Making Friendships
DSCBA Self-Advocate and Ability Awareness Associate Eli Cooper and his friend and DSCBA member Avery Gordon.
As I enter my 9th year as Executive Director, I am impressed by the large impact we continue to make thanks to a generous funding community, a dedicated staff and working board of directors, and of course our faithful volunteers, all of which allow 95% of our services to remain free to our members.

Our New Family programs and Medical Outreach efforts are successfully reaching more families early on during pregnancy or delivery when they need us most. In 2016 we increased our overall membership by 15%. We remain the only organization in the Bay Area with a full time facility and a staff serving the specific needs of families who have children of all ages born with Down syndrome.

Our strategy for the coming years is to create satellite locations with direct services where we identify a committed community. In 2016, we surveyed families throughout the Bay Area, and based on their needs, we implemented monthly programs and brought our Education Alliance services to the Peninsula and South Bay.

It is with profound gratitude that I look forward to 2017 where our focus will be on sustaining our growth, assessing new opportunities, researching the needs of our adult and aging community, and understanding best practices for mental health and medical services.
PEER DEVELOPMENT CLASSES

60+ Students ages 4-64 participated in weekly Peer Development Classes (formerly called Step)
4 Locations: Danville, Benicia, Oakland, and San Francisco
12 Scholarships (nearly 20% of participants) to ensure classes were available to all

In gratitude to our amazing teachers: Marianne Iversen, Laura Briggs, Susan Coulson, Christina Lewis, Lindsey Anderson, and Tamara Reed.

"Thank you for your continued and relentless efforts to create a place filled with understanding and acceptance. We feel privileged to be part of the class and the organization." -Parent
4th year of program

Intensive 6-week summer communication program for 16 children ages 4-7 who are nonverbal or have limited speech intelligibility

- School readiness skills
- Multi-modal communication strategies
- Assistive technology
- Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) systems
- Literacy, language, reading, and writing
- Music and art
- Speech and occupational therapy
- Speech and language assessments
- Resource binder to each child’s educational team
- Post-summer follow up and teacher assistance

“His confidence grew greatly – he is experimenting with a lot more words and starting to speak in more two- and three-word phrases.”

-Participating mom
Jennifer Cooper, DSCBA Director of Education, provides training to Bay Area education teams and ability awareness presentations to students throughout the Bay Area. The goal of the Education Alliance is to provide up-to-date information, materials and strategies regarding best practices for educating students with Down syndrome as well as to facilitate honest and positive dialogue with K-12 students about Down syndrome.

**ROAD TO SUCCESS**

9 trainings for 543 educators

**ABILITY AWARENESS**

39 presentations for 1,853 students & 121 adults

Educators from 42 DISTRICTS & PRIVATE SCHOOLS received training and 1/3 were assisted by a self-advocate, Eli Cooper

**EXPRESSION CONNECTION CONSULTATIONS**

Kati Skulski, SLP, provided 68 consultations, including IEP support; AAC trainings; and AAC device lending, set up, and training

“I’ve been in the field for a long time and felt this course was one of the BEST COURSES I took.”

-Educator
Cathleen Small, Medical Outreach Alliance Coordinator, presented training classes to provide hospital staff and medical professionals with current information about Down syndrome, how to give a diagnosis, and how to best support families receiving a new diagnosis.

**2016 TRAININGS PROVIDED TO:**

- Nurses at Mills-Peninsula Medical Center, Burlingame
- Social workers at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose
- Genetic counseling students at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, Stanford
- Nurses at John Muir Hospital, Walnut Creek
- Geneticists and genetic counselors at Kaiser, Oakland
- Genetic counseling students at Kaiser, Oakland
- Geneticists and genetic counselors at Obstetrix, Campbell

**UPCOMING TRAININGS:**

- Pediatric Grand Rounds at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital of Oakland
  March 21 – World Down Syndrome Day
- 2017 Developmental Disabilities Conference at UCSF

Medical professionals who attend our trainings gain strategies they can implement when working with families receiving a new Down syndrome diagnosis. Attendees also learn about the many abilities of people with Down syndrome of all ages and how the DSCBA can provide support. Trainings are now available via webinar.
NEW AND EXPECTANT PARENT SUPPORT

- Welcomed 29 new babies and expectant parents to the DSCBA family in 2016.
- Provided Early Connections support groups
- Provided new family welcome bags
- Met with expectant and new families to provide support, including hospital visits

SUPPORT GROUPS

DSCBA held 17 support groups, which provide peer support and connection for parents and grandparents. Why is grandparent support so important? Grandparents are in a unique situation in which they are concerned about both their children and their grandchild. At our support groups, grandparents can talk about their fears and concerns in a safe space with their peers.

Proud Grandparents

Board Chairman Tom Delaplane and wife Linda with their granddaughter Leah.
MUSIC THERAPY

- Provided this free service to 115 families
- 3 locations (two new in 2016): Danville, San Jose, and Foster City

Music therapy improves fine and gross motor function, creative expression, communication, and behavior for children with Down syndrome.

Thank you to our certified Music Therapist, Nicole Patton!

Making Some Noise
Certified Music Therapist Nicole Patton shows participants how a variety of pressures on the drum will make different sounds.

ART PROGRAM

- Saturday art workshop for adults with Down syndrome
- 6 art workshops with local artist and teacher Alice Pennes during Peer Development classes

Making Recycled Art
Danville’s young adult class with their bottle cap mural, which will be exhibited at the Village Theatre & Art Gallery in Danville from May 18 - June 17, 2017.
FORUMS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

* Held Empowerment Forum in February on Health and Wellness: A Lifelong Journey. Over **100 families** attended.
* Participated in Special Olympics Balance Bike Day, providing bikes to **11** children.
* Our Holiday Party hosted **330** attendees.
* Raised awareness and more than **$320,000** through the Annual Spring Gala and Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk.
* The **Diablo Vista, Rolling Hills & Walnut Creek National Charity League** and **Boys Team Charity of Lamorinda, Danville & Walnut Creek** provided invaluable volunteer support during our many special events.

Thank you to our awesome volunteers!

HELP CENTER

DSCBA provides phone and walk-in consultation five days per week, eight hours per day, where phone calls are taken from parents, caretakers, family members, educators, medical professionals, and service providers for people with Down syndrome, a service available nowhere else in Northern California.
DSCBA continued to employ four adults with Down syndrome in 2016, who were able to increase their skills and confidence while providing critical services to our organization. Thank you to Eli Cooper, Ability Awareness Associate; Marissa Erickson, Outreach Associate; K. Leigh Alfrey, Assistant Teacher; and Joseph Vaughn, Administrative Assistant!
DSCBA won the title of **Favorite Bay Area Charity** from what began as a list of 100 nominated Bay Area nonprofits, all doing important work. We received a $10,000 grant from PG&E along with the title.

We were featured in a front page **East Bay Times** article, “Bay Area Nonprofit Supports People with Down Syndrome and Their Families,” by Tammerlin Drummond, in November as part of the Share the Spirit campaign of the Contra Costa Crisis Center.

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**MEDIA & OUTREACH**

Social media plays an important role in our ability to empower, inspire and support families throughout the Bay Area and around the world. Electronic communication also allows us to connect people from a wide geographic range with similar needs and interests. In 2016, we created and now facilitate Facebook Groups to connect families who have children ages 3-5 and those who have teenage and adult children.

- **3,719** Facebook fans (an increase of 500 in 2016)
- Reached an average of **9,500** people per week in December
## 2016–2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Tom DeLaplane**, Chairman
- **Kendra Quintella**, Secretary
- **Ryan Prindiville**, Treasurer
- **Isaiah Aguilar**
- **Mary Jo Corby**
- **Paul Crawford (2016 Treasurer)**
- **Jodie Dailey**
- **Martha Hogan**
- **Laurie Jarchow**
- **Ahmad Jiwani**
- **Janet Richman (2016 Member)**
- **Eldeen Shields**
- **Alan Torres (2016 Member)**
- **Mike Zolnier (2016 President)**

### Financial Statement

#### Income

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>General Contributions</td>
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<td>Fundraising Activities (incl. events)</td>
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#### Expenses

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**Net Income .................................................. $8,793**

### THANK YOU 2016 MAJOR SUPPORTERS • $5,000 AND ABOVE

The DSCBA appreciates ALL donations that we receive of any monetary value. We receive no government funding, making every individual gift critical to our ability to maintain and grow our services. Due to space, we can’t list every donor here, but we thank you for your support.

- Anonymous Foundation
- Anonymous Family Foundation
- Chevron Corporation
- Rick and Janet Cronk
- Tom and Linda Delaplane
- Disability Communications Fund
- Joe and Katy Drucker
- Frank and Pat Elliott
- Global Down Syndrome Foundation
- Kids-n-Need
- Nancy and Rick LaBelle
- Dean and Margaret Lesher Foundation
- Thomas J. Long Foundation
- Macy’s
- Marino Family Charitable Foundation
- Million Dollar Round Table
- Noll Foundation
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Quest Foundation
- Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
- Special Hope Foundation
- Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation
- Wells Fargo Foundation

101-J Town & Country Dr., Danville, CA 94526 • 925.362.8660 • www.dsconnection.org • dscba@dsconnection.org