




**Down Syndrome Connection
of the Bay Area**
Empower · Inspire · Support

Making the
Connection

Volume 10 No. 2 · August 2017



Peer Development Gallery exhibit samples: see pages 6-7

Early and Lasting Connections



by Nancy Ferguson

I CAN HONESTLY SAY I have one of the best jobs at the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area (DSCBA) as Director of New Family Services. One of the most important services we provide is offering whole family support throughout the important first years of a child's life, including congratulating, welcoming, and connecting with the community.

We have welcomed 33 beautiful new babies along with their entire families as of early August, which is more than we have ever had this early on in the year. This means our medical and community outreach is working and we are getting to families when they need us most.

The DSCBA has been connecting families for 19 years. What began as a few families meeting in someone's home has evolved

*The DSCBA inspires
priceless connections.*



Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area
Empower · Inspire · Support

throughout the years into a fully supportive environment to share milestones, laugh, cry happy and sad tears, offer education, provide resources, and create opportunities for supportive relationships.

Our families develop lasting friendships that go beyond the walls of the DSCBA. Once connected, it is our members that support, empower, and inspire each other, as we become an extended family. Parents often tell me that meeting other families brings them out of the darkness and adds joy to their parenting journey.

In my role at the DSCBA as well as being a mom of an awesome adult with Down syndrome, I am honored to embrace all

who visit. I am also very grateful to all our members who share so openly with each other and make this such a wonderful community.



EMPOWER – INSPIRE – SUPPORT

Celebrating Community and Having Fun



by Nancy LaBelle

THE 2017 DSCBA GALA was an elegant and fun evening—our seventh year at the beautiful historic Diablo Country Club. The evening's theme represented our mission statement: Empower, Inspire, and Support. A record \$182,000 was raised thanks to the many kind-hearted people who attended. These funds will go toward vital programs that aim to empower, inspire, and support our members as well as Bay Area school districts and hospitals through our strong partnerships in the community.

A wonderful night like this happens with the help of many; we are thankful for every person. Over 40 volunteers and staff members worked hard to make the evening a success for the record 345 people who attended.

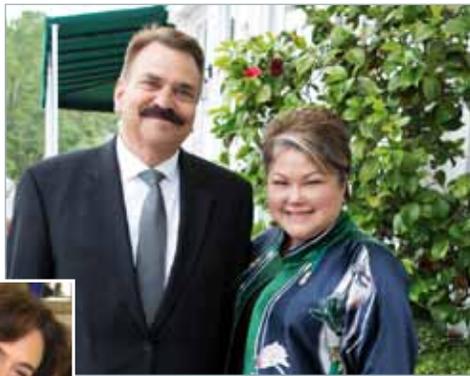
Our friend Mark Ibanez from KTVU Fox 2 was back this year as master of ceremonies to get the party started and to set the mood for the evening's festivities.

The room was incredibly beautiful thanks to our event planner, Kshama Perera, who each year brings our dreams for the evening to life.

Auctioneer Doug Talmadge provided great energy as he got the crowd excited to give.

We were delighted to recognize 5 educators, new to our gala, who received Excellence in Education awards, nominated by our families. These educators, Erin Alter, Alyssa Dennis, Margert Heinz, Shea Hunter, and Nicole Patton, make a significant impact in the lives of students with Down syndrome.

2017 GALA, continued on page 3



Parading for DSCBA and Patriotism



by Teresa Schaub

MORE THAN 60 FRIENDS AND FAMILY of the DSCBA participated in this year's Kiwanis Danville July 4th Parade! The Danville parade is hosted annually by the San Ramon Valley Kiwanis Club and this year Celebrating Community Service was the theme. This year's parade once again brought over 40,000 people to Danville. Families lined the boulevard within the heart of town to enjoy and cheer on over 100 parade entries.

Waving to cheering crowds and proudly performing in her USA team uniform, Olympic Gold Medalist Chelsea Werner led this year's DSCBA's parade float. The DSCBA's entourage was a festive group, complete with red, white, and blue decorations, embellishments, and bling. Connection employees carried the introductory banner proudly, announcing the DSCBA. They were followed by a red 1952 Chevy pick-up truck, from which came a steady stream of fruit-scented bubbles and Beach Boys music. DS Connection families, with decorated strollers and wagons in tow, waved flags, ribbons, pin-wheels, and colorful signs encouraging awareness and celebrating abilities as the Connection procession made its way down the parade route.

A wonderful start to a patriotic holiday!



Danville Vice Mayor Newell Arnerich meets award-winning gymnast Chelsea Werner



2017 GALA, continued from page 2

Our guest speakers Traci and Mike Cannon were inspirational, sharing their personal and educational journey with their amazing Grace.

We were all very excited—and a bit star struck—about the evening's entertainer: James Durbin, an American Idol finalist and a local musician who is currently touring with the band Quiet Riot as their lead singer. James is a very kind young man who came ready to show some love to his fans at the gala, starting with a meet and greet and ending with an amazing acoustic performance and dance party.

It was a successful night that will support our community in the year to come.

The 2018 Gala celebrates our 20th anniversary. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, April 14th when we'll all be *Putting on the Glitz!*



World Down Syndrome Day Celebration

by Teresa Schaub

ON MARCH 19, nearly 300 DSCBA families and friends joined in a worldwide celebration of World Down Syndrome Day (officially designated for 3/21), sharing in a fun day of play at Matteo's Dream Playground, a play area designed for children of all abilities, located within Concord's Hillcrest Park.

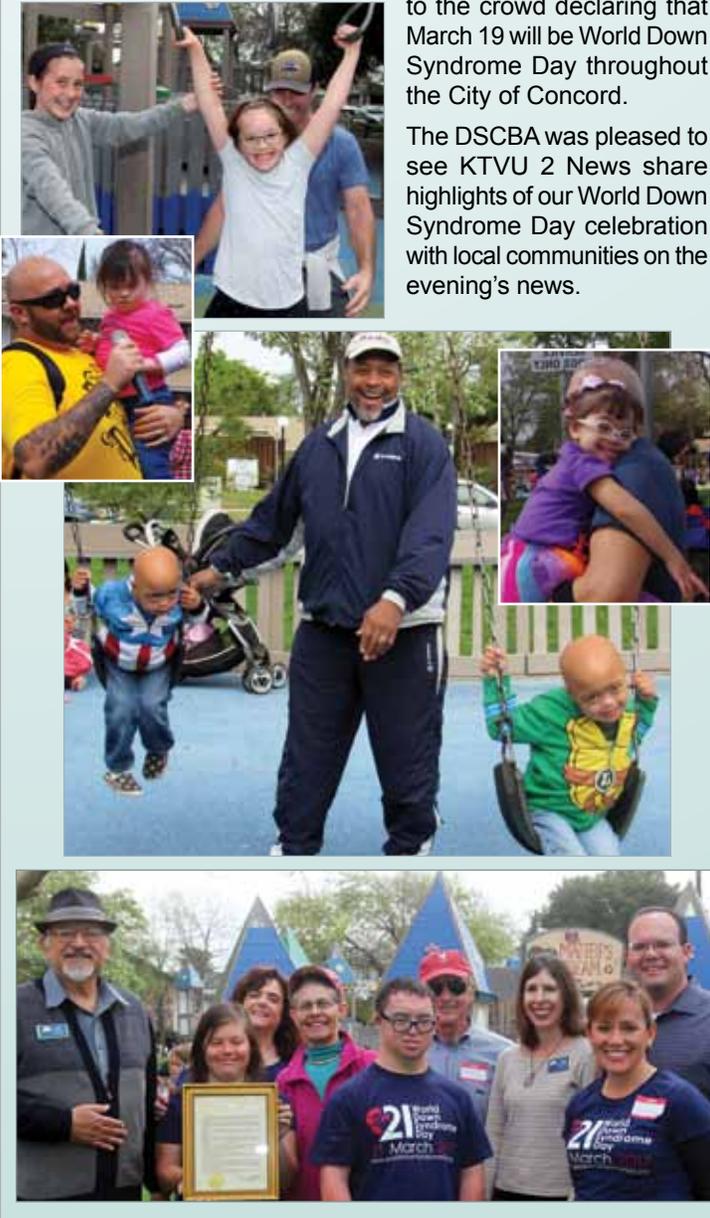
Old friends and new members alike enjoyed the festivities, which included lots of bubbles and a picnic lunch provided by local Lyon's Clubs. The Bay Area Volleyball Club provided face painters and Carondelet High School students applied temporary tattoos to children of all ages.

The crowd was treated to a surprise, live performance of "Down with You" by singer and songwriter Kyle Burnett. Kyle's performance, dedicated to his daughter Madi, provided extra excitement and led to some great dance moves and lots of smiles.

Our fun day of friendship and play included a special dedication ceremony by the Concord mayor, Laura Hoffmeister, who spoke

to the crowd declaring that March 19 will be World Down Syndrome Day throughout the City of Concord.

The DSCBA was pleased to see KTVU 2 News share highlights of our World Down Syndrome Day celebration with local communities on the evening's news.



Welcome, Malia

Welcome Malia Ramsey to our DSCBA staff. Malia has accepted the role of New Family Services Assistant and will report to Nancy Ferguson, DSCBA Director of New Family Services. Malia's work will include assembling parent care packages and other administrative duties.



Future Connections: Person-Centered Goal Planning Tool

by Marianne Iversen

FRAMING A FUTURE is a tool that was developed for The Bridge School to help people with complex communication needs plan their future based on their own priorities for their life. Judith Lunger-Bergh, Kati Skulski, and Michaela Sullivan adapted the curriculum for users with cognitive disabilities. The goal of the adapted curriculum, Future Connections, is to give participants a platform to learn about different aspects of adult life and a voice to share what is important to them with others when planning their future.

This spring we ran a pilot program with four participants. The pilot consisted of eight workshops over eight weeks; including one session for each content area and a final wrap-up and send off.

Participants gained insight into their interests and created goals for themselves.



Two pilot program participants: Lucas Dillon, above, and T. J. Crawford, below



Sharing their life maps at the end of each session with their peers, and, at the end of the program, with their parents and friends was highly motivating. Each participant created their own Powerpoint slide show, set to music that they chose, and talked about the categories and components that were important to them. This became a critically important part of the whole program and helped the concepts to really sync for each participant. It also gave them experience and practice with sharing this information, which they can replicate in the future with, for example, a Regional Center planning team.

The aim of the Future Connections program is to get the curriculum out to schools, parents, and transition teams throughout the Bay Area and beyond. We will adjust the curriculum based on the pilot program findings and then create a presentation for training and coaching that can be done in person and via webinar; we will also put the curriculum on the DSCBA website for anyone to access and use.

Special thanks to T. J. Crawford, Lucas Dillon, Adam Ferguson, and Daniel Sodestrom for participating in our pilot program.

The Great Give Day!



Thanks to the 17 Armanino LLP employees from San Ramon, including Chief Operating Officer Matt, who generously gave DSCBA their time and hard work. The event is known as the Great Give Day and on May 25 they helped us clean and organize our office to prepare for our site's summer remodel. (See page 7 for details).

DSCBA wasn't the only beneficiary of Armanino's commitment to communities. Nearly 700 Armanino employees worked on 42 projects nationwide, adding 3,500 hours to total nearly 18,000 hours of service since 2009.

by Nancy LaBelle

Tips for Change



Thank you to Gianni's Italian Bistro in San Ramon for giving us the opportunity to raise funds through their generous Tips for Change program this past June. Our DSCBA staff

waited on 60 diners, raising \$2,800 in tips. The tips and 10% of the sales all went to DSCBA programs! Thank you to everyone who came out to eat delish Italian food and to our staff for working hard to make everyone happy.

Check out Gianni's Italian Bistro for dinner tonight!

Giannissanramon.com

BACK TO SCHOOL



by Jennifer Cooper

THE BEGINNING OF A NEW school year tends to bring both excitement and anxiety. Here are some ideas to help set the stage for success for your children with Down syndrome.

- Help your child get back on the school schedule; make sure they're rested.
- Allow your child to have a say in school choices, i.e. choosing a lunchbox and outfits.
- If possible, have children meet their future teachers prior to the first day of school.
- Allow students to tour the school grounds and classroom and point out important areas, i.e. cubbies, bathrooms, etc.
- Have last year's IEP team pass along any tips and information they found beneficial in working with your child.
- Ensure the educators on the team understand about Down syndrome and have your child's IEP. A helpful "Educator's Manual" can be downloaded and shared from our website.
- Be on the lookout for upcoming trainings at the DSCBA; share the information with your child's team.
- Assist educators in getting to know your child personally. Share a "Getting to Know Me" booklet (found on our website) or a one-page personal profile (example on our website).
- Know your student's goals and how to support them at home. Assess the appropriateness of goals, be willing or take action to adjust when appropriate.
- Develop a regular method of communication with the teacher(s) that works for the educator(s).
- Help your child foster friendships: have playdates and teach social scripts if necessary.
- Have an ability awareness presentation in your child's classroom, especially if the child is in general education. Find information about ability awareness on our website.

The DSCBA is here to support you, your family, and your child's education team. Please come to us with questions, to share successes, and simply to keep in touch. We enjoy hearing from you! Best wishes for a successful school year!

LOCAL KIDS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Sweet Cookie Dough

Emi Tang and her Danville Brownie Troop #32226 donated \$200 from cookie sales to the DSCBA in honor of Emi's sister Naya.



Baking for Good



Erin Daniels, Brooklyn Burns, Kamden Croghan, Reagan Plitt, and Nathan Ball, sixth graders from San Ramon Valley Christian Academy, held a bake sale to raise funds in honor of Will Drucker. The group raised \$578 while raising awareness.

Raising Awareness and Raising Funds



Sabrina Carney and Faith Cummings deliver \$450 to our Wednesday Peer Development class

Sabrina Carney and Faith Cummings, eighth-grade students from St. Isidore, wanted to raise funds for the DSCBA in honor of Faith's cousin Cole Kelley. They set up a table with a poster they created in front of the Alamo CVS store, and handed out brochures, selflessly promoting awareness about Down syndrome and the value of the DSCBA and raising \$450 for DSCBA programs.



Peer Development Class Students Show Off Their Talents

by Marianne Iversen

STUDENTS FROM THE DANVILLE AND BENICIA Peer Development Classes have been working for over a year on a variety of art projects created from recycled materials. Their finished pieces were displayed in an art exhibit at Danville's Village Theatre and Art Gallery May 18–June 17.

The inspiration for the exhibit started with a four feet by eight feet bottle cap mural made by Danville's young adult class and was affectionately named Garden of Friendship. This project was a true testament of patience, talent, and perseverance as this was the biggest project a class had taken on. When Marija Bleier, the Gallery's curator, saw the mural, she asked if we could present an entire exhibit showcasing our

participants' talents creating art with recycled materials. The challenge was accepted and the fun started.

After collecting many different types of reusable items, the creating began. Alice Pennes, art instructor extraordinaire, helped with developing the project concepts and assisted in many of the classes. Scraps of yarn weaved onto cardboard, painted egg cartons, and Sharpie-decorated water bottles cut into spirals all became three amazing hanging pieces. An owl was produced from buttons, robots were built from a variety of materials, a bowl was shaped from fabric scraps, and a beautiful tree was produced from cardboard toilet paper rolls. Creative faces were painted on crushed soda cans, coffee filters were sprayed with

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Continued from page 6

watercolors, and a tennis ball container became a flower stamp that was painted on a reused canvas. Other pieces were made by painting over discarded canvases and using pallets, rocks, and Styrofoam meat trays.

The culmination of all this artistic effort came when the pieces were hung at the gallery and the students were able to see their creativeness, ingenuity, and imagination displayed for others to see. At the opening night reception, all the artists were filled with pride and absolute joy to see their works being admired and in some cases being purchased by others. A special thank you goes to both Alice Pennes for her talents and commitment to this endeavor and to the Town of Danville for recognizing the talents of our members and giving them the opportunity to showcase them. The bottle cap mural will now be proudly displayed in the Danville's Community Center.

We are Renovating!

Thanks to a very generous capital grant from The Joseph and Vera Long Foundation and the kindness of architect and Danville Vice Mayor Newell Arnerich, Danville Rotary, Danville Sycamore Rotary, the San Ramon Valley Kiwanis, and Smart and Final, we are excited to have the opportunity to update our DSCBA office at 101-J Town and Country Drive in Danville.

Our Danville office space will be temporarily closed from August 1, 2017 through October 31 with an estimated reopen date of November 1, 2017

BUT WAIT...this does NOT affect our programs and services!

Our staff is working hard off-site and we have arranged for our programs to be held at local locations.

OUR REMODEL PROJECT BENEFITS:

- **EXPANDED CLASSROOM SPACE** – to accommodate programs as well as largely attended workshops for educators/parents.
- **ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE** – to be used for therapy and other consultative services.
- **KITCHEN** – to be used for life skills training and art projects.

BE SURE TO keep checking our website for updated program dates/times/locations at www.dsconnection.org

HOW TO REACH US...just like you always did!
Call us at 925-362-8660 or email us at dscba@dsconnection.org

At right: Our very first Mom's Day Out event was held on Sunday, May 28, in Foster City. All the moms were treated to a delicious Italian lunch, an art workshop, massages, palm reading, and more. It was a time to connect, create, and rejuvenate. The moms enjoyed it so much that we will make this a yearly tradition. Thank you to all of our amazing sponsors and volunteers for making this happen.



On the Peninsula



Julie Tang and daughter Johanna

by Julie Tang

I'M FILLED WITH GRATITUDE as I'm writing this. It's hard to believe that about two years ago, our DS families on the Peninsula had no organized support. All we had was hope and faith. Sometimes it really does take a leap of faith to make things happen and that's exactly what happened to our DS community on the Peninsula. I started a support group in my own living room with 4-5 families—now we have close to 100 families. As we were

exploring possibilities and finding ways to create opportunities, the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area came to our rescue. I was brought on staff to help assist with expansion of DSCBA services into the Peninsula. That's really how our DS community became the DSCBA Peninsula group.

So what services and programs do we have now? We now have music therapy classes, monthly support group meetings, parent workshops, educator workshops, art workshops, a Mom's Day Out event, holiday parties, social events, and peer development classes! We are beyond blessed to have the DSCBA supporting our families and always finding ways to better meet our needs. Without them, we would not be where we are today.

See page 9 for a few more snapshots of what's been happening on the Peninsula.





At left: Thank you to the awesome owner, Michael Mallie, from Maverick Jack's for hosting our World DS Day celebration and fundraising event! Here Johanna accepts our fundraising check on behalf of the DSCBA.

At right: Having fun at our World DS Day celebration at Maverick Jack's on 3/21/17.



Our kids love the music therapy classes in Foster City. Nicole Patton is the best!



Above: At our fundraising event hosted by the wonderful owner, Jen Quan, from rec room creative. Johanna again accepts a fundraising check on behalf of the DSCBA.

Page 8 center photo: One of our free art workshops for kids at a support group meeting. Meetings are often held at rec room creative, an indoor play area in Burlingame. We are so grateful to the owner, Jen Quan, who has made this possible for us. Parents meet and connect in the back room, while kids play and create in the spacious play room. Thank you to our fabulous art instructor, Rod Ayers, for facilitating and sponsoring our event.

Open House!

Calling South Bay & Santa Clara County Families!

Share your ideas with us and bring DSCBA programs and services to your community that meet your unique needs.

Saturday, September 16, 10am – noon
Tuesday, September 26, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Open Houses will be at Parents Helping Parents
 1400 Parkmoor Ave. #1C0, San Jose, 95126

RSVP: SurveyMonkey.com/r/dscaopenhouse

 **Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area**
www.dsconnection.org

SIGN UP TODAY!

STEP UP FOR DOWN SYNDROME 10.08.17
 EMPOWER. INSPIRE. SUPPORT

Help Us Reach Our 2017 Goal: \$210,000

BAY AREA STEP UP FOR DOWN SYNDROME WALK AND FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday, October 8, 2017
10am - 2pm
Pleasant Hill Middle School

- Free Event for friends and family of the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area
- Carnival
- Food Trucks (Variety of food for purchase)
- Music
- Family Picnic Areas (Bring tents and food)
- Easy Walk Around the Track
- and Much More Fun!

We can only continue what we do with your help.
Step up and create your fundraising page today!
www.dsconnection.org/StepUp

THANK YOU

FOUNDATIONS, FAMILY FUNDS, CORPORATIONS, AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Anonymous Family Foundation
Armanino Foundation
Barr Family Foundation
Lowell Berry Foundation
Brush Family Foundation
California Communications Access Foundation
Charis Fund
Chevron Corporation
Fidelity Charitable Grant – Calhoun Family Fund
Fremont Bank Foundation
The Carl Gellert and Celia Berta Gellert Foundation
Global Down Syndrome Foundation
Bill Graham Supporting Foundation
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Lencioni Fund
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The Joseph & Vera Long Foundation
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San Ramon Valley Rotary
San Ramon Valley Kiwanis Foundation
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Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
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CONGREGATION BETH EL

B'Nei Mitzvah 7th grade Tzedakah Fund 2017 class, in honor of Eli's and Jennifer's presentation

GENENTECH, INC.

Christian Small
Steve Vernay

IN HONOR OF ELI COOPER

Emily Ahlvin

IN HONOR OF JOE DRUCKER'S YEARS OF SERVICE ON OUR SAN RAMON VALLEY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SCHOOL BOARD

Jamie Westgate

IN HONOR OF WILL DRUCKER

Amy Rodrik

IN HONOR OF NATHAN DUHON

Freddie Widmer

IN HONOR OF ELI FANOUS, WHO IS DONATING ON BEHALF OF HIS SISTER

John Fanous

IN HONOR OF BLAIR HOGAN

Paul and Carol Rioux

IN HONOR OF ROBERT JOHNSON

Judi Nacinovich

IN HONOR OF NANCY LABELLE, FOR ALL SHE DOES AND FOR ALL THAT SHE DOES GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND!

Janet and Jim Richman

IN HONOR OF ISABELLA LINDSAY'S BIRTHDAY

Karen Martinez
Cynthia Mowry

IN HONOR OF SOFIA LINDSAY

Brian Krokus
Karen Martinez

IN HONOR OF OM, FOR HIS FIRST BIRTHDAY

Stephen Grambling
Archana Gupta
Ashish Gupta
Ann Pells

IN HONOR OF NATE PATRICK

Beth Kuklinski

IN HONOR OF MY MOTHER CAMILLE SCHULTE, FOR HER BIRTHDAY

Jeffrey Schulte

IN HONOR OF HEATHER VUKELICH FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Mark Vukelich

IN HONOR OF CONNIE WEIMAR

Clayton Valley Women's Club

IN MEMORY OF ROY LINDEBERG

Kim Lindeberg

IN MEMORY OF DOROTHY READY

Kerry and Scott Vermeer

GENERAL DONATIONS

Eduardo and Daniella Aguiar
Bean Plant Co.
Books Are Fun Event, Oyster Point Plaza
Brownie Troop #32226
Lili Byers and Peter Straus
Victoria Chiampas
Chinn/Breazeale Giving Fund
Jackson Fitzgerald
Aaron Garcia
Saleena Goel
Vikram and Seema Goel
Jeanne Hardgrove
Jennifer Kilian
Brett Levay-Young
Mike Lim
Michael Mallie – Maverick Jack's
Kenneth Nishimoto
Jocelyn Orillaneda
Jen Quan – rec room creative
Michael P. Ranahan
Daniel and Rowan Rivers
Isabela Sa
Kiranmai Sathulur & Ravi Kota
Christian Small
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Kerrigan Malek, in memory of
Kyle Martinez for Christian James
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on behalf of Sarah Najar
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On behalf of Bailey DeSchane
volunteer for the Down Syndrome
Connection

KAISER PERMANENTE

Anonymous
Rick LaBelle

MACY'S EAST

Anonymous
Scott Ferguson

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

Anonymous
Ravinder Khangura
Scott Lam
Isela Lopez-Garibay
Laura Martinez
Jennifer Nunez

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Virginia Lydia Canlis Jones

1921–2016

Leaving a Legacy to the Families of the DSCBA

VIRGINIA LYDIA CANLIS JONES was born in 1921 in Long Beach, California, and passed away in 2016. She was an accomplished musician, playing the accordion and the piano before a variety of audiences. She loved to dance with sailors on leave at the Pike during World War II.

She worked for over 40 years in secretarial positions at Graham Bros., Douglas Oil Co, and Pacific Land Company, which was owned by Donald Bendetti and John Barr, from which she retired after 25 years. She was extremely capable at her job, always prompt, pleasant, and cooperative—a more popular, lovely lady you would never meet.

She and her husband, Walter Jones, lived in Fallbrook, California. He passed away in 1998.

Virginia (Ginny) kept up with all of her friends and cousins throughout the years. She always said that if she could leave any funds it would be to charities that worked with those in need where you could see where the money was being spent, as opposed to research only. When John Barr informed her of the work being done by the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, she exclaimed, "How perfect!"

by Marianne Iversen



Continued from page 10

Jenny Rios, in honor of her daughter Bianca
Charles Seufert
Corbin Shields
Ray Szeto

SPATS BERKELEY FUNDRAISER

Kyle Burnett
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ST. ISIDORE SCHOOL PROJECT

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TIPS FOR CHANGE FUNDRAISER

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Anonymous donor in honor of
Dominic Deluca
Ronald Caton
Anthony Deluca
Mark McCormick
Paul Rettig

Please know we work very hard to ensure your kindness is acknowledged. If your contribution to our success was received after the newsletter went to press, we will be honored to highlight your generosity in the next edition. Thank you!

VOLUNTEERS

DEDICATED CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS

Mia Anzilotti
Vanessa Boone
Haley Chambers
Memet Decarion
Dawn Handley
Maureen Hunter
Brytney Lee
Maddy MacDonald
Ben Park
Joey Powada
Stav Sendrovitz
Kathleen Stein
Toni Sweet
Lauren Viarengo

PLANNED GIVING



AS A LONGTIME FRIEND of DSCBA, my goal is to help this amazing organization solidify its future, while helping its extended family create a lasting legacy.

Planned giving is the thoughtful process of providing support for your favorite charitable causes in the context of your personal, financial, and estate planning. Adopting a strategy can help maximize available tax and financial benefits for you and your loved ones.

Planned gifts can create permanent endowments for the perpetual support of DSCBA members and the many one-of-a-kind programs in which they participate. Planned gifts may include outright current gifts of cash and other assets such as stock, business interests, real estate, personal property (ex. artwork, collections), and equipment. Some planned gifts, such as charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities, can pay income to you and your loved ones. You can also leave a legacy with deferred gifts from your estate through a bequest in a will, trust, life insurance, or retirement plan.

Periodically, through this newsletter, I will dive into greater detail on how you can optimize planned giving in order to have the greatest impact on this life-changing organization. In the meantime, if I can help you maximize your support of DSCBA, please feel free to contact me at 2000 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 450, San Ramon, CA 94583; office: 925-866-7800, Fax: 925-866-7803; SUMMITADVISORS.COM.

Steve Wilcox, CAP®, CFP®, ChFC®, CFS®
Partner Financial Advisor

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Making the Connection

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Down Syndrome Connection
of the Bay Area

www.dsconnection.org

Phone 925-362-8660

101 J Town & Country Drive
Danville, CA 94526

www.facebook.com/dscba



WE'RE RENOVATING!

See page 7
for details

Blair Hogan always measures up!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Mission

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.

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Upcoming Events

South Bay Open House Two Open House Events

SATURDAY, **SEPTEMBER 16** See details on page 9

TUESDAY, **SEPTEMBER 26**

Step Up for DS Walk and Picnic See details on page 9

SUNDAY, **OCTOBER 8** PLEASANT HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL
TRACK AND FIELD

DSCBA Holiday Party Embrace the Spirit of the Season!

SUNDAY, **DECEMBER 3**

2018 DSCBA Gala TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

SATURDAY, **APRIL 14, 2018** DIABLO COUNTRY CLUB

Putting on the Glitz!

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVING THE COMMUNITY

MEDICAL OUTREACH ALLIANCE

Cathleen Small, Medical Outreach Alliance Coordinator, presents 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.



UCSF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CONFERENCE

In March, Cathleen presented at the Annual Developmental Disabilities Conference, UCSF School of Medicine Continuing Education in San Francisco. Over **250** doctors, nurses, social workers, and others who work with people with developmental disabilities were in attendance.

The presentation received high, above average ratings!

"Good to have practical tips for professionals' communications with parents. Very useful."

"The best presentation of all, real-life experience and advice. Thank you!"

"Loved that she used clinical information combined with personal experience. Really appreciate real-life advice on things that we can do."



Medical professionals who attend our trainings gain strategies they can implement when working with families receiving a Down syndrome diagnosis.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY AT UCSF BENIOFF CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Cathleen gave a presentation on March 21st to

50 Pediatricians and **97%** had a positive approval!

TRAININGS ARE AVAILABLE VIA WEBINAR!



Does our newsletter **INSPIRE** you to give?

Visit our website
dsconnection.org/donate