

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) envisions a world in which all people with Down syndrome have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life, realize their life aspirations, and become valued members of welcoming communities.

With your support, NDSS continues to advocate for our community and expand programs focused on education, employment, health, aging, and caregiving. We are grateful for the impact you make and for your commitment to our shared vision.

THANK YOU!

Resources & Support

Because you give, the Down syndrome community has access to resources that raise awareness, enrich lives, expand knowledge, and support inclusion.

During our 2022 fiscal year:

- More than 2,000 individuals received personalized support via our helpline and info email box on topics like employment, Alzheimer's disease and aging, welcoming a baby with Down syndrome, and how to connect with local support.
- More than \$40,000 was awarded in scholarships and grants to 35 adults with Down syndrome as they pursue their education, develop their passion for the arts, expand their business, and celebrate their accomplishments.
- Nearly 400 attendees learned about transition, aging, and Down syndrome research through our 2022 Adult Summit: On the Road events in Jacksonville and Indianapolis.
- Caregivers of individuals with Down syndrome are equipped with resources, support, and advice on financial wellness, mental health, Alzheimer's disease, aging, and more.
- Self-advocates, parents, and teachers have access to best practices for improving outcomes for students with Down syndrome through our newly-published *Down Syndrome: Guidelines for Inclusive Education*.
- More than 125 local Buddy Walk® events, with the addition of five new locations, were supported with monthly webinars, trainings, and newly created resources.

Policy & Advocacy

Through your contributions, you have provided critical funds for our ongoing work to advocate for laws and policies that protect and expand the rights of our community.

Over the past year:

- NDSS hosted the first Down Syndrome Policy Symposium, gathering the six largest Down syndrome organizations in the U.S. to build better working relationships and concrete strategies aimed at tackling policy issues most critical to the Down syndrome community.
- More than 2,000 grassroots advocates learned about critical legislation and took action to contact their representatives.
- Bills ending discrimination in organ transplantation against people with disabilities have passed in Arizona, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, South Dakota, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, and federal legislation was introduced in the House and Senate.
- Hundreds of law enforcement officers and first responders in Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia received training on how to support individuals with disabilities in their communities.
- The ABLE Employment Flexibility Act was introduced in the House of Representatives. This new federal legislation would enable employers to help their employees with disabilities pay for qualified disability expenses.
- Legislation to phase out subminimum wage was passed in Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Tennessee.
- NDSS galvanized the community to speak as one voice about proposed coverage of Alzheimer's disease treatments for people with Down syndrome and took an important step toward health equity.

NDSS is committed to being responsive to the changing needs of our community and to addressing their needs today, tomorrow, and for decades to come. Thank you for investing in our work and for your generous support of our loved ones with Down syndrome.