conferences that happen around the nation. This is a great time to network, learn new skills, and see the most up to date research on Down syndrome. This scholarship is open to individuals with Down syndrome and their family. More information for next year’s scholarship opportunities will be available in December’s Newsletter. Keep a lookout, or call the office for more information.

The Down Syndrome Foundation 5th Annual Educational Workshop

Our 5th annual educational workshop was by far the best to date. We had over 240 teachers, therapist, parents, and others that work with children registered. Topics that were discussed included modifications & accommodations, transitioning from school to work for students with developmental disabilities, person centered planning, keyboarding skills, and effective, relatable strategies to help improve behavior at all ages and stages. So much was taken away from this workshop that can be applied to all children.

We are so grateful to all those that attended this workshop. We hope that you were satisfied with the speakers and the overall workshop itself. A lot of hard work and planning went into making this workshop a success and of course the support and time from our volunteers is much appreciated. We are excited to start planning next year’s workshop. We came away with tons of information to make next year that much better. Keep a lookout for our 6th annual educational workshop next year!

Thank you sponsors for funding this project

Armstrong-Clark Foundation

Global Down Syndrome Foundation

United Way
The Down Syndrome Foundation of Southeastern New Mexico is a 501(c)3, not for profit organization. It was started by a grassroots parent group in 2007. Its goals are to encourage and advocate on behalf of individuals with Down syndrome and their families. It does this by providing support for families, educators, and medical professionals as they support those with Down syndrome in southeastern New Mexico.

Find out how you can help, call 575-622-1099 or visit our website at http://www.dsfsenm.org/