



Making The Connection

SUMMER 2010

DOWN SYNDROME CONNECTION OF THE BAY AREA



INSIDE

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DSCBA Wins Community Service Float Award Second Year in a Row!

This year's 4th of July parade was a hit! Our float was filled with children, families, staff, and volunteers all celebrating our cause. The theme of the parade was "Honoring our Everyday Heroes." The DSCBA believes that our heroes come in many forms. Our heroes are the donors that keep our doors open, the teachers that help our children develop, the staff and volunteers that fill the Connection with love, and let's not forget our make-believe super heroes that all of our children adore so much! A special thanks to Rich Kelley for maintaining his "master craftsman" role and building us an AWESOME float! Also a special thanks to: Maura Perkins, Kurt Perkins, Brian Garcia, Jo Kelley, the Hogan family, Nancy LaBelle, Tyler Hailey, Brian Fischer, Karen Peterson, Mark Vukelich, Hallie Foster, and our volunteers and families for your support throughout the process! *See you next year!* – Heather Peterson, Board Member

Executive Director's Forum

A Note from Nancy



I hope you are enjoying the newsletter and that your summer is full of fun with friends and family! We are having another busy year at the Connection as we work towards our 2010 goals. Our annual meeting was so much fun with Kellie, Hank and Carla Greenwald as they all shared so beautifully what comes from Kellie's heart. We also had National Down Syndrome Society President Jon Coleman who gave an informative presentation about what the NDSS does and what they are currently working on. Thanks to Kathy Harkins and Marianne Iversen for coordinating the event.

Thanks to Board Treasurer Bill Bayliss, in 2010 we are efficiently cruising in Quick Books, giving our Operations Director Kathy Harkins automation of time-consuming tasks and several reporting capabilities.

We are on our way to several fundraisers and I hope you will support us by attending or volunteering. We have two coming up that literally keep our doors open. Our annual Charity Gala will be at the Diablo Country Club on Saturday, September 18. It will be a night of live and silent auctions, dancing to live music from Zendeavor, a delicious dinner and a lot of great fun! Tickets are available on our web site and we still need help obtaining great auction prizes.

The Buddy Walk raises the most money for our organization. This year we will change it up as we will be at the Little Hills Ranch in San Ramon on Sunday, October 3. Thanks to Little Hill's generosity we were able to secure the entire park for the day. There will be swimming, rock climbing, a bouncy house, sports and much more. Little Hills has plenty of parking for everyone and a great trail for our walk. The generous folks of the Walnut Creek Kiwanis club are doing the barbequing and donating the food, and we will have a live concert in the park with the hot Bay Area rock band Public Eye. I need your help... please send out a web page this year to all of your friends, coworkers and family members asking for their support of your walker.

With growth comes the need and desire to assess our programs. We are currently working on a "new parent survey" with the help of member Lara Peng to ensure we are giving parents what they need or want at diagnosis. We are also planning new workshops, updating our lending library thanks to the San Ramon Kiwanis club, starting a Grandparents support group and so much more.

The heart of the Connection is its members. I ask you as a member of our organization to join us however you can, whenever you can, and to please forward our requests for help, attendance or donations to your circle of friends and family. What you give or the time you take makes a difference in the lives of so many wonderful families and allows us to keep doing what we are honored to do everyday.

- Nancy LaBelle
Executive Director and Editor

GRANDPARENTS SUPPORT GROUP STARTS AT THE CONNECTION!

This group will meet on one Wednesday a month from 10am - noon, dates to be determined based on interest. For more information please call Martha Hogan at 925-362-8660 or email her at marhogan@sbcglobal.net. This will be a great group for grandparents of children birth to 8 years of age.

Amy Parham takes on Making the Connection



We are pleased to announce that Amy Parham, current Vice-President of the DSCBA Board, will be assuming responsibility for our newsletter, Making the Connection, beginning this fall. Amy has 12 years experience in non-profit public relations and communications. She is thrilled to share the news of the unique abilities and accomplishments of our families, and the amazing activities and programs of the Connection. Amy can be reached at amy@parham.org.



Down Syndrome Connection OF THE BAY AREA

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Tamara Reed Teacher tamarareed@yahoo.com

2010-11 Board Meetings

101 J Town & Country Dr., Danville 6:45pm - 8:15pm
JULY 27 AUG 24 SEPT 28 OCT 26
*** DEC 7
*** No November Meeting
All meetings are open to members. If you would like to attend or bring a guest please call Board President, Maura Perkins at 888-654-8884.

*Parents' Support Group

Parents of children with Down syndrome are welcome and encouraged to join our monthly support group to exchange information, share common experiences and be encouraged by other parents with similar issues and concerns. The group meets at the Connection office in Danville, 101 J Town & Country Drive. Please call Martha Hogan if you have questions or to tell her you are coming: 925-362-8660.

JULY 27 AUG 24 SEPT 28 OCT 26
*** DEC 7

*Childcare is not available. Babies under 10 months are welcome. This group is for parents.

Made with Love!

On July 2 the Diablo Valley Quilters of Danville presented the Connection with 15 amazing quilts to be given to families with new babies.

"The blankets will say welcome and congratulations to new parents who come to us for support," says Martha Hogan, DSCBA founder and advocacy support director.



The Diablo Valley Quilters are committed to supporting various local and national charities and are always looking for people to help with this outreach program.

If you would like to help please call Linda Patridge 925-648-7517, www.diablovalleyquilters.org.

Baby Vivian – Almost 1-year-old and enjoying her new quilt.



Dianne Barnett, Linda Patridge, Martha Hogan, Maryann Maiorana and Spencer Brown.

President's Corner MAURA PERKINS

Can you believe that over half the year has passed? In that time we've made great strides within our organization.



We have a new office and classroom space in Danville, which has been phenomenal for our kids and staff. The Open House that was held in March had a huge showing of support with many of our members, donors and fellow Danville Chamber of Commerce members in attendance. Thank you to everyone for helping to make our Grand Opening at the new location a success!

The Bowl-A-Rama event that was held in May was also a huge success! The bowling lanes were filled to capacity and we had some fabulous raffle and auction items donated. Our fundraising goal was met and we couldn't have had a better time.

Our most challenging months of the year are ahead of us for fundraising. Being in a larger classroom space, serving more children and expanding our programs comes with added costs. We ask for your continued support of attending our events, donating your time for our event committee positions, and considering joining our Board of Directors. These are the most effective ways to ensure that our non-profit organization will continue to thrive.

We are looking for Committee Members for events. There are volunteer positions available for the Gala, Buddy Walk and Holiday Party. If you have a few free hours a week and would like to volunteer your time and ideas we'd love to hear from you.

The Board of Directors is also seeking qualified individuals to assist with our fundraising efforts and ideas for new events, or to make our existing events better. If you, a friend, family member, neighbor or work colleague is interested in becoming a Board Member we welcome a visit at our next Board Meeting on August 17th.

Again, thank you to all of our members, donors, sponsors, teachers, staff and board members for making the world a better place for all who take part in our services.

Your calls and emails are welcome at any time. Maura Perkins (888)654-8884 Ext. 1 or email: mperkins@mkni.com.

Walk a Mile
Support the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area

2010 Bay Area Buddy Walk & Picnic

Sunday, October 3rd, 2010
Little Hills Ranch

18013 Bollinger Canyon Rd, San Ramon

10:00am - 4:00pm

Walk Starts Promptly at 11:30am

BBQ Lunch - Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Walnut Creek



Activities Available:
Swimming, rock climbing, volleyball, bouncy house and much more!



Committee Members and Volunteers Needed!
Please contact Buddy Walk Coordinator Tammy Garcia:
tammygarcia09@yahoo.com

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WITH BAY AREA ROCK AND
DANCE BAND...
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Register Now and Reserve your T-Shirt

\$30 Per Person/Kids 5 and Under FREE!

www.firstgiving.com/dscba

After registering please create a personal webpage.
Email it to all of your friends, family and co-workers
asking them to sponsor your walker or your team.

The Buddy Walk is the DSCBA's largest source
of funding. Please help us meet our goal!

Thank you for your support!

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Mark Your Calendar for October 9th

"THREE BOATS" • TOWN'S VILLAGE THEATRE IN DANVILLE • 7pm – 9pm

Tickets can be purchased at www.villagetheatreshows.com. A portion of all proceeds benefits the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area.

Troupe Names:

Joe Saam, Jon Cordova, Kathy
Neubecker, Alice Kwong-Van dusen
Eddie Roberts, Andy Bardin
Marie Applegate Prasad



**Trapped In A Rumor
Improv**

Because society can't
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Trapped In A Rumor is an eight person ensemble of improvisators who perform a show similar to Drew Carey's television show "Whose Line Is It Anyway." It is based on audience participation and/or inspiration. *It is a fast paced, high energy show that involves everyone. No show is the same!*



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The Importance of Pre-Feeding Exercises with your New Baby

Congratulations to all of the new parents that have been joining the Down Syndrome Connection in the past few months. We are so lucky to have you! Now that your baby is born, what can you do to ensure the best feeding and future speech development? The answer is “Oral Motor Stimulation.” Sarah Rosenfeld Johnson and her company Talk Tools (www.talktools.net) provides a seminar called “Developing Oral Motor and Feeding Skills in the Down Syndrome Population.” It is this very influential company that has changed the way we treat our children with Down syndrome in the world of feeding and speech development. The “Pre-Feeding Exercises” in this seminar are easy to do with your baby and can help facilitate good feeding skills throughout their lives, as well as promote good motor movement and overall oral awareness and placement of articulators (lips/tongue/jaw) for the purposes of speech development.

What are pre-feeding exercises?

Pre-feeding exercises are simple exercises you can do on and in your baby’s mouth before you feed your baby. These exercises work to normalize your baby’s facial tone, oral sensation and mouth structure. They will also help to create the motor patterns necessary for the feed you are about to give, as well as future foods you will be presenting.

Do I need tools?

When your baby is young, very minimal tools are necessary. Most work can be done with your fingers and hands. When your baby gets older, it is advantageous to add some vibration and strength building tools.

When can I start doing pre-feeding exercises?

I have been seeing parents and babies at the Down Syndrome Connection in their 3rd week of life. However, I have also been training parents before their baby is born. Sarah Rosenfeld Johnson and her associates claim pre-feeding exercises can be initiated the second day of life.



Can these exercises hurt my baby?

No, these exercises are based on loving touch, and can help to create a bond between you and your baby. They cannot hurt your baby.

Where can I learn these exercises?

New families are welcome to schedule a free of charge appointment with me to learn the Pre-Feeding exercises at the Down Syndrome Connection (Monday-Wednesday) or in San Francisco (Thursday/Friday).

What is the next step after my baby is a few months old?

When you and your baby are ready to start rice cereal/purees (typically between 4-6 months), scheduling an appointment with an oral motor based speech pathologist to help facilitate appropriate spoon feeding techniques would be a good idea. These techniques will help promote lip closure around the spoon, tongue retraction during your baby’s swallow, and safe/appropriate foods to feed your baby.

Please feel free to contact me for a free of charge appointment at happykidstherapy@hotmail.com or 202.425.6874.

– Heather Peterson, MS SLP-CCC
Speech Pathologist

Nico G. Barillas – The Rainmaker

There we were in Central America. We were newlywed in our 1st year of marriage when Nico was born. We were living in Panama City, Panama, on a work assignment and his arrival was a life changing experience, as most births are.

As our first child, not only were we learning the ropes of new born parenting, we were also trying to understand what we needed to do since he was diagnosed with Down syndrome in the 6th month of our pregnancy. Looking back, it is very obvious to us that we were not the first couple in this situation, but hindsight has always been 20/20.

Is he too hot, is he too cold? Did he eat enough, did he eat too much? Is he sleeping too much, why won’t he sleep? How soon is too soon for early intervention therapies? Numerous calls to Grandmas and our Pediatrician were surely part of everyone else’s first few weeks right? We know these are the basics, but what we didn’t know, is that in a few short years later, he would be caring for us in ways immeasurable.

My wife Veronica has Multiple Sclerosis (MS). She was diagnosed seven years ago. MS is an

autoimmune disease that attacks the central nervous system. Her diagnosis is relapsing/remitting. The short version is, it appears with no notice, and wipes out her mobility, vision and speech in various ways depending on the strength of the attack. When this happens, she is in need of immediate treatment via solumedrol infusions for days at a time with many weeks to recover. Unbelievably, we are blessed that with her type of MS, combined with her strength in fighting each attack, she has recovered 100% each time.

We have participated in fundraising for MS with an annual walk in our hometown of Des Moines, IA. The spring event has brought a serious purpose in our fight for a cure. Each year Team V is assembled and



friends and family join us in person, as well as, with very generous donations. Since our team was formed, we have consistently been the #1 fundraising team in the North Central Chapter.

This year, Nico partnered with Veronica’s Mom (affectionately referred to as Gaga by her grandchildren) to be co-captains of Team V. With his vast network of contacts and Gaga’s leadership, Nico incredibly not only led Team V to the #1 spot for the 7th year in a row as they raised over \$14,250, but he was the #1 individual fundraiser at \$7,880.00!!! He was pushed proudly in his stroller by his mother and along with his Gaga,

it was three generations of unconditional love regardless of an extra chromosome or the threat of another MS

attack. A ‘Rainmaker’ is a term used to describe an executive or lawyer with serious income producing abilities and we found that in Nico and then some.

I couldn’t be prouder. Our home is one filled with love. Veronica is the type that turns words on a paper into a sweet sounding song. She has a heart full of love and a strength that is unmatched. Nico is the type that makes you melt with a smile and has shown us what life truly is about in less than 28 months. With the footprints of their lives in my heart, I fall asleep every night wondering how it is that my son has Down syndrome, my wife has MS and I am happier than most people I know.

– Marty Barillas

“... my son has Down syndrome, my wife has MS and I am happier than most people I know.”



From left: the Roby family; Barrett, Anne, Nick and Brock.

Talking up a storm

Anne Roby shared this poem, written five years ago by Nick Roby about his brother, Barrett, who has Down syndrome. Nick was in 6th grade at the time and his class was asked to write an autobiographical poem where each stanza would be a different year in their 11 year-old lives. Most kids wrote about learning to play soccer, the flute, or something like that, yet Nick wrote about watching his older brother Barrett learn to speak. The poem had a big impact and is a family treasure.

Barrett's Poem

Chapter 1: Age 2

Talking up a storm
Quiet one in the back seat
My brother can't speak.
Sorry for him; I want to help.
With a magic wand,
I want noise from this mouth.
Quiet and not satisfied with what I have.

Chapter 2: Age 3

Saying some words
He can't talk in a conversation
I try to tell him the ABC's.
He can't do it.
I feel discouraged.
I can't help him.
I quit soon after I start.

Chapter 3: Age 4

My brother can talk.
He stutters and can't pronounce things well.
I try to correct him.
He learns but not at a fast pace.
I feel good but also sad.
I can help.

Chapter 4: Age 10.

My brother can talk well
But he doesn't really have friends.
I help him talk to others.
He can't keep it up.
I feel happy and persevere.
I know he will be social some day.

Chapter 5: Age 11

My brother has his first best friend.
He also had his first sleepover,
But he talks to imaginary people.
I get frustrated and talk to my mom.
She encourages me and tells me
I helped him talk.
Says he copied me to learn.
She is right.
At the end of the day,
I know tomorrow
He will talk up a storm.

Sensational sibling support

Smart, super, sensitive, silly, stupendous are just some of the words I would use to describe the wonderful siblings that I was able to work with last summer and fall.

I had a lot of fun leading activities to foster discussion about feelings and attitudes about having a brother or sister with Down syndrome. I felt so honored to spend time with such an intelligent and wise group of young people.

My name is Terese Ghilarducci and I am a Marriage and Family Therapist and a former DSCBA Board Member. For the past ten years, I have been a high school counselor; I am currently at a continuation school. Although, I do not have a sibling with a disability, I have been blessed to be a part of Blair Hogan's life.

During the summer of 2009, I piloted a support group at the Connection for siblings ages 8-13 years-old. During the fall, I worked with two children, both age 9, who bonded and communicated beautifully with each other. We did a lot of art activities designed to talk about feelings, such as shame, anger, embarrassment, guilt and sadness, but a lot of happy feelings were discussed as well.

One of their favorite activities was answering questions and giving advice to other siblings who wrote about their concerns to "Aunt Blabby." This was an activity from the SibShop Workbook from Don Meyer.

Here are some of the problems that my friends solved that we would like to share with other siblings and parents out there.

What to do when your friends are mean to your sibling with Down syndrome?

- Explain that you don't like the word "retard" and explain what Down syndrome is.
- Tell your friends before they come over about the special needs of your sibling and then, if they don't want to come over, invite two other friends
- Try to do things that you can play together like hide and seek.

How to communicate to your parents

- Tell your parents that baby-sitting is okay as long as you don't feel pushed into doing it more than once or twice a week, and when you are old enough get your own part-time job.
- Talk to your parents calmly, asking for alone time with them, but don't act out at school because you will get in trouble.
- Nobody is a "superkid" and your parents shouldn't expect perfect grades.
- Sometimes siblings are embarrassing and it's okay to tell your parents that you have these feelings.
- Ask your parents to put a lock on your door so you can do your homework in peace and they won't mess up your room.
- If you don't like your sibling's style of dress then ask your parents if you could help take them shopping to places like the Gap and Tilly's.

I really don't think I could have said it better myself. If you are interested in learning more about my work with siblings, please email me at terese.marieg@comcast.net or contact Marianne Iversen at the Connection.
— Terese Ghilarducci, MFT



New Parent Group! Focusing on School and Educational Needs

Are you a parent of a school-aged child with questions about your child's educational plan? Do you wonder if a special education classroom or a general education classroom is the right placement for your child, or wonder how other parents have handled the many concerns we share in educating our children and meeting their unique needs? We've learned so much in talking with other parents, we thought it might be worthwhile to start a parent group to share experiences, knowledge, concerns, etc. in order to help each other with school decisions, in working with districts, and in developing successful programs for our children in general.

If you may be interested in joining this group, send an email to Laurie McGrath at LaurieMcGrath@gmail.com, or to Martha Hogan at marhogan@sbcglobal.net. We'd love to hear from you!

BOOK REVIEW

The Little King and his Marshmallow Kingdom

I have read many books over the years written for families and for children by a family member that has a child born with Down syndrome. I have read books that have been written to help fathers and to help others understand how our kids are so capable in so many ways. This book by far is one of the very best. It is heartwarming, insightful, entertaining and educational. The Father's journey in the back of the book is truly inspirational. It is a must read and a book to be shared with many. Enjoy!



Comments by others about the book;

"The father's journey make me cry and touched me deeply."

"I love bubbles after reading this book."

"So great for families to read who have a relative or friend who has Down syndrome"

"Oh My!!"

— Martha Hogan

For our families: The DSCBA has several copies for sale at the Connection and one in our library to check out.

Clown Syndrome

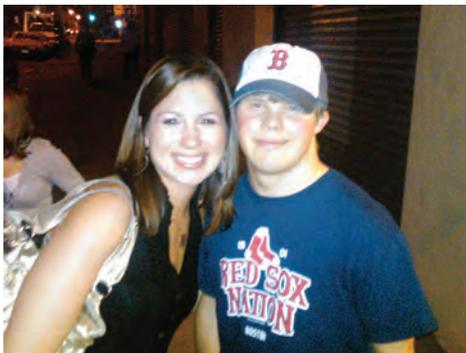
Robert Humphreys is a 24-year-old adult with Down syndrome. He lives in San Francisco with his parents and works at Cow Hollow preschool in the Presidio. He is intelligent and very articulate.

Robert has a large interest in drama and enjoys acting in live theater.

Recently, he performed with a "clown therapy" group for adults lead by Christina Lewis (teacher of SF Step). Although Christina taught this class, this was not a class solely for adults with disabilities. In fact, Robert was the only person with Down syndrome in the class. The purpose of the group is to give adults a positive outlet for their everyday stressors through the art of "clowning."

Robert took part in many skits in the hour-long performance that included both individual and group interpretations. What amazed me most about Robert, especially from my "speech pathologist" perspective, was Robert's body language and facial expressions. He was witty and charming and right on the mark. Robert is an obvious inspiration to his classmates as well as to the audience who came to enjoy the performance. It was Robert's idea to name the show "Clown Syndrome." How cool is that?!

— Heather Peterson, MS SLP-CCC



Mural completed by local artist and friend of the Connection

If you haven't been to the Connection lately, come on down and see the amazing walls in our family room.

Helen Doronkina, local artist and friend of the Connection donated her time to make it all happen. Helen's vision was to involve our students in her creation using words that tell a story with focus on our mission such as; Encouraging, Community, Friendship and Laughter. There is also a strong message about ABILITIES in the hand painted pictures that depict children playing together, doing activities such as baseball, golf, soccer, and dancing.

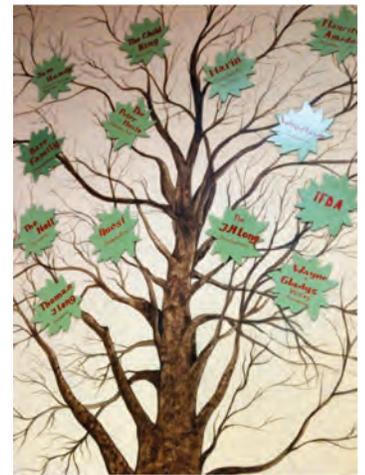
All students from all Step classes created a masterpiece in the form of a heart or star. The wall came to life when Helen strategically placed them.

Helen also created a tree for us to use as a way to thank the foundations and community groups that give to us so generously each year. This tree reminds us every day of the wonderful people that support our mission, and as the tree continues to bloom so will our gratitude!

Helen is a professional artist. She was born in Russia where she got her education in art. She is a member of Alamo Danville Artist Society. She received an award at the 32nd Gala Spring Art Show in 2009 at Pioneer Art Gallery and continues to show her work at local art shows in the area.

Helen's motto is "Life is too short for white walls." She specializes in faux finishes and amazing canvasses that come to life using venetian plaster and acrylics. She also loves to create colorful murals in children's rooms. If you would like to contact Helen about her work she can be reached at 925-708-1586 or you can see her work at www.fauxforyourhome.com.

— Nancy LaBelle



NEWS FLASH — Coming this fall, Pinole Step Class for 20+ Adults. Are you interested? Email Program Coordinator Marianne Iversen at dscba.step@yahoo.com or call the Connection at 925-362-8660.



Bowl-A-Rama!



Bowl--Rama!

Fun for everyone and a successful fundraiser

What a fantastic day we had! Visiting with old friends and making new ones. We had a great raffle and a fun-filled silent auction thanks to the board of directors who donated amazing baskets. Special thanks to Maura Perkins for getting a large donation of baseball tickets and to Bill Bayliss for setting them up so beautifully.

Thanks to the Bowl-A-Rama committee: Chair -Luz Maria Moreno, Bill Bayliss, Tim Hogan, Angie Rettig & Lisa Rigby.

A big shout out to Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl for their generosity!

A huge applause to the Casadont Family who raised and donated the most money, and to Catherine Cannon who raised the most money in sponsorships the 'old fashioned way.' Largest team goes to all the fans of Brandon Garcia!

The Bowl-A-Rama" would not be successful without our sponsors!

Business sponsors:

MCC Realty Group, California Sun Dry Foods, The CAC Group, Huether Insurance, The Engineering Enterprise and The Book Shop.

Family sponsors:

The Casadont's, the Bayliss & Perkins families, Javed & Zainab Shah, Gary Smith, the Elliott family, Janet Gundersen, the McLaughlin family, the Wong family, the Hogan family, James & Kathy Zolnier and the McGrath family.

Looking forward to seeing everyone next





Buddy Play!

Buddy Play day camp meets a variety of needs

I decided to test the waters of “day camp” with the Buddy Play kids this summer. Using our home studio, backyard, and large side patio, I planned the schedule to include camp activities to meet a wide variety of needs. As always with Buddy Play, the mini day camp was open for all children to participate (with or without special needs).

One of our sensory art projects was making “bird seed sticks.” The kids spread peanut butter over large popsicle craft sticks and covered them with wild bird seed, then threaded yarn through a hole in the stick to make a hanging loop. Of course, this was great messy fun and ended with most of the birdseed scattered on the ground! Other options were water color painting, jewelry box making, and a shaving cream play station. There was also a water-play station set up with plenty of fun, tactile toys for those who wanted to cool off!



covered our music and fine motor activities, and the kids loved it! Some of them even drummed along on a real drum set and strummed a guitar, performing for the rest of us!

Making fruit smoothies was a big hit on Thursday. One boy even declared that they tasted better than Jamba Juice. Is that possible? But, the highlight of my week (and I think others too) was cooking our famous “Vegetable Meatball Soup.” Each child had a chance to add fresh ingredients to our big pot and stir it up. This was also a great sensory activity, as they touched and smelled chopped parsley, garlic, carrots, cilantro, and much more. And yes, when the soup was finished cooking, we all had it for lunch. Dumplings and noodles too!

All in all, I think everyone had fun at camp. It was a challenge at times,

Our gross motor skills were tested as we climbed up the dirt path to reach the chicken coop. There, the kids hand-fed “Daisy” the chicken and “Lucky” the duck their favorite cracked corn. The kids also practiced hitting a target by throwing nuts into the center of a hula hoop. There were a lot of happy squirrels and blue jays waiting for the crowd to clear!

We enjoyed singing the “Signing Time” songs together while practicing all the signs! That

given all the unique personalities and needs. But I think each of us that helped run the camp can agree the children enjoyed themselves and each other every day they came. We, of course, loved having all of them. They were wonderful, smart, cute, funny, helpful, excited, surprising, care-free, determined, and much more. Thank you for bringing your children, and I hope we can do mini-camp again soon!

— Bernadette Fatehi
Buddy Play Coordinator



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Would you like to be part of a Father's Support Group? If interested, or want more information please contact Martha Hogan at 925-362-8660 or email Martha at marhogan@sbcglobal.net.

DSCBA Programs Can Only Continue with Your Help!

43% of our Funding comes from donations and fundraising events.

CASH DONATIONS Send a check to: Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area, 101-J Town and Country Drive, Danville, CA 94526. Phone: 925-362-8660

DONATE WITH PAYJUNCTION The DSCBA is a member of PayJunction a free service which allows you to purchase or donate using your credit card on a secure web site. PayJunction deposits your donation directly to our account. Visa and MasterCard are accepted at www.dsconnection.org/donate

DONATE AN AUCTION ITEM

This is a great opportunity to showcase your business products and services or to give a great tax deductible item to be auctioned at one of our events. Some past items that are popular are wine packages, vacation homes, sports memorabilia, fine art, jewelry, spa packages etc.

SPONSOR AN EVENT Sponsor an event at a level that works for you. Publicize, advertise and show off your company logo while giving to a worthwhile cause. Have a booth and speak at our event.

HOLD A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE CONNECTION We are looking for community service organizations or businesses to hold a benefit in our name. One way to do this is to have a Charity Golf Tournament, Auction/Dinner or Crab Feed to name a few. Have ideas? Please call the Connection.

VOLUNTEER Do your community service with us! Volunteer your time and work at an event, spend time in one of our classes, come help out with newsletter mailings and other project. Call us for more information.

CORPORATE GIVING AND MATCHING GIFT PROGRAMS Sign up for your corporate giving program at work which automatically can be taken out of your paycheck. Some companies even have matching programs which doubles your giving ability.

ATTEND A FUNDRAISING EVENT

We would love to see you at our fundraisers such as the Bowl-A-Rama, Charity Gala and the Buddy Walk. Your participation and support makes a huge difference and our events are a lot of fun!

DONATE YOUR CAR Call us at the Connection at 925.362.8660 to find out how you can donate your car and in turn give back to the Connection. You may also call (877)700-GIVE or visit www.carsforcharities.com/DSC.htm

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Choose the Down Syndrome Connection of the Bay Area at www.goodsearch.com and start your search engines running! The more you use this site as your search engine, powered by Yahoo, the more money the DSCBA raises. You can also use www.goodshop.com and when you shop you donate too!

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How Can You Help Us?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR • UPCOMING EVENTS • SUPPORT THE DSCBA!

8/7 **Amore Marketing & Events Charity Car Wash** to benefit DSCBA, 11am-4pm, in the parking lot behind the Connection. **Steppers come out and wash with us!** For more information, email acancilla070@gmail.com.

9/18 **Charity Auction Gala – Diablo Country Club** See page 14.

9/25 **Knights of Columbus Golf Tournament and Benefit**
San Ramon Golf Club See below.

10/3 **2010 Bay Area Buddy Walk**
Little Hills Ranch, San Ramon See page 3.

10/9 **Trapped in a Rumor Improv Benefit – Town's Village Theater, Danville** See page 4.

12/5 **Holiday Family Party**

Please visit www.dsconnection.org/events for more information



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 **Down Syndrome Connection OF THE BAY AREA**

For further information please visit the St. Joan of Arc Knights of Columbus at www.kofc9206.org or call (925) 263-1776



Tatiana



Gabriel and his brother



Cole



Alexandra

All the kids and staff at Down Syndrome Connection send their love and thanks for your support!

The event includes morning golf at San Ramon Golf Club, with an evening wine tasting, dinner, raffle and auction at the St. Joan of Arc Gymnasium

Duffers are welcomed, but if golf isn't your thing, come join us for an evening of fun!

\$140 for golf and evening events
\$45 for evening events only

