

# 2010/2011 Annual Report

Dear Friend of the DSAGC,

We love to talk to families who were here in the very beginning of the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati back in 1981... especially at the Buddy Walk where more than one founder has had tears in their eyes as they look around at the 11,000 people. They say, *"I can't believe we started this and look at it now!"*

That's why we are so excited about our 30th anniversary. It's a great chance to reflect about how much has changed in the last 30 years and truly appreciate what our founding families created.

Hopefully, you had a chance to visit the Founder's Tent at the Buddy Walk and talk to some founding families about what it was like 30 years ago. If not, you get another chance at this year's special Holiday Party at the Oasis Conference Center on December 4th. We are planning a surprise for these wonderful families and it includes giving you the opportunity to tell them how much you appreciate the incredible job they did.

As part of our yearlong celebration, we asked families listed in the very first issue of the DSAGC newsletter 3 questions. We thought we'd share some of our favorite answers with you:

1. What have you seen changed from 1981 to 2011 in terms of the lives of people with Down syndrome?

*"Forty years ago, I knew no one who had a child with DS, most were institutionalized, and very little information could be found in libraries. I took her around to many doctors and all claimed she would never have the mental capacity over an 8 year old. However, she has clearly surpassed that. When the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati arrived, her life continued to look up."*

*"In 1981, Down syndrome was not very known to the community and the expected potential of these individuals was not even considered. Now a person with Down syndrome is known in the community as someone who is educated with others, is able to work, have talents, and achieve goals."*

2. What were your dreams for your child? Did they meet those dreams 30 years later?

*"Our dreams included all the same dreams we had for our other children. Those included a happy and meaningful social life, an education that opens doors for her, a job that she enjoys, the ability to pursue hobbies and interests that she likes, and the ability to live as independently as possible."*

*"Hardly a day passes that I don't talk with a stranger who is mesmerized by our daughter's actions, words and speech. The 'Too bad...' has been replaced with 'You are a lucky parent...' Our dreamless days have been replaced with dream-days."*

*"He far exceeded my expectations and had such a wonderful impact on ALL he met and interacted with over his time on earth and after."*

3. What role did the Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati play over the past 30 years?

*"The Down Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati helped me more than anything. Great support system for parents and helped answer all my unanswered questions. The DSAGC also helped my daughter's life grow and provide her with every opportunity. Well done."*

*"The DSAGC has also provided a great network of families and it's been a blessing to watch their children grow as ours have."*

*"One of the best organizations around as far as I can see."*

We hope you join with us in recognizing and thanking the families that faced a different culture and level of acceptance than what exists today. They did everything right too and did a great job establishing the foundation on which to build this wonderful organization.

Patrick McNickle, President, Board of Directors & Janet Gora, Executive Director





The Early Matters Program has seen an increase in the number of pre-natal referrals which allows us to give the parents current information.

*"We stopped by DSAGC one day after we had found out that our unborn daughter, Genevieve, had Down syndrome.*

*While we had questions about what lie in store for us regarding her development, we also thought that it was important to introduce ourselves, and start creating the support system that we thought we would need in the years to come. Over the next several months, Martha kept in touch through phone calls and email, just making sure we were doing well. When the pregnancy was getting rocky, she was there, reassuring us it would all work out, and supporting us during those last few weeks. The compassion we received from DSAGC really helped us understand what a blessing our new daughter would be to our family and helped us see how our life was going to be enriched through this child and the DSAGC family." Melissa Jouett*



The School Age Matters Program gives presentations to area classrooms on understanding Down syndrome and, even more important, on building friendships in the school environment.

*"After Molly came in the classroom, Jason's classmates and teachers had a better understanding of my son and started treating HIM as a full member of the first grade classroom." Denise Doughty*



The Adult Matters Program offered a Creative Writing Class with instructor, Sr. Mary Ann Jansen from Women Writing for (a) Change.

After several weeks of writing classes, 13 authors compiled their work in the book "Writing Our Lives." The group held a reading and book signing for the public to celebrate

the book's publishing. Over 80 books have been sold to date. And the authors have found their voices through the written word.

*"I Imagine. I imagine having a life that lives with a dream showing me ways to do things all year round. Telling people about my disability can be hard at times. But if I give my heart away to someone, that will take me down the trail of love. Finding what I like to do will let others know more about who I am. And opening my eyes my life will shine." Kathleen Sheil*



The Multi Age Program supports 6 Satellite Groups which are designed to transfer self-determination and decision making from DSAGC to the Satellite Group, as long as the group operates under the mission, bylaws, policies and procedures of the DSAGC and bears full responsibility of its own success or failure.

The BACH (Brown, Adams, Clermont, Highland counties) Satellite Group has been going strong for 4 years. Their activities include parent conferences collaborating with other agencies. They have expanded their outreach to start a local 4H group which includes children with disabilities (New Hope 4H). They host an annual Fishing Event to include dads and an annual Pumpkin Farm Event at Cherry Ridge Farms for the families. Leaders Shayna Hansel and Crissy Griffith have grown the group to include individuals with Down syndrome from newborn to age 45, and their families. They are the first Parent Support Group of any kind in Brown County and are successfully providing outreach and support to families close to their homes.

**The mission of the DSAGC is to empower individuals, educate families, enhance communities and together, celebrate the extraordinary lives of people with Down syndrome.**

## DSAGC 2011 Boards & Staff



In an effort to alleviate some of the distress that new families may encounter at the time of their baby's diagnosis, the Outreach Program expanded into the medical community through literature, newsletter distribution, personal visits and speaking engagements. Follow-up surveys completed by families revealed that there was a significant increase in parent's positive perception of how they were treated by both their obstetrician and nurse and over 90% reported an overall satisfactory birth experience. We hope to continue these outreach efforts to maintain this outcome for future families.



The National Down Syndrome Adoption Network created a Facebook page this year and on average, 60 people a month "Like" the NDSAN page.

Because of booth exhibition at 3

conferences, information on the NDSAN was distributed to over 1,000 people. The Adoption Awareness page on our website continues to be one of the most viewed pages on the site with over 950 views per month.



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*celebrating extraordinary lives*

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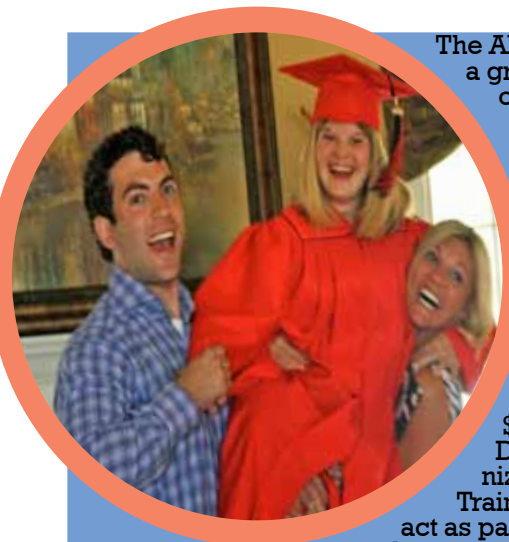
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 Molly Mattheis  
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### Advocates at the Table

Annie Callan  
 Holly Holmes  
 Chad Mayer  
 Patrice McHale  
 Ashley Miller  
 Kathleen Sheil  
 Kristen Vonderbrink



The Allen Family is a great example of how much one family can affect a non-profit in a big way. Between John and Bev, they were the hosts of the Buddy Bash at Fuller Ford raising over \$28,000 for the DSAGC, organized Lose the Training Wheels, act as parent mentors, spoke numerous times about Lindsey's school experience and the DSAGC, are generous supporters and volunteers for the Buddy Walk and serve on the Postsecondary Education, Development and Golf Committees! All this in addition to Lindsey graduating high school which is celebrated here by her brother and sister.

The DSAGC has held a golf tournament since 1996. The Gus Bell Memorial was held for 11 years, and for the last five, Dave Lapham, color commentator and former Cincinnati Bengal has been our host. Over the course of 15 years we have raised over \$900,000. The 2011 tournament was our best yet, raising \$100,000 which has enabled us to offer our programs and services at no charge.



## Fundraising Committees

### 2011 Buddy Walk

Jenny Begley  
 Pamela Butler  
 Sharon Butler  
 Brian Calendine  
 Miriam Desatnik  
 Carl & Linda Dragan  
 Nancy Goetz  
 Sophia Helms  
 Kelly Johnson  
 Rick Kammerer  
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 Katie Maly  
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 Kathy Palmer  
 Pam Rieke  
 Missy Trame  
 Joyce, Kevin & Andrew Unkraut  
 Mary Ann Wainscott  
 Leigh Anne Whitaker  
 Kerin Caudill

### 2011 Golf

Bill McCloy, Chair  
 Ty Steele, Director  
 Dave Lapham  
 Tom Gregory  
 John Allen  
 Darren George  
 Steve Hunt  
 Doug Kammerer  
 Bill McCloy  
 Scott MacEachen  
 Chris Sauby  
 Rob Sheil  
 Matt Swendiman  
 Janet Gora  
 Lisa Steele

### 2011 Development

Rick Kammerer, Chair  
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 Bev Allen  
 Leigh Ann Fibbe  
 Sophia Helms  
 Scott MacEachen  
 Pat McNickle  
 Andrew Mosier  
 Christina Pelatti  
 Rob Sheil

### 2011 Tri for Joe

Gary Powers, Chair  
 Pamela Butler  
 Sharon Butler  
 Rob Sheil  
 Kelly Knapke  
 Walker Motley  
 Christine Sillies  
 Chad Mayer  
 Katie Rhodes  
 Pam Rieke  
 Quentin Marques

## 2010/2011

### Corporate Sponsors

AK Steel  
 American Financial  
 Association of Philippine Physicians  
 Baker Hostetler  
 Best Buy  
 CCHMC  
 CE Power Solutions  
 Cincinnati Bell Technology Solutions  
 Enterprise Holding Foundation  
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 Fifth Third Bank  
 First Financial  
 Fuller Ford/Allen Family  
 Government Strategies Group  
 International Paper/xpedx  
 Kohls Stores  
 LJA Consulting  
 Lykins Companies  
 Petermann  
 Penn Station  
 Performance Autoplex/Kings Honda  
 Rendigs, Fry, Keily & Dennis  
 Safeco Insurance  
 Skyline Chili  
 Stagnaro Distributing  
 Superior Automotive Group  
 Union Savings  
 VonLehman & Co.

### In-Kind Donations of \$1,000 or Greater

Advance Pierre	Lakota Hills Baptist Church
Aqua Fall Bottled Water	Lamar
Berman	McAlister's Deli
Cintas	Montgomery Inn
Coke	Norton Advertising
Eclipse Sound-Bill Hertsenberg	Rendigs Fry, Kiely & Dennis
Ford Development	Queen City Sausage Skyline
Goldstar Chili	Southbank Interactive
Home City Ice	Targeted Marketing Solutions, Inc.
John Morrell	Wallingford Coffee
JTM Food Group	WXIX Ch 19
Kroger	
Lamar Advertising	

### Celebrating Extraordinary Lives Club and Individual Donations

Bernard & Pam Barbash	Planes Moving & Storage
Marion Fanning	Andrew & Sally Shott
Fran & Kris Hickey	Harold & Veronica Still
Lucinda & Daryl Hurst	Richard Thomas
Rick Kammerer	Tayfun & Laura Tuzun
Franklin & Karen Klaine	
Bart & Linda Kohler	
Bill & Jenny McCloy	

### Foundations

American Academy of Pediatrics  
 Cambridge Charitable Fund  
 Charles H. Dater Foundation  
 Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati  
 Mitsubishi Electric Automotive America, Inc.  
 Pepsi Cola Advertising/Penn Station  
 PNC Institutional Investments

### Third Party Fundraisers

Buddy Bash  
 Tri for Joe  
 XU Children's Charities  
 WDSD 5k Race

## 2010 Financial Data

<b>Income</b>	
Annual Giving	9,886
Buddy Walk	325,529
Celebrating Ext. Lives	22,506
Gifts Under \$1,000	6,740
Golf Tournament	81,713
Grants	31,500
Interest	11,561
Major Gifts	45,000
Memorials/Honorariums	17,565
Miscellaneous	8,073
Other Fundraisers	2,807
Program/Event	10,652
Third Party Fundraisers	23,666
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>597,198</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Program (73%)	419,961
Administrative (13%)	75,407
Fundraising (14%)	78,128
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>573,496</b>
<b>Net Gain</b>	<b>23,702</b>

## 2010 Program Expenses

<b>Programs</b>	
Outreach	66,462
School Age	47,520
Adult Matters	43,953
Early Matters	39,803
Adoption	37,850
Family Events	35,024
Multi Age	33,125
DSPress	31,447
Volunteer	24,437
Advocacy	18,508
Webpage	17,484
Other Services	24,348
<b>Total Program</b>	<b>419,961</b>