



# Volunteer e-news



## Key Volunteers Marina Viña and Miguel Garcia Provide Outstanding Support to DSAGC

A very big THANK YOU goes out to Marina and Miguel for the countless hours of help and support they offer to the DSAGC. Marina has been translating each issue of the **ds press** into Spanish for more than ten years! Both Miguel and Marina have been so helpful in our outreach efforts to the Hispanic community and they were the major coordinators for our recent trip to the Cincinnati Zoo. In addition, Board member, Miguel has guided the staff and Board through a very beneficial Strategic Planning process which will direct our organization for the next three years. **You are such vital members of the DSAGC Family. Thank You!**

## Buddy Walk Success is Volunteer Driven

**Over 130 volunteers** provided much needed and appreciated support for the 2010 Buddy Walk. Groups from Elder, Seton, Notre Dame Academy, McAuley, St. Xavier, St. Ursula Academy and Covington Latin High Schools and several other groups and individuals contributed manpower for the event. See more on Page 3. Thanks to the hard working Buddy Walk Committee and the many terrific volunteers, we were able to raise over \$325,000 to support our programs and services.

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## Lose The Training Wheels Summer Camp

Close to 70 volunteers led and coordinated by Bev Allen and Kay Merz provided assistance to 40 campers at this year's week-long camp. Volunteers from several area high schools including, Oak Hills, Seton, Mother of Mercy, St. Ursula and Elder assisted the campers by providing one-on-one assistance. Campers use specialized bikes that help them balance and develop confidence as they graduate to less stabilized bikes and eventually to a 2-wheeled bike. This camp would not be possible without the help of the wonderful committee and all the terrific volunteers.

**THANK YOU!**

**We hope to see you all next year.**

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

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### **DSAGC Annual Winter Dance**

Date: Saturday, January 29, 2010

Time: 5:00 to 10:30 PM

Location: Blue Ash Banquet Center, 11330 Williamson Rd. (just off Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway)  
Blue Ash, OH 45241

Volunteers are needed for a variety of duties including everything from setting up, game attendant, greeter/registration, dancer, photographer, etc. Prior to the dance, help will be needed with invitations, donations, decorations, and putting prizes together. We need about 15 volunteers for the actual dance, ages 15+ . Attire for this event is dressy.

Please contact Pam@dsagc.com or Quentin@dsagc.com. You may also contact the DSAGC at 513-761-5400 for more details.

### **We Are Having a Baby Shower!**

Each baby born in the greater Cincinnati area receives a lovely gift basket filled with items to welcome the newest family member. We are always in need of donations to help supply these baskets. Currently we are in need of small baby toys, bath toys and small bottles of shampoo, powder, lotions, etc. If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, etc, we are always in need of home-made gifts for baby too. Please contact Martha@dsagc.com.



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Many thanks to our Buddy Walk volunteers who made the day such a great success. Shown here are members of the Lakota Hills Baptist Church, McAuley High School students and our very own Buddy Walk Committee member and Volunteer Coordinator, Sophia Helms. This year's crowd totaled more than 11,000 people. **It was our largest Buddy Walk ever!** With the help of folks like these, we hope to make it even larger next year. Special Thanks to the Committee members who worked so hard: Lisa Arnold, Jenny Begley, Paula and Layman Cobb, Cathy Dediemar, Miriam Desatnik, Carl and Linda Dragan, Nancy Goetz, Sophia Helms, Leigh Anne Whitaker, Katie Maly, Kathy Palmer, Susan Roschke, Missy Trame, and Joyce Unkraut. Thanks also to our photographer Ray Yeager. What an awesome group!

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## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

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### **If you enjoy a good party, we need your help!**

We are always in need of volunteers who enjoy assisting with event planning. There are a wide variety of opportunities for volunteers to help in many stages of event planning. It may be helping with invitation mailings, creating posters, distributing posters, obtaining door prizes and raffle items, set-up and decoration, clean-up crews, etc. We host many events throughout the year and they all run on volunteer manpower. Events range from casual family events to black tie formal gatherings. Contact [Quentin@dsagc.com](mailto:Quentin@dsagc.com) for more information.

### **General Office Help**

We require assistance for a variety of jobs in our office such as Lending Library support (entering new books, processing loans, mailings, etc.), making copies and collating Information Packets, etc. Contact [Collette@dsagc.com](mailto:Collette@dsagc.com).

### **Are you a Writer?**

If you enjoy writing and you have had volunteer experience, you can help create our Volunteer Orientation Manual. Contact [Janet@dsagc.com](mailto:Janet@dsagc.com).

### **Planning Committee for Anniversary Celebration**

The DSAGC will celebrate it's 30th Anniversary in 2011 and we will be looking for help with planning ways to commemorate this event. Contact [Janet@dsagc.com](mailto:Janet@dsagc.com).

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## DSAGC

The DSAGC was formed in 1981 by a small group of dedicated parents who envisioned a more welcoming community for their children. Today, we provide a wide variety of programs and services for over 1,400 families in the Greater Cincinnati area. Our mission is to empower individuals, educate families, enhance communities and together, celebrate the extraordinary lives of people with Down syndrome.

## Billboard Inspires Volunteer Part 2



In the last issue of the ds press, you learned how our office volunteer, Christine Annin became involved in our organization. Christine was inspired by the DSAGC billboard she saw on I 75. Since that time she has become a valuable member of our volunteer team. She has helped with the Buddy Walk, prepared mailings, created databases and basically completed any task that we ask of her. She has also gotten her

husband, Matt involved as a volunteer as well.

Both Christine and her husband are members of symphony orchestras. Christine plays violin for the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra and Matt plays the French horn for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. She has even given violin lessons to one of our elementary school students after meeting his mother while volunteering at Buddy Walk t-shirt pick-up!

Thanks to Christine and Matt and also to Lamar Advertising for providing the inspirational billboard that introduced them to our organization!



**Thanks Family Picnic Volunteers!** L to R Amelia High School students Stephen Rouse, Thamara Lynch and Ivy Luong helped to supervise the fun in the Bouncy House and several high school students helped with pony rides, water balloon toss and beach ball volleyball. Special thanks to University of Dayton intern, Laura Freking who was a tremendous help in coordinating all the activities and volunteers for the event. Thanks also to Julie Kammerer for organizing the children's games. Almost 350 people joined the fun at Lunken Playfield.

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