A Mother Reflects on Connecting Early

Carissa Thilgen

I WAS EXACTLY THIRTEEN WEEKS PREGNANT, just entering my second trimester, when my husband and I learned that there was a strong likelihood that our baby—our second child—would have Down syndrome.

Less than a week later, we met with a geneticist to discuss our "elevated risk" and our options. Even with the news of a potential diagnosis fresh in our minds, we already knew that nothing could change our desire to continue with the pregnancy, and we weren't comfortable taking any chances—no matter how slight—with the life of our hard-fought-for baby, one conceived via IVF, just like big sister. Foregoing the diagnostic procedures of chorionic villus sampling (CVS) or amniocentesis, we opted instead to pursue noninvasive prenatal testing, a highly accurate blood screen that returns a probability of genetic conditions including Down syndrome.

And so I left that genetic counseling meeting with a lab slip in hand—armed with a bit more information but also feeling a bit more worry. When the results came back at 16 weeks with the diagnosis 98 percent confirmed, we scheduled an early anatomy scan. Before the ultrasound, we met with the geneticist once more. This time I left the office with a handful of printouts from the websites of several national and local Down syndrome organizations.

That was how we first came to learn of the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area (DSCBA). When I reached out to the California Parents of Down Syndrome group on Facebook for guidance and resources two weeks later, the fervent recommendations to connect with the DSCBA came pouring in.

And we’re so glad they did.

All it took was one phone conversation with Nancy Ferguson, the director of family support, followed shortly thereafter by our first Early Connections support group meeting, to know that we had found the type of community we were going to need as we embarked upon this journey. One that is caring, knowledgeable, and perhaps even more importantly, understanding. Those at the DSCBA get it. They’ve been through it. They are going through it. And it’s not sad or scary. Parenting a child with Down syndrome comes with challenges, sure, but it is also full of joy and celebration and triumph. We’ve seen that firsthand through Early Connections.

My husband and I felt the gamut of emotions in the wake of our prenatal diagnosis. And walking into that first support group meeting this past March admittedly had my stomach in knots. I was nervous about what I’d see, what I’d hear, and how I’d feel about it all. The unknown can be frightening. But our fears melted away as we listened to other parents share their experiences, and to watch their adorable children laugh and play buoyed our fragile hearts. To see that the kids were just that: kids! Down syndrome is just a part of who they are; it does not define them or their families. (Although living with the diagnosis seems to have made these parents stronger and more compassionate than you’d usually find.)

Nothing could be more reassuring to an expectant parent than to be surrounded by other parents who are “on the other side” and can speak with honesty, humor, and perspective. To realize you’re not alone is invaluable. And for my husband and I, personally, to look into the literal faces of Down syndrome made us excited again to meet our son this July.

Learning that our son has Down syndrome was nothing we ever envisioned, but Early Connections has shown us why families like ours consider themselves “the lucky few.”}

Have our fears about Down syndrome evaporated? Of course not. Parents will always worry about their children. We worry about our typical daughter constantly, and we will worry about our son. But we know that through any hardships we may face, any obstacles that need to be overcome, we have a village we can rely on. With Early Connections, we’ve gained a sounding board, a cheerleading squad, and undoubtedly a helping hand.

Learning that our son has Down syndrome was nothing we ever envisioned, but Early Connections has shown us why families like ours consider themselves “the lucky few.”
We’ve Got 21!

We had many reasons to celebrate at the spring gala held on April 13, 2019, at the beautiful Diablo Country Club. Our theme, We’ve Got 21!, honored the significance of the twenty-first chromosome to the Down syndrome community and commemorated our twenty-first year as an organization. More than 280 people attended this magical evening, which raised a record $225,000.

The night kicked off with a welcome glass of champagne, a silent auction with more than three hundred packages to bid on, a Golden Drawing with a Ritz-Carlton/Southwest Airlines prize, a wine pull, and a wine-tasting table during the cocktail hour. Guests then moved to the ballroom for a delicious dinner. We were delighted to have KTVU Fox 2 Sports Director Mark Ibanez as our emcee and auctioneer for the evening.

A special video presentation highlighted the DSCBA’s Communication Readiness Program (CRP), which helps children ages four to seven who have complex communication needs prepare for school during an intensive six-week summer program. You can watch the video on the DSCBA’s YouTube channel.

The video was followed by the cash-paddle raise, which brought in $77,100 in support of CRP.

Guests then participated in a lively auction that included delectable desserts, getaway packages, sports memorabilia, and more—all provided by generous individuals and businesses from far and wide.

Mark Traylor, Chevron’s district sales manager, presented DSCBA Executive Director Nancy LaBelle with a generous $28,052.87 donation made possible through coin boxes placed in Chevron stations throughout the Bay Area. We are grateful for Chevron’s support as an Empowering Sponsor over the years.

The evening closed with a glow-in-the-dark dance party, which was especially enjoyed by our DSCBA VIPs! As a thank you, guests were treated to sweets from a giant candy bar.

The gala would not be possible without incredible support from businesses and individuals who donated more than 420 auction items, many in-kind services, and more than $40,000 in sponsorships/cash donations, along with our 15 VIP table sponsors. Now that is a great way to celebrate twenty-one!

A big thank you to our Empowering Sponsor, Chevron; our Inspiring Sponsors, Nordstrom and an anonymous donor; and our VIP Wine Sponsors, Las Positas Vineyards, Black Stallion Winery, and Frank Family Vineyards, for their wonderful support. We would also like to thank our Advertising Sponsors: Diablo Country Club, Lexus of Pleasanton, Mass Mutual Northern California, Prestige Printing, Summit Financial Group, and Wells Fargo Bank.

Save the date for next year’s gala, to be held on May 2, 2020, at Diablo Country Club. Cheers to twenty-one years!

By Melissa Benavidez and Kshama Perera

Below: Paddles were raised as the live auction kicked off.
Making Connections in the Medical Community

Our Medical Outreach Alliance has been busy! In March, we had a booth at the annual Developmental Disabilities conference sponsored by UCSF Continuing Education, which yielded many new connections and an invitation to give our Conversations About Down Syndrome presentation to fifteen medical professionals who are part of the Neonatal Follow-Up/Special Start program through UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital in Oakland. We delivered that presentation in June, shortly before heading to the National Down Syndrome Congress convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to present about our Medical Outreach Alliance at a conference pre-session for affiliates.

In addition, the alliance collaborated with the California Prenatal Screening Program, the California Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition (CDAC), Down Syndrome Diagnosis Network (DSDN), Club 21 Learning and Resource Center in Southern California, the Down Syndrome Information Alliance in Sacramento, and the Kern Down Syndrome Network to send 125 outreach packets to genetic counselors who are part of the California Prenatal Screening Program. We became aware of numerous families across the state who have had negative or unsupportive diagnosis experiences through Prenatal Screening Program, so we spearheaded the effort to reach out to those genetic counselors, provide them with resource materials to share with patients, and share with them ways to give a diagnosis of Down syndrome in a supportive, informative manner that helps families feel empowered and supported during what for many is a difficult time.

Finally, the alliance is thrilled to have intern Shamal Perera working with us again this summer. He is continuing our project of reaching out to all pediatricians practicing in the nine Bay Area counties we serve, connecting them with our organization and resources, and providing them with new-parent packets in English and Spanish to share with families.

By Cathleen Small
Learning with Educational Apps

For kids who are drawn to learning via technology, there are some excellent apps available. For example, **TouchMath Counting** ($1.99) is a great multi-sensory way to teach counting and number identification and to teach the TouchMath touchpoints.

**TouchMath Jungle Addition 1** ($9.99) introduces addition using the TouchMath method, which many children with Down syndrome have been successful with, in a fun jungle game. Parents or teachers can customize the level of difficulty and number of problems in each section.

**Pictello** ($19.99) is a talking visual story creator you can use to make your own social stories. You can add text and photos to make a personal book, and then your child can read or watch the book on the app. It’s also easy to export books created in Pictello to a PDF for printing and binding if your child enjoys traditional books. Pictello has programmed speech, or you can record your own voice.

Pictello has many uses in the classroom. For example, students can create their own books about what they are learning in a science or social studies unit. They can easily add a page to the book after each lesson. Students can also use Pictello to create research reports to share with their class. They can even complete writing assignments in Pictello, complete with photos to illustrate.

You’ll find more educational apps on the list of recommended apps on our website at [www.dsconnection.org/DSEA-Resources.php](http://www.dsconnection.org/DSEA-Resources.php). Choose Academic Resources to find a PDF of recommended apps.

The Power of a One-Page Profile

The concept of creating a one-page profile about your child comes from the idea of person-centered planning. Person-centered planning is a positive, strengths-based approach to education and life planning for individuals with developmental disabilities. In person-centered planning, your child’s team comes together to create a plan to help your child reach their goals.

Creating a one-page profile enables you to share important information with your child’s team and keep everyone focused on the individual. It is also a powerful tool for adults with developmental disabilities to use when working with the Regional Center and the Department of Developmental Services. The one-page profile begins with a vision statement and includes areas for sharing interests, strengths, challenges, goals, and helpful supports.

I encourage you to create a one-page profile for your child with Down syndrome and bring copies for everyone at your next Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meeting. Begin the meeting by reading through the one-page profile to set the tone and get everyone on the same page. In addition, you can provide the one-page profile to your child’s team at the beginning of the school year to introduce your child and set the tone for collaboration.

You’ll find detailed instructions on how to make a one-page profile using a premade template on the blog of a mother of a school-age daughter with Down syndrome: [http://our3lilbirds.blogspot.com/2017/05/how-to-make-one-page-profile-ellie-style.html](http://our3lilbirds.blogspot.com/2017/05/how-to-make-one-page-profile-ellie-style.html).

Ability Awareness Benefits Everyone

The new school year is quickly approaching! One great way to help your child’s educational team and new peers get to know their classmate with Down syndrome is to schedule an Ability Awareness presentation at your school. We can deliver the presentation in a classroom or in an assembly-style setting.

Ability Awareness presentations are a unique way to educate students about Down syndrome. These presentations not only spread awareness in our community, but also allow participants to learn that we are more alike than different. To find out more about scheduling a presentation at your child’s school this fall, please contact Elizabeth Lewis at elizabeth@dsconnection.org.

By Laurie Hawley and Elizabeth Lewis
The Rotary Helps Empower CRP Participants

The DSCBA wishes to give a big thank you to our friends from five local Rotary Clubs in District 5160 that gave our young members the gift of communication and learning technology for our impactful summer Communication Readiness Program. These Rotary Clubs include: Alamo, Danville, Danville/Sycamore Valley, Dougherty Valley/San Ramon, and Livermore.

Now in its seventh successful year, the Communication Readiness Program (CRP) is a six-week summer program for early elementary children ages four to seven with complex communication needs. CRP incorporates reading, writing, art, music, obstacle courses, speech, and socialization, with communication and school-readiness skills at the core of the program. The students are introduced to many alternative ways to communicate, including the use of technology. Their parents receive instruction and training to help their children to better communicate with their families, educators, and friends.

Following the summer program, DSCBA staff partners with each student’s fall educational team to ensure a smooth transition into the new school year.
**Dr. Chicoine Visits the DSCBA**

The DSCBA was pleased to welcome Dr. Brian Chicoine for a presentation on general medical and mental-health conditions in people with Down syndrome. More than 60 of our members attended the presentation. In his 27-year practice at the Adult Down Syndrome Center in Illinois, Dr. Chicoine has seen more than 6,000 patients. Our members were thrilled to benefit from the absolute wealth of information he brought.

In addition to speaking to DSCBA members, Dr. Chicoine presented to 24 family practice residents at John Muir Health. Over the course of the last two years, the DSCBA has developed a wonderful partnership with John Muir Health to help provide better medical care for adults with Down syndrome. Dr. Chicoine was the second presenter in a two-part series of trainings. Our first presentation, on pediatric medicine, was given by Dr. Noemi Spinazzi from UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital of Oakland a few months back. The DSCBA was excited to partner with John Muir Health and with Drs. Chicoine and Spinazzi for these two presentations. We look forward to continuing our partnership with John Muir Health as a way to continue these important conversations about health care and people with Down syndrome.

*By Marianne Iversen, Director of Programs and Adult Services*

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**Peer Development Classes Flourish**

Our Peer Development classes continue to thrive and grow. In 2019, we’ve added two new classes, one for teens in Dublin and the other for adults in Castro Valley. We have also gotten our popular San Mateo teen class back up and running.

We currently offer eleven classes in eight different locations across the Bay Area. We have plans to start another two classes for adults in Concord and the Brentwood/Antioch area.

Peer Development classes provide a unique opportunity for our teen and adult members to come together each week with a focus on enhancing social skills, building and maintaining friendships, and practicing teamwork, cooperation, and respect for self and others. Our Early Elementary Peer Development class focuses on improving motor skills as well as adapting to an environment of cooperation, interaction, and socialization.

All of our Peer Development classes provide a place where long-term friendships can be cultivated and maintained!

*By Marianne Iversen*

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**Vehicle Donation Program**

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of your vehicle are donated to the DSCBA for our programs and services. Donations are eligible for a tax deduction; please talk to your tax advisor.

Vehicle donations for DSCBA are coordinated by Car Donation Services (CDS), which is licensed by the State Attorney General’s office, and are said to be “large enough to make a difference, but small enough to squeeze every penny out of every vehicle.”

For information call 1-888-686-4483 or visit our website at dsconnection.org/donate

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*AT LEFT: H.D. Mooers: A steadfast source of Grants for the DSCBA is Jeff Mooers, the president of H.D. Mooers and Company, a Life Insurance Brokerage General Agency. H.D. Mooers has sponsored many grants for the DSCBA through the National Association of Independent Life Brokerage Agencies. We have received $35,000 in grants with Jeff’s support—he’s a true friend of the DSCBA. His office is in Lafayette, and he can be reached at 800.303.7310 or at jeffm@hdmooers.com.*

*Left: Castro Valley Peer Development class members Sarah Sudmeier, Megan Sudmeier, Bill Dickson, Sarah McNally, and Mariah Katz share a smile with class facilitator Breonnie Barros.*

*Above: Dublin Peer Development class members from left to right: Jaina Jogia (peer volunteer); Bella Gavino, Brandon Garcia, Haley Wollensen, Cole Kelley, and Troy Rhodes (class members); Uma Arunachalam (peer volunteer); and Terese Ghilarducci (class facilitator).*

*Above: Dublin Peer Development class members from left to right: Jaina Jogia (peer volunteer); Bella Gavino, Brandon Garcia, Haley Wollensen, Cole Kelley, and Troy Rhodes (class members); Uma Arunachalam (peer volunteer); and Terese Ghilarducci (class facilitator).*

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Artistic Volunteers Offer Artistic Opportunity

Artists and volunteers Brittany Sartor and Sean Specht gave their talents and time to provide an art workshop in acrylic pouring to our Danville Peer Development class. Each workshop participant chose several colors of paint and poured layers on top of one another, letting their imagination run wild. They then tilted, twisted, and turned their canvases to create beautiful and original pieces of art. The results were stunning!

Danville artists at work: Mariah Katz, Blair Hogan, Clio Rasler, Emma Tippett, Juliana Portoni, Kate Buckman, Malia Ramsey, Nathan Aubry, Vincent Cruzat, and Tatiana Casadont created acrylic masterpieces under the guidance of Brittany Sartor and Sean Specht.
Music Therapy Comes to Oakland

Thanks to a generous grant from the Bill Graham Foundation, the DSCBA recently began offering Music Therapy in Oakland. Special thanks also to UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital’s Down Syndrome Clinic for allowing us to utilize clinic space for this interactive and fun monthly experience.

In September we will add an additional class for Spanish-speaking families. For more dates and times, see our website: dsconnection.org/music-therapy.

By Marianne Iversen

Below: Learning to applaud as the parachute is set up is sensory fun for the kids in Music Therapy.

Above: Parachute fun during Music Therapy in Oakland!
Left: Music Therapist Nicole Patton introduces how guitar strings work.

DSCBA-Peninsula Celebrates Third Annual Parents’ Day Out

Being a parent is probably the hardest job in the world. Every day, parents work tirelessly and selflessly to meet the needs of their children. This is why we do our best each year to provide three hours of free pampering so our wonderful parents can connect, recreate, and rejuvenate.

This year we were fortunate to have Equal Play as our host. Because of their beautiful, spacious facility and our fabulous volunteers, we were able to offer free childcare for the first time. This allowed more parents to come, which was great to see. Parents received an Italian lunch, an art workshop, and free massages. To top it off, each parent went home with a nice raffle prize.

The Parents’ Day Out came together thanks to the help of many dedicated volunteers and sponsors. Thank you to the following people and businesses, who made this special day a reality for our parents:

- **Facility sponsor:** Katie Carlin, The Garden by Equal Play
- **Food sponsors:** North Beach Pizza (San Mateo), Plaza Gourmet Deli, Romolo’s Cannoli, Dianda’s Italian American Pastry, Trader Joe’s (San Mateo), and the DSCBA
- **Massage therapists:** Angelica Acob (Osetra Wellness Massage Therapy) and Julie Wang (San Francisco School of Massage and Bodywork)
- **Gift bag sponsors:** Trader Joe’s, Preston’s Chocolates, Freideleen Lou-Iwamoto, and the DSCBA
- **Art workshop sponsor/setup/cleanup:** Freideleen Lou-Iwamoto
- **Decorator/setup/cleanup:** Françoise Allamanche
- **Childcare volunteers:** Margaret O’Connell (lead volunteer), Braedi Ego, Amy Li, Julie Boisvert, James Lapay, Lauren Bennet, Laurie Lerner, Ed Tang
- **Drawing sponsors:** My Busy Town (San Bruno), Emi Calva Terada (Waterbrook Wellness Therapy), Ruby Ribbon, Bye Bye Bra, Premier Financial Alliance, Freideleen Lou-Iwamoto, connections and sponsors through Freideleen Lou-Iwamoto, Dawn Wertman (Pure Haven)

By Julie Tang, Program Manager, DSCBA-Peninsula

Left: Who deserves a massage? I think we all do!

Left: This amazing team of volunteers made this all possible! We so appreciate you!

Right: Time for a silly group picture!
**Gratitude from DSCBA Board Chairman**

*Hello parents, supporters, and friends of the DSCBA,*

You are making a real, positive difference in the lives of people with Down syndrome. Throughout the DSCBA’s twenty-one years of service, you have helped us establish a solid foundation on which to build in support of our mission. This newsletter highlights our commitment to the families we serve and our work toward building awareness in the Bay Area communities.

I have been part of this team for the last five years, and I have enjoyed watching the DSCBA move forward with a thoughtful plan that continues to enhance and expand our educational programs and our organization, while promoting staff development.

I am deeply grateful to each of you for supporting the DSCBA in your own way. Your investment in the DSCBA makes it possible for us to move forward in meaningful ways to support those we serve. You help make it possible for us to offer all of the fun-filled and educational activities that make the DSCBA special.

On behalf of the board of directors, I would like to thank all of you who have contributed your time, your dollars, and your thoughts and ideas to the DSCBA. Our families are truly blessed by your generosity.

I’d also like to give a gentle nudge in the hopes that you will share some feedback with us. We are interested in your thoughts and ideas about how our board can expand in useful and productive ways to support the DSCBA. Inquiring minds want to know, so let us know!

And finally, we are looking for two additional board members. Please let us know if you’re interested in joining our board!

Thank you!

Email: tom@tomdelaplane.com

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**DSCBA Earns Outstanding Affiliate of the Year Honor**

The DSCBA was honored to be named Outstanding Affiliate of the Year by the National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC). Medical Outreach Alliance Director Cathleen Small was on hand at the NDSC convention in Pittsburgh to accept the award on behalf of DSCBA.

NDSC chose the DSCBA to receive this honor on the basis of “outstanding work in medical outreach and educational outreach.” We are thrilled that our hard work in these areas was recognized, since every single staff member, contractor, and volunteer for the DSCBA pours their heart and soul into work that benefits our members and touches these areas. We look forward to continuing our work supporting the medical and educational communities who work with our members and, most importantly, to directly supporting and empowering our members in their health, education, and life.

We value our partnership with the NDSC and appreciate their focus on improving the quality of life for the Down syndrome community across the country.

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**AT RIGHT:** *Kids-n-Need* raised $20,000 for the DSCBA at their annual charity golf tournament! Patrick Harkins and the Danville Young Adult Peer Development class were on hand to accept a check from Mike Ranahan and Rick Hammel, both from Kids-n-Need. The funds will support and educate new families to the DSCBA.

**ABOVE:** *Knights of Columbus* - Danville held their annual Tootsie Roll Fundraiser and generously donated $3,066.84 to the DSCBA. The DSCBA’s Development Manager Suzanne Ernst, Director of Programs and Adult Services Marianne Iversen, and Director of Finance and Administration Karen Lochner were on hand to receive the check from Knights of Columbus #4060 members Dave Anderson, Ed Indelicato, and Ed Meshinsky. Thank you to our community partners—we couldn’t support our families without you!

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**Community Support at its finest!**

Thank you to Jack and Nancy Worthington for their generosity in many ways. We appreciate their donation of carpet-cleaning services each year for the DSCBA. Check them out if you need your carpets cleaned.
Foundations, Family Funds, Businesses and Service Organizations

The Albertsons Companies-Safeway-Vons Foundation
Alice Beckman Fund of the East Bay Community Foundation
Ban Family Foundation
Bill Graham Supporting Foundation
Calhoun Family Fund of Fidelity Charitable
California Communications Access Foundation
The Carl Gellert and Celia Berta Gellert Foundation
Chevron Corporation
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Community Health and Education Foundation
Contra Costa Crisis Center-Share the Spirit Program
Danville Rotary Club Foundation
Dean and Margaret Lesher Foundation
Diablo Carpet and Floor Restoration
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Employee Giving Campaigns

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Karen Costa
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Daniel Sheehan
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The Clorox Company
Tobby Gavino
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Veronica Duran
Chevron
Anonymous
Levi Strauss
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NRC Universal Media
Anonymous
Wells Fargo
Anonymous
Mark McCormick
Ronald Caton
Robert Jones
Abbott Laboratories
Sean Hayes
Liberty Mutual
John Najer
Apple
Daisy Wong
Bank of America
Anonymous

Google
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Workday
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America’s Best Local Charities
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Kathy Miles

Rotary Club of Danville/Sycamore Valley
Rotary Club of Dougherty Valley/San Ramon Valley
Rotary Club of Livermore Valley, Inc.
San Ramon Valley Kiwanis Foundation
Seanse
Set 500 Holdings LLC
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Smile Power Orthodontics
Sommer Foundation
Summit Financial Foundation
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Teichert Foundation
Valero Refining Co. - CA
Walmart
Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation
We Help Two Funky Sock Company
Wells Fargo Foundation
The Wente Foundation for Arts Education

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Jennifer Rolen
Valerie Caplan
Brian Malone
Pedon La
Theresel Myzynwski
Nancy Fitzon
Maxi Sherman
Joseph Fitchard
Joel Perez
Joshua Khair

In honor of my sister with Down syndrome
Dawn Bronsan
In honor of Will Clark and his parents Stephen and Jennifer
Susan Montague
Happy Birthday Ayla
Patria Kissane
In honor of Cassidy Shae and Caleb, Nicole Solig
We love you very much!
Susan Montague
In honor of my nephew Micah with Down syndrome
Raymond Lee
In celebration of WDSD

Below: Shout out to an incredible group of 11 volunteers from: Boys Team Charity-Lamorinda and Boys Team Charity-Walnut Creek who showed up early one morning in July to help us move items to a new storage facility. THANK YOU for your muscles, hard work and willingness to serve!

Volunteers
Jorden Benson
Allegra Pickett
Fred Teichert
Marianne Iversen
Development Manager Suzanne Ernst
Board Chairman Tom Delaplane

We warmly thank the Teichert Foundation—with their help we can continue to increase awareness of Down syndrome in the medical community and support more families.
THANK YOU FOR FUNDRAISING ON FACEBOOK. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jonathan Orbello's Birthday
Jr. Weilbacher
Cyndi Banaag
Forest Cooper
Jonathan Orbello
Lisa Ferdinandsen
Stormy Moloney
Jenn Kent
Bill Williams
Jenn Trang
Cristela Vasquez
Vanessa Hurtado
Shea Serran
Emily Olivio
Lori Moamah Thomson's Birthday
Karen Lawson
Michael Perez
Sharon Perez
Mary Peters
Diane Britz
Frank Harshbarger
Kat Schramm Bird
Abby Young Newton
Marina Francesca
Danan Hall
Kathie Thoming
Benj Saldia
Diane Powell
Kenny Jenkins
Cara Stewart
Celia Perez
Robsyn Barday
Michelle Norris
Ashley Rutbrg
Rosana Armonio-Elder
Karen Lochner's Birthday
Donna Duffey
Elizabeth Lewis
Pattie Difraia
Jane Macken
Karen Tischer
May Erickson
Debi Halco
Daniel Hallmeyer
Heather Hoyles
Marla Nichols
Susan Hoyles
Steve Wilcox
Kathy Bulls Lafferty
JP McDermott
Scotty Paine's Birthday
Scotty Paine
Todd Butterworth
Sally Stoner
Carol Thomsen
Kim Thomsen
Kristen Meino's Birthday
Chers Freeman
Tammmy Coniter's Birthday
Sara Abbadi
Linda Mannique
Andrew Love
Chris Woolbright
Steve Shofer's Birthday
Steve Shofer
Laurie Bradshaw
Tom Cullen
David Abramsky
Simone Shofer
Barbara Waller
Pam Stair
Sarah Young
Bertha Quezada's Birthday
Fernando Guzman Rivera
Francisco Sanchez
Urelin Sanchez
Hector Garcia
Soco Molinero
Himer Fuentes
Maria Fuentes
Mariani Fuentes
Chave Af
Conchita Quezada-Guzman
Mari Moreno
Sheryl Sarmiento's Birthday
Sheryl Sarmiento
Patrick Pasilda
Rebecca Elizabeth's Birthday
Carol Maes-Knight
Gabriela Ganly
Beth Jin
Eric Williams
Steve Phillips
Mike Boyer
Aaron Albonico
Ashley Barbour
Robert Gaitan
Glo Sunshine
Raquel Macias's Birthday
Arlene Vidana Gaona
Raquel Macias
Jacky Taylor
Deana Denkin
Diana Lozano
Kristen Meino's Birthday
Lauren Mockford
Louis Baco's Birthday
Reimaly Bacy
Carlo Coribeli
Esther Apodaca's Birthday
John Apodaca
Teresa Orishok
Patricia Romeo
Daisy Wong's Birthday
Alien Leung
Ron Cen
Richard Lee
Cheryl Lee
Craig Janis
John Tong
Brian Buhl
Daisy Wong
Susan Mai-Le
Kai Chang
Rose Vidalp
Sherry Giles
Tammmy Yang
Ashley Donovan's Birthday
Bella Salver
Lauren Amador
Dan Nater
Zaven Markarian
Olle Skyba's Birthday
Olga Izotova
Inna Kapitsa
Anna Lyashenko
Gelena Katkova
Igor Meyerovich
Ikatrina Ivchenkova
Irene Cherkasowa
Yulia Stepanova
Vladimir Yakubov
Bisaya Bst's Birthday
Bisay Best
Ken Katzman
Betty Luz
Mahuma Williams
Audra Harvey
Allen Simontisch
Corazon Sumagang
Gina Grace Roberts-Mag
Carlos Herrsekonera
Lupe Macias's Birthday
Miguel Hernandez's Birthday
Miguel Hernandez
Melissa McCurdy
Jessica Amezqui
Ed Wallace's Birthday
Gayle McCrae
Dawn Lichota
Lewis Loeven
Dan Ensminger's Birthday
Bethany Villafuerte
Jim Ensminger
Brenda Wood
Denison
Tom Hillman
Geoff Louie
Adela Villafuerte
Malalini Sekona's Birthday
Irene Diaz
Tupuo Mapu Sekona
Monu Pome'e
Malalini Sekona
Michael Latu
Jason Kister
Gerry Reams Birthday
Gary Reams
Michelle Nickle
Sally Neumann
Mary Benedetti
Kirsten Leonard
Christie Quigley
Maylin Bradley's Birthday
Elizabeth De Rivera
Ron Svedra
Guile Peca
John Duck's Birthday
Isabel Benito
Sheila Anderson's Birthday
Anthony Andersson
Eric Huff Jr.
Melissa Howell's Birthday
Kyle Von Raesfeld
Eunjung Kiml
Barbara Guarino Lester
Pat Brown
Wilma Lai chriseste Fee
Julie Stephen
Brian Malone
Evan Hirsch
Anonymous
Gayle Rosengren
John Rosengren
Laurie Rosengren
Doris Caldera
Lisa Burley's Birthday
Heidi Dendler-Halsey
Lisa Burley
Mary Jane Pollard
Julie Lopes-Mielke
Nancy Pollard
Luna/Mary Flores
Mary Flores
Chrisy Marin
Ludi Castro
Alma Aguirit
Valerie Martinez's Birthday
Valerie Martinez
Alejandra Marmolejo
Colette One-Ko's Birthday
Lori Andriessen
Lori Matoba
Martin Setawam
Jessie Rikuchi
Tak Matsuda
Sandt Matoba
Shimmy Cagocsop
Jason Dong
Owen Javeliana
Ryan Dumlaow
Teresa Ono
Temo Shimizu
Linda Ono
Kristee Ono
Kelsey Wakasa
Judy Akyamman
Sean Hanshario
Danny Pham
Cindy Nakano
Nahomi Cervantes Birthday
Carlos Lopez
Karen Casadont Gossler's Birthday
Jon Casadont
Karen Casadont Grover
Amy Kohle
Dee Stephenson
Arba Leclair
Schnibrich Grasty
Paul Casadont
Buechner Schultz
Barb Schaefer
Dawn Uckler
Deb Storh-Larsen
Pat Dinan's Birthday
Kathy Raymongs
Trevor Davis's Birthday
Aisha Williams
John Findley Jr's Birthday
L. Adams
Cynthia Crann Donovan
Andrew Shields
Ginger Birdsey
Joseph Ozmer
John Findley
Beth Knochle
John Findley Jr.
Lee House
Glen Hoban
Julie Bartholomai's Birthday
Tina Smith
Luz Betty's Birthday
Luz Betty
Dory Vandenberg
Pinnacle Filhof
Carlos Santana's Birthday
Darla Noble
Brytnye Lee's Birthday
Martha Daly
Brytnye Lee
Kimmy Washington's Birthday
Kat Tauscher
Debbie Cheng
Shirey Washington
Dan Madden
Anna Baumgart
Hoo Lee
Kristen Krauss
Mary Murphy
Leland North
Tim Byrne
Gaby Rojas
Donovan Lazarro
Macke Kolb
Carol Gardner
Kim Lindberg
Joe Murray's Birthday
Dan Keutzmung
Carolyn Cox
Sarah Layton Emmett's Birthday
Tami Davenport
Stephanie Ellis's Birthday
Sonya Ellis
Avgei Reasoner
Laura/Mary Flores Birthday
Mary Flores
Crissy Marin
Ludi Castro
Alma Aguirit
Cynthia Gutierrez

VOLUNTEERS
Oakland Music Therapy Volunteers: MJ Baluyot, Beth Cichon, Melanie Campos, Cole Urnes, Christine Tran, Jessica Dang, Ryan Shaw, Meera Nagpal, Lina Gannon, Kaleb Branda, CAL Band volunteers
Danville Music Therapy Volunteers: Brytnye Lee, Leslie Moore, Leci Wetmore, Abby Even, Sara-Melina Noheer, Sama Golani, Grace Watson, Chris Cronk, Abigail Bareiss, Sophia Bareiss, Sydney Bierkert, Emily Gillert, Megan Bame, Mia Terry, Tom Suo
CRP Volunteers: Leci Wetmore, Erin Trombadora, Parker Bula, Emily Petroni, Catie Macbrdy, Jo Kelley, Dawn Handley, Chris Cronk, Brytnye Lee
Gala Volunteers: Noelle Austin, Kathy Barger, Grace Barger, Darlene Bedell, Carin Benavidez, Daniel Benavidez, Frank Benavidez, Juan Benavidez, Boys Team Charity - Lamorinda Chapter, Jodie Arabicia, Natalie Burbach, Gavin Carrier, Tami Castellec, Hela Cunningham, Nina Duquette, Steve Duquette, Steve Ernot, Dawn Garlieb, Tereese Gialdardu, Gynn Habecker, Marcella Kamp, Jo Kellely, Dennis Kenney, National Charity League - Walnut Creek Chapter, Nio Perera, Shamil Perera, Lauren Taylor, Laura van Suyove, Cathy Waite, Niramol Perera

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Coin boxes benefitting the DSCBA have been in Chevron stations for the past three years and have raised a lot of money for our programs!