

## Ways to Help

The DSCBA relies on the generosity of individual donations, foundation grants, and our fundraising efforts to keep our doors open. Our two significant fundraising events are the Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk, held each October, and our Gala, held each spring. The Step Up walk promotes acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome and celebrates October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month. The Gala celebrates the lives and accomplishments of people with Down syndrome, their families, their friends, and the community that supports them. Join our community and add your support to an organization that has made a positive difference for people with Down syndrome since 1998.

- **Make a tax-deductible donation on our website ([www.dscba.org/donate](http://www.dscba.org/donate)) or by mail**
- **Check to see whether your employer has a donation-match program at [www.dscba.org/donate](http://www.dscba.org/donate)**
- **Donate a vehicle**
- **Donate your birthday to the DSCBA by creating a Facebook fundraiser ([www.facebook.com/fund/DSCBA](http://www.facebook.com/fund/DSCBA))**
- **Join us at our Gala**
- **Step up for Down Syndrome by fundraising for our walk**



## Our Mission Statement

**The DSCBA's mission is to empower, inspire, and support people with Down syndrome, their families, and the community that serves them, while fostering awareness and acceptance in all areas of life.**



**Connecting families  
for over 25 years**

## Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area



Empower • Inspire • Support

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## Programs and Services

### New & Ongoing Family Support

Support services for families from the prenatal and/or postnatal diagnosis stage through childhood, school years, and adulthood.

We offer Early Connections groups, where our families and their young children can bring their questions, connect, socialize, and learn. New families can be connected with a mentor family for additional connection and support.

As our members grow older, we continue to support them with their needs in group settings and one-on-one support as needed.

### Connections Groups

A place for peer support for families. The DSCBA offers Connection groups for babies (and their parents), parents of school-aged children, parents of adults, and grandparents.

### THRIVE Program

We are proud to offer our THRIVE Programs - A unique program for individuals with Down syndrome. THRIVE is conducted by age group with a focus on developing strong core strength, gross and fine motor, executive functioning, and social and friendship-building skills. These sessions embody a unique combination of strengthening cognitive skills and social/behavioral interactions, all while fostering lifelong friendships and having fun.



### Medical Outreach Alliance

Partnership with dozens of Bay Area hospitals and hundreds of healthcare providers that serve people with Down syndrome. The alliance provides accurate, current information about Down syndrome to medical practitioners in new parent packets (in English and Spanish) they can share with their families welcoming a child with Down syndrome. The alliance also provides in-person trainings for doctors, genetic counselors, geneticists, nurses, social workers, and other healthcare workers covering how to deliver a Down syndrome diagnosis, how to support and form a strong team with families who have a member with Down syndrome, the abilities of people with Down syndrome, and the local and national resources available.

### Communication Readiness Program

A six-week intensive summer program for children ages 4-7 with complex communication needs stemming from Down syndrome or dual diagnoses such as Down syndrome and autism. CRP incorporates reading, writing, art, music, obstacle courses, speech, and socialization with communication and school-readiness skills at the program's core. Students are introduced to alternative ways to communicate so they can successfully participate in school, and parents and educational teams are provided with instruction, training, and ongoing support to facilitate successful communication.

### Down Syndrome Education Alliance

Partnership with dozens of Bay Area schools and districts to provide training, resources, and support for teachers and educational staff who serve students with Down syndrome. The DSEA offers direct training, ability awareness presentations, consultation, research-based materials, and an Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC) lending library.

### Music Therapy

Physical and mental stimulation for our members of all ages through music therapy, taught by a board-certified music therapist in two locations per month.

### Community Events

Fun family events throughout the year, including celebrating World Down Syndrome Day in March, our Step Up for Down Syndrome walk to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October, and a Holiday Party in early December.

Our Danville and Santa Rosa offices are available with appointment.