

families * self-advocates * friends



February 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 15- UB Men's Basketball Game



Come cheer on the UB Men's Basketball team as they take on Bowling Green University at 2:00 pm at UB Alumni Arena.

The tickets were generously donated and are free to Down Syndrome Parents Group members. There is a limited number available so please only request tickets if you intend to use them. Tickets will be sent electronically.

Contact Janet at janpo788@aol.com with questions or go to <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/bulls-bball25>

March 22 - World Down Syndrome Day Family Bowling Celebration



Join us at Mallwitz's Island Lanes, 1887 Whitehaven Rd. Grand Island, on Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 2:30pm-4:30pm to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day!

\$10/person for bowlers and \$5/person for non-bowlers includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, pizza, and pop. Due to your continued generosity, the DSPG will cover the remainder of the cost.

This event is for immediate family members. If parents choose not to bowl, they must remain at the bowling alley with their child.

Please RSVP by March 17th. Register online at <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/bowling25> or contact Bonnie at bonzon1102@aol.com or 632-0137 with questions.

Checks can be made out to DSPG and mailed to Bonnie Zon, 222 Culpepper Rd, Williamsville, 14221.

March 21 - World Down Syndrome Day

Thanks to the Schaus Family, our friends at Two Nines Kitchen are generously hosting another celebration for us...



March 23 - Kids Club

Join us with your child aged 2-10 for a morning of play at Sweet Charlotte's from 9:30-11:30am. Email dspg@dspgwny.org or register at <https://form.jotform.com/dspgwny/kids-club>

May 20 - DDDay



Tuesday, May 20 · 8am - 5:30pm • ddday.org
The Conference and Event Center Niagara Falls

Resource Corner

Parent Network 3rd Annual Recreation Festival

<https://parentnetworkwny.org/events/recreational-festival/>

Life Expectancy, Aging, and the Down Syndrome Population

<https://adscresources.advocatehealth.com/resources/aging-and-life-expectancy/>

New U.S. Department of Education Transition Guidance

https://www.ndsccenter.org/wp-content/uploads/NDSC_PRESS_RELEASE_Transition-Guidance.pdf

Comprehensive Special Education Resource Bundle: Guides, Strategies, and Tools

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Comprehensive-Special-Education-Resource-Bundle-Guides-Strategies-and-Tools-128863>

People are Not Supports

<https://fivemooreminutes.com/people-are-not-supports/>

Loss of Skills and Alzheimer's Disease

<https://adscresources.advocatehealth.com/loss-of-skills-and-alzheimers-disease/>

Swallowing Problems (Dysphagia)

<https://adscresources.advocatehealth.com/swallowing-issues/>

Handle With Care Registry

<https://wgrz.com/article/news/health/mental-health/handle-with-care-registry-erie-county-wny-mental-health/71-fa39e5e8-f6be-4169-80c7-bf6366e0411c>

Hearing Loss in Adults with Down Syndrome

<https://adscresources.advocatehealth.com/hearing-loss-in-adults-with-down-syndrome/>

Holiday Brunch

Thank you to our friends at Sacred Heart for hosting us once again!



Board News

We would love more fresh faces to help plan and run our many events. Any assistance would be appreciated to keep our group going. If you can help out, please contact Amy at amy.m@dspgwny.org.

As always, if you have anything you'd like to share, contact any of the board members below or send an email to dspg@dspgwny.org.

2025 Board Elections

Welcome back to our re-elected 2025 Board Members! Melissa Garrity, Amy Monson and Gretchen White.

2025 College Scholarships

The DSPG is providing college scholarships to deserving high schoolers who have volunteered with us for at least 4 years. Please email dspg@dspgwny.org with questions or for a copy of the qualifications for the 2025-2026 school year. **Applications for the fall of 2025 are due on May 30, 2025.** We welcome our loved ones with Down syndrome to volunteer at our events.



Kids Club Play

Thank you to Sweet Charlotte's for sharing some play space!



AGING WITH DOWN SYNDROME AND IDD: The Intersection of Cognitive Decline and Alzheimer's Disease

**Friday, April 4
3:30-5:30pm**

GUEST SPEAKERS:



Brian Chicotine, MD
Adult Down Syndrome Center
Advocate Lutheran General, IL



Sarah Harlock, MBA
DENT Integrative Center for Memory



Elizabeth Randall, PsyD
People Inc.



Register online at
bit.ly/AlzDownApril2025
or call 800.272.3900



Free event! Families & professionals welcome!

Learn about dementia prevalence, diagnosis, treatment and free supportive resources.

Join us via Zoom or at
People Inc.
Rehabilitative Services
800 Hertel Ave., Buffalo

ALZHEIMER'S  ASSOCIATION

 **People Inc.**

This program is supported (in part) by a grant from the New York State Department of Health

DSPG BOARD MEMBERS

Presidents:

Amy Monson - 716-997-2843
Barbara Wakefield - 716-983-2140

Vice Presidents:

Gretchen White - 716-834-0853
Maureen Hunley-Barnes - 716-480-1021

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Carol Hetzelt - 716-832-4972

Thank you to our donors!

The Dolly Family

Jill Friedman / JM Buffalo Design

Katie Hendricks / Lyla's Buffalo Snow Plow
Fundraising event

Robin Hoch

Barbara and Justin Neri

Howard Rosenhoch

Donna Zaperal

Calendar of Events

February 15 UB Men's Basketball Game

Alumni Arena, 175 Webster Rd, Amherst
2PM

March 21 World Down Syndrome Day Celebration

Two Nines Kitchen
8230 Wehrle Dr, Williamsville, NY 14221
5PM

March 22 World Down Syndrome Day

Family Bowling Celebration

Malwitz's Island Lanes
1887 Whitehaven Road, Grand Island
2:30PM

March 23 Kids Club

Sweet Charlotte's
10255 Main Street, Clarence
9:30AM

May 20 Developmental Disability Awareness Day

Niagara Falls Convention Center
9am

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The DSPG News is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November



<https://www.facebook.com/DSPGWNY>



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