Down Syndrome
Association of Wisconsin
2012 Annual Report to the Community

Thanks for Raising Your Hands for DSAW!
Full Acceptance, Full Access, Full Life and Full Potential
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Range</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Page 2</td>
<td>Table of Contents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 3</td>
<td>Self Advocate Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 4</td>
<td>Board President Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 5</td>
<td>Mission &amp; Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 6</td>
<td>Core Values &amp; Identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 7 -9</td>
<td>1990 – 2012 History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 10-11</td>
<td>2012 Accomplishments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 11-12</td>
<td>Roadmap Reviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 13-22</td>
<td>Financial Summaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 23</td>
<td>Office Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 24-25</td>
<td>Chippewa Valley Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 26-27</td>
<td>Green Bay Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 28-30</td>
<td>Fox Cities Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 31</td>
<td>Sheboygan Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 32</td>
<td>La Crosse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 33-38</td>
<td>Board Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 39</td>
<td>Prenatal Medical Outreach Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page 40</td>
<td>Corporate &amp; Foundation Donors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year turns out to be another year where there were some changes and challenges. With DSAW’s help, I learned to self-direct. That means I make important decisions about who helps me and how they help. Since I qualify for long-term care, I get the help I need to live on my own and to have a job. I need help with transportation, shopping, and a few other things.

DSAW helped me to find a better way to get the help I need. I now choose the people I want to help me. This is very good for me, because I can choose the people who know me well and understand my needs. I self-direct.

My new long-term care is called IRIS. That stands for Include, Respect, I Self-direct. IRIS allows me to hire a service-broker. A service broker helps me through the paper work. My service broker has to be someone who knows the system and how it works. I think there are very few people who know more about IRIS than Ron Malloy. So I hired DSAW to be my service broker. Ron and the DSAW staff helped me through fifty pages of papers to sign. Ron made sure the plan covered all my needs like transportation for things other than my job. He attended meetings with my IRIS consultants, and he submits expenses for my workers each month.

Any person with Down syndrome can get the same help I’ve gotten from DSAW. All they need to do is contact DSAW.

Andrew Gerbitz, Self-Advocate
2012 Annual Report 4

**DSAW Board of Directors Letter**

Dear Friend:

This has been quite a year for DSAW. We have held new events in addition to those traditional events such as the Lose the Training Wheels™, Holiday party, Summer Picnic, Halloween Dance and more. Our Chapters are doing amazing things in their respective geographic areas—the speed with which they have made life better for individuals with Down syndrome in their areas is impressive.

We publicized our Peer Sensitivity Training Program in October and the response was literally overwhelming. We have conducted numerous sensitivity trainings in schools since October and are booked with more through March 2013. The DSAW Board has dedicated additional resources to coordinate our efforts going forward to meet this evident need.

Most important is the fact that DSAW is changing lives. More than in years past, we are advocating on behalf of individuals with Down syndrome in a way that changes the trajectory of their lives. Whether it is advising on IEP strategies, counseling in end-of-life situations for caregivers, or helping an individual and their family navigate transition from education to employment, DSAW is there to help. One family shared that: "We are confident after talking to you that the path [child] is taking is the right one for [him/her] and will get [him/her] the best opportunity to succeed." Another family said: "We cannot express enough how thankful we are for your help & insight. I finally am able to sleep better at night knowing we will get [child] on the right track at school."

Through the unique and special talents of our DSAW staff, and in particular our Executive Director Ron Malloy, we are able to have this impact. In order to better serve our members and supported families, DSAW is piloting a program this upcoming year in which DSAW will act as a "Support Broker" for individuals with Down syndrome through the state of Wisconsin’s "IRIS"—Include, Respect, I Self-Direct-program. We hope to learn from this pilot program and, if appropriate, expand the availability of this counseling service to all individuals with Down syndrome across the state in 2014.

Equally important, we are at a crossroads in the world with respect to prenatal testing for expecting mothers. Check out our new DSAW Prenatal Medical Outreach Program at our website, www.dsaw.org. We have a well-defined plan to make sure that expecting parents who receive a diagnosis of Down syndrome have up-to-date, accurate information they need about Down syndrome and the lives that an individual with Down syndrome and that person's loved ones can live. Join us in this effort.

Thank you for all you do and will do in 2013.

Warmest Regards,
Tom O'Day
President
Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Board of Directors
People with Down syndrome are Valued and Included

Mission (what we do)

Our mission at the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin (DSAW) is simple. We are here to provide support to families and individuals with Down syndrome through education, information, and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

We do that via:
- Our website, www.dsaw.org
- A quarterly newsletter to our members
- New-parent information packets at hospitals and clinics throughout Wisconsin
- Family matching services
- Community education for members and health professionals
- Special events that bring families and individuals together

Vision (what we want to become)

The vision of DSAW is that we all understand the value of those with Down syndrome in our lives and our communities. We will continue to strive toward full acceptance, full access, full life and full potential.

As a policy, DSAW does not endorse any medical, therapeutic or special education alternatives. We are primarily a volunteer organization that wishes to create an optimistic outlook about Down syndrome for our families and others. The purpose of our website is to provide our members and the general community an educational background about and a source of information on issues related to Down syndrome.

Photo courtesy of Anna Meyer Photography
Core Values and Identity

Core Values (our priorities and how we act)
- Optimism for our families and others
- Equality for those with Down syndrome
- Availability to help our members around the state
- Professionalism, experts on Down syndrome and the needs of members of all ages
- Efficiency in how we leverage time (volunteer hours) and treasure (donations)
- Highest level of financial transparency and integrity
- Conservative to ensure we are here for future generations

Identity (what sets us apart)
To our members, volunteers and donors, DSAW has become a very efficient group of leveraged Chapters supporting Wisconsin, governed by a Board of Directors and led by a small nucleus of paid staff to maximize efficiency and provide technical depth across the state. In 2011, we saw the power and value of this Chapter model, and we doubled our programming across the state year over year.

To our Chapters and Advisory Board Members across the state that provide local support to our members: DSAW is excited to support and partner with you as you grow and become self sufficient in your abilities to support your local community.

Walk Picture
Our History

Joan Balliet, a nurse and mother of a child with Down syndrome, founded the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. 23 years ago. Joan was able to pull together a number of families that all shared a passion to help those with Down syndrome in Wisconsin. As one of the founding families 23 years ago, I (Ron Malloy, DSAW’s current Executive Director) remember two meetings. At the first meeting, we voted on a name for the organization. Joan was emphatic the name must begin with Down syndrome because it was felt families searching for information on Down syndrome would first open the phone book and look up Down syndrome. Even today many families still find DSAW through the phone book. The second meeting I remember was a huge picnic where families from all across the state got together to share a potluck lunch, DSAW’s first social event.

Dr. David Smith, Joan’s husband at the time, had a sister with Down syndrome. Dr. Smith commented that he thought his sister died at an early age due to complications associated with an undiagnosed case of hypothyroidism. Joan, a nurse, and David, a doctor, were married, and living in Maryland in 1985 when their son Charlie was born with Down syndrome. One of the first things they learned was that it was hard to get any information on Down syndrome. There was not a lot of support. As a physician, David went to the library and the most recent book he was able to find on Down syndrome was published in the 1950s. David and Joan were unable to find another family with a child with Down syndrome in Maryland. The family eventually found and was able to meet with Dr. Pueschel in Rhode Island, one of the grandfathers of health care for people with Down syndrome.

When David, Joan and Charlie moved to Wisconsin in 1987, Joan had a few years of experience working the system for Charlie. It was not easy. She dreamed that there would be a statewide organization of support for persons with Down syndrome and their families – an organization that would educate and help to improve the overall lives of people with Down syndrome. Through her tireless efforts, she was able to pull together families of children with Down syndrome and start what is now the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin. In the beginning, meetings were scheduled to educate as many professionals as possible. David and Joan offered their services to families with a newly diagnosed child with Down syndrome. New parent packets were assembled and sent out to as many hospitals, schools and social service organizations as possible. The schools and hospitals needed constant monitoring to make sure they used the information. It was frustrating at times. DSAW was able to create some public service announcements. It was a big step when we were able to place two large billboards showing our pride in persons with Down syndrome, and that they should not be underestimated. The kids were dressed in tuxedoes.
Our History

In 1995, DSAW was able to hire its first part-time office manager, Polly Daniels, and started fundraising. In 1997, DSAW was able to open an office on the northwest side of Milwaukee in the Endometriosis Association Building. DSAW utilized volunteers in the office. We did our best to include people with Down syndrome serving in the office. We had a large computerized database of parents and organizations. In 1997, DSAW’s two largest fundraising events were launched, the Buddy Walk and the Golf Outing. In 2000, DSAW added a website giving us the ability to educate and support many more people. Unable to afford the rent, the office was closed for a brief time in 2001 and reopened in 2002. (The office reopened when it was able to find donors willing to underwrite the cost of the office rent.) Social events were always a big hit. The Christmas party with Santa Claus, which included gifts for all the children, and summer picnics in the parks, were a great time for everyone to get together. Fundraisers were always interesting. We staffed one of the food service windows at the old Milwaukee County Stadium. We were also to staff a food service window for a Green Bay Packer game when they played in Milwaukee. The Buddy Walks, now named our Down Syndrome Awareness Walk, started in Milwaukee in 1997. The 1st walk raised $5,000 and had 75 walkers. In 2011, five walks were hosted across the state, which were attended by 4,500+ walkers. In 2000, a statewide conference in central Wisconsin was organized to celebrate our 10-year anniversary, which emphasized that we were a statewide organization. The conference was held in Stevens Point, funded by a grant received from the Forest County Potawatomi Foundation. The conference was a huge success. It was soon after that event that Joan Balliet stepped aside and others took over the organization. DSAW is still going today.

That is a testament to a strong start, a solid organization, and a definitive need for resources, support and education on issues surrounding Down syndrome. In 2007, DSAW was approached by several advisory board members to start a Chapter in their community. In 2009, DSAW moved the office into the Marian Center for Nonprofits for cost savings and nonprofit synergy.
Our History

In 2011 DSAW formalized a Chapter structure and asked the IRS to approve a group exemption designed to help families in 3 to 5 counties to easily come together and form a DSAW Chapter leveraging reusable programming and infrastructure to grow and prosper. DSAW’s Board authorized a geographic growth strategy to add four Chapters by the end of 2012 and to add one additional Chapter year after 2012. At the end of 2012, DSAW had four Chapters in the state (Chippewa Valley, Fox Cities, Green Bay, and Sheboygan) and our main office in St. Francis, a suburb of Milwaukee. With the success of the Chapter structure, a new Mantra was introduced at the 2012 Strategic Planning meeting, which was for “Wisconsin to become the best supported state for those with Down syndrome in the United States”.

DSAW approved a pilot project to begin providing Support Broker services through the Wisconsin IRIS Program and we began providing specialized Support Broker services to our first family in December of 2012. In response to the introduction of new blood tests that can indicate the likelihood of a fetus having Down syndrome with 99% accuracy from a simple blood draw, the DSAW Board approved a 5 year Prenatal Outreach program to ensure expectant Wisconsin families received accurate and unbiased information about what it is like to have a person with Down syndrome in their family. Due to the success and demand for DSAW School Peer Sensitivity Training the board approved funding to bring on a dedicated School Peer Sensitivity Specialist who will conduct one school peer sensitivity presentation per week in 2013.
2012 Annual Report – Accomplishments

- This winter DSAW has unveiled a Prenatal Diagnosis Medical Outreach Program for OBGYNs and Genetic Counselors. A fundraising drive was unveiled on March 21, 2012 to provide OBGYNs “Understanding a Down Syndrome Diagnosis books. We have also begun exploring a parent-training program so that moms can deliver up-to-date appropriate information to her health care provider.

- Executive Director, Ron Malloy and Board President Tom O’Day attended the DSAIA (Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action) Conference in Washington DC. Tom presented about the process DSAW uses to formalize our Chapter infrastructure. Ron acted as the Wisconsin State Advocacy Captain communicating with Wisconsin attendees.

- Ron and Alexis Malloy spoke to IRIS (Include Respect I Self Direct) at the April 15 regional meeting as experts in employment practices about customized self-employment.

- Our office manager was asked to join the Milwaukee County Family Support Advisory Board.


- DSAW Sponsored Community Education Workshops included Toilet Training, Community Supported Living and Bodies, Boundaries and Sexuality.

- DSAW Sponsored Self Advocate Events included Valentine’s Day Dance, Buy Seasons Work Experience and Fundraiser, and Halloween Dance.

- DSAW D.A.D.S. (Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome) Chapter held 12 monthly meetings on IEPs, Special Olympics, and Special Needs Trusts and Benefits. In April DSAW D.A.D.S. Chapter hosted a Comedy Sportz event at MillerCoors Visitor Center and volunteered at both the DSAW Brewers Game and Down Syndrome Awareness Walk.

- DSAW co-sponsored its 5th Annual Lose The Training Wheels™ Bike Camp with The Autism Society of Southeastern Wisconsin. Seventy volunteers and forty young people with Down syndrome, autism and other disabilities participated. After one week, camper success rate was at 80%. In 2013, DSAW plans to hold this camp in Waukesha and to begin to work on our goal of rotating the camp through the counties of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Waukesha and Kenosha counties annually.

- DSAW has presented our school based Peer Sensitivity Program at 10 schools and to 1,100 students around the state between October 2012 and December 2012 to raise awareness and promote acceptance of Down syndrome within the classroom. We have approximately five schools and 400 students scheduled between January and March 2013.
Road Map Reviews

Two and a half years after our second partnering engagement, in came an email – from this same suburban district, a different special education teacher in a different school – could DSAW consult with an 8 year old whose behavior was impeding her ability to learn nearly 50% of the time. None of their strategies were working. Without knowing the student’s name, DSAW agreed to consult and the school processed the necessary paperwork with the parents to allow DSAW to partner with the school and parents to find the right strategies.

The school described the parents as engaged, cooperative and professional – a good working relationship. All of this young lady’s academic goals were in jeopardy and there was general concern and frustration expressed by both the school and parents. This young lady’s strengths were her social relationships with regular ability peers. It was energizing to see the great social connections at lunch, recess and during class transitions. This suburban school is full inclusion.

The first conference call was with school staff (special education teacher, regular education teacher, school psychologist and DSAW) was so typical – DSAW had seen these challenges expressed many times before. The hard part was going to be finding world-class strategies understanding the school’s strategies were not working.

The first conference call with the parents got off to a tearful start. The school had been collecting detailed behavior data for six weeks and the first time the parents saw the data was when DSAW sent it to them. The first time the parents had their daughter’s challenges presented in a way they could really understand them was when DSAW explained the present level of performance substantiated with tallied observations, connected the present level of performance to the IEP goals and then to the strategies that were not working.
**Road Map Reviews**

DSAW proceeded to collect data following Dr. Mark Sweets “perspective model of behavior intervention”. DSAW observed in the classroom for four hours and took 12 pages of notes. The perspective or motivation preceding the behavior was written down. It is well understood undesirable behaviors occur to either avoid doing something they don’t want to do or to get something they want. The child’s perspective or motivation is the key to Dr. Mark Sweets’ model. Then the behavior was described with significant detail. Then exactly what happened when staff intervened was documented and where possible it was documented what happened when staff did not intervene.

Instantly the notes showed simple steps that could be taken to address 25% of the challenges. And within 24 hours one quarter of the behavior incidents were gone. DSAW’s Executive Director supports about one IEP roadmap session per week. For the challenging ones, DSAW leverages the experience of a retired director of special education and a special education teacher. The next step was a conference call with parents, DSAW Board Member and Special Education Teacher Liz Streubel and IEP Goal Book Author, Consultant and Retired Director of Special

As we finished up our conference call I asked the parents two questions:

1. We have identified 6 changes we would like to see implemented - what are the three most important strategies from a parent perspective?
2. Would they like to participate in the non-IEP discussion with school staff or would they be comfortable with me sharing the strategies directly with the school?

The parents chose to not attend the 30-minute meeting with school staff trusting in DSAW’s expertise. The top three most important strategies the parents wanted to see implemented were immediately embraced and staff embraced all five of the DSAW strategies. At the end of the meeting I asked the school what parents could do to help and what they would like to see parents do differently at home. This was an interesting discussion, the school had never pulled together the top three things parents could do at home to support their daughter. DSAW attended the IEP where the five changes the school was going to make and three things parents were going to do at home were formalized.
2012 Financial Summary

Staff Time

- MANAGEMENT/FUNDRAISING: 12%
- PROGRAM SERVICES: 88%

Income by Source

- GENERAL DONATIONS: 72%
- GRANTS: 13%
- MEMBERSHIP/EVENT FEES: 8%
- FUNDRAISERS (NET OF EXPENSE): 6%
- MISCELLANEOUS: 1%

Expenses by source

- OVERHEAD: 85%
- FUNDRAISING: 9%
Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc.
St. Francis, Wisconsin

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Years Ended December 31, 2012

Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent Auditors' Report</td>
<td>1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Financial Position- Cash Basis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Activities- Cash Basis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statement of Functional Expenses- Cash Basis</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes to Financial Statements</td>
<td>6-8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc.
Saint Francis, Wisconsin

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position - cash basis as of December 31, 2012, the related statement of activities - cash basis, and the statement of functional expenses - cash basis for the year ended December 31, 2012, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Organization’s preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization’s internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.
Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities, and net position of Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. as of December 31, 2012, and its support, revenue, and expenses for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

August 12, 2013
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
## Statement of Financial Position – Cash Basis
For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2012

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<td>Total current assets</td>
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<td><strong>Other Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Security deposits</td>
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<td>Total other assets</td>
<td>600</td>
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<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td>$ 520,437</td>
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| NET ASSETS                  |         |
| Net Assets                  |         |
| Unrestricted                | 499,437 |
| Temporarily restricted      | 21,000  |
| Total net assets            | 520,437 |
| **Total net assets**        | $ 520,437 |

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these statements.
## Statement of Activities – Cash Basis
For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

### Revenue:

<table>
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<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Outreach Events</td>
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<td>Awareness Walk</td>
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<td>Awareness Walk Expense</td>
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<td>(33,192)</td>
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<td>Fundraising Events</td>
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<td>Other Fundraising Expenses</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>957</td>
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<td>957</td>
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<td><strong>Net assets released from restrictions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>290,146</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>311,146</strong></td>
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### Expenses:

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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>53,115</td>
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<td><strong>Net assets, beginning of the year</strong></td>
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<td><strong>446,322</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net assets, end of the year</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 499,437</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 21,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 520,437</strong></td>
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### Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Inc.

**Statement of Functional Expenses – Cash Basis**

For the Year Ended Dec. 31, 2012

**Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc.**
St. Francis, Wisconsin

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expense:</th>
<th>Program Services</th>
<th>Management and General</th>
<th>Fundraising</th>
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<td>Annual Retreat</td>
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<td>Awareness Walk Expense</td>
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<td>33,192</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Expense</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Expense</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultant Expense</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor Expense</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,581</td>
<td>4,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
<td>1,374</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Rental Expense</td>
<td>1,074</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>1,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Expense</td>
<td>5,620</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>1,044</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>2,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketplace Expense</td>
<td>1,396</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Event Expense</td>
<td>17,315</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Expenses</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>3,085</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>3,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach Program Expense</td>
<td>25,087</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Tax Expense</td>
<td>5,264</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>5,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>2,039</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>3,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>4,335</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>542</td>
<td>5,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
<td>6,232</td>
<td>1,335</td>
<td>1,335</td>
<td>8,902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent Expense</td>
<td>4,325</td>
<td>2,163</td>
<td>2,163</td>
<td>6,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Materials</td>
<td>1,857</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training</td>
<td>2,362</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>2,317</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>2,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>3,446</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Program</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages</td>
<td>96,712</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>9,014</td>
<td>75,726</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total expenses**

201,252          15,515          20,284          237,031

See independent auditor’s report
1. Nature of Activities and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Activities

Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (Organization) is a not-for-profit organization, and is not a private foundation. The Organization provides support to families and individuals with Down Syndrome through education, information, and the exchange of ideas and experiences. The Organization receives the majority of its revenue through donations and fundraising events, but also earns money through grants. The Organization has 5 different chapter locations: Chippewa Valley, Fox Cities, Green Bay, Sheboygan, and St. Francis.

Method of Accounting

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting. The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. follows the cash basis of accounting in which revenues are recorded when received and expenses are recorded when paid.

Basis of Presentation

Net assets are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of the Organization and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

**Unrestricted net assets** – Net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

**Temporarily restricted net assets** – Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met either by actions of the Organization and/or the passage of time.

**Permanently restricted net assets** – Net assets subject to donor-imposed stipulations that they be maintained permanently by the Organization.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Income Tax Status

The Organization qualifies as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Organization has implemented accounting for uncertainty in income taxes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This standard prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return and also provides guidance on various related matters such as derecognizing, interest, penalties and disclosures required. The Organization recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to unrecognized tax liabilities in income tax expense.

The Organization is no longer subject to U.S. federal informational return examinations for years ending before December 31, 2009.
2. Cash and Equivalents

Cash is defined as cash on hand and cash in operating checking accounts. The Organization considers all checking, saving and money market accounts and all other highly liquid debt instruments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents, excluding amounts whose use is limited or restricted.

As of December 31, 2012, cash and equivalents consisted of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Petty cash</td>
<td>$496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking accounts</td>
<td>318,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings accounts</td>
<td>201,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total cash and equivalents</strong></td>
<td><strong>$519,837</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events for possible recognition or disclosure through the date the financial statements were available to be distributed (August 12, 2013). On April 15, 2013 Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. added a new chapter in La Crosse, Wisconsin to the Organization. The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin - Children of the Heart - Greater La Crosse Area, Inc. will focus on providing support to families and individuals with Down Syndrome through education, information, and the exchange of ideas and experiences in the Greater La Crosse Area.

3. Lease Payments

The Organization conducts its activities from a facility in the Wisconsin site that is leased under an operating lease expiring June 30, 2013. The total annual lease payments for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 were $7,974. The minimum future rental payment for 2013 is $4,038.

4. Restricted Net Assets

Temporarily restricted net assets are the result of donor-imposed stipulations that may or will be met either by actions of the Organization and/or the passage of time. The balance at December 31, 2012 includes funds temporarily restricted for the following purposes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-Advocate Program</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Connect Program</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Partnership, Pre-Natal Diagnosis Education, and Medical Outreach</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total temporarily restricted net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Concentration of Risk

Cash and cash equivalents are maintained at financial institutions and, in general at times, balances may exceed federally insured limits. All of the Organization’s interest and non-interest bearing cash balances were fully insured during the tax accounting period ending on December 31, 2012 due to a temporary federal program in effect from December 31, 2010 through December 31, 2012. Under the program, there is no limit to the amount of insurance for eligible accounts. Beginning in 2013, insurance coverage will revert to $250,000 per depositor at each financial institution and the Organization’s non-interest bearing cash balances, in general, may again exceed federally insured limits.
The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin is staffed by one full time Executive Director and a part time Office Manager. Each staff member is a strong community advocate and proud parent of a child with Down syndrome. DSAW staff is focused on delivering value to our members through our many educational and medical outreach trainings, awareness and social events. Our member services include detailed one-on-one roadmap sessions, our parent connect program and information referrals.

Our staff has significant domain knowledge and hands on experience in the areas of:

- I.F.S.P., Individual Family Service Plan
- I.E.P., Individualized Education Program
- C.L.T.S., Children’s Long Term Waiver
- Medical Assistance Personal Care
- Katie Beckett
- Birth to Three
- Early Childhood
- Transition (Elementary, Middle, High School, Community)
- Employment
- Self Employment of People with Down syndrome
- I.R.I.S., Include Respect I Self Direct
- Family Care
- Self Determination
- Community Supported Living
- Supportive Home Care
- Supplemental Trusts
- Peer Sensitivity
- Guardianship
- Transportation
- Dual Diagnosis Autism
- Celiac Disease
- Major Medical (Heart, Duodenal Atresia...)

We do not give medical or legal advice. For the above topics, office staff is able to meet with families and explain a topic in detail, how to apply or access the program and most importantly we are able to specifically talk about how the program will help a person with Down syndrome. We describe these in-depth discussions as roadmap discussions. They typically last two hours and members leave with a detailed understanding of the topic and a roadmap. In other cases, we provide simple informational referrals.

Children of DSAW Staff
Alexis Malloy age 23
Daughters of Ron Malloy, DSAW Executive Director

*Insert Picture of Alexis Malloy

Kyle Moon age 4
Son of Ellen Moon, DSAW Office Manager

*Insert Picture of Kyle Moon
The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley (DSAW-CV) is a resource in West Central Wisconsin for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, as well as others who support them.

We are here to provide support to families and individuals, as well as professionals in the surrounding communities, through education, information, and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

DSAW-Chippewa Valley has been affiliated with DSAW Inc. since 2008 and continues to be a growing chapter, always welcoming new families and volunteers.

DSAW-Chippewa Valley
PO Box 3156
Eau Claire, WI 54702

Please call 715-379-0563
Contact person: Amy Standiford

Our email address is:
info@dsawchippewavalley.org

Find us on the web at:
www.dsawchippewavalley.org

LIKE OUR GROUP PAGE:
Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Chippewa Valley
SEND A FRIEND REQUEST TO: DSAW Chippewa Valley

DSAW – Chippewa Valley sponsored family events that included the Annual World Down Syndrome Day Event, Chippewa Valley Roller Derby, Take Me Out to the Ball Game with the Eau Claire Express Baseball, Down to Earth Fall Event and the Annual Holiday Party.
DSAW Chippewa Valley Chapter

- DSAW-Chippewa Valley served over 75 families via email
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley increased outreach through a Facebook group and page as well as the website
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley distributed Down syndrome information to new families in the area
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley provided scholarships for families to attend Down syndrome conferences
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley collaborated with other local organizations to share education and information with families of children with special needs.
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley participated in and supported local awareness events such as “Spread The Word To End The Word”, “Dress Down For Down Syndrome” and the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics.
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley hosted our 6th Annual Down Syndrome Awareness Walk in Irvine Park with attendance of 750, which raised over $18,000.

- DSAW-Chippewa Valley will host Roadmap Sessions presented by DSAW Director, Ron Malloy
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley will continue to provide scholarships and grants for supported individuals and families
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley Advisory Board Members will have the opportunity to attend a Leadership Retreat
- DSAW-Chippewa Valley will continue to strive towards full acceptance, full access, full life and full potential!!
2012 Annual Report 26

**DSA W Green Bay Chapter**

2012 Events:

**Potty Training Seminar – Presented by Alice Belgrade:** Reached 30 parents and educators with key strategies on teaching toileting routines to children with Down syndrome (and other cognitive disabilities)

**World Down Syndrome Day Celebration:** 20 Families joined us at a local indoor play area to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day!

**Family Picnic – Josten Park:** Ten Families attended for fun and food

**Family Trust and Wills Seminar – Presented by Jeff Martinson:** Four families attended to learn more about will preparation and financials when including a child with Down syndrome

**4th Annual Down syndrome Awareness Walk – Held at Lambeau Field:** More than 300 walkers joined us on October 6, 2012 to traverse the route around Lambeau Field to celebrate our loved ones with Down syndrome. Emceed by Devon Ashmann of local radio station WIXX, our walkers enjoyed food, fun, information, and an awesome raffle.

**New Parent Packets:** 100 New Parent Packets Distributed to local hospitals – a collaboration with the Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs Clinic at Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin – Fox Cities

**Projected 2013 Events:**

- Monthly Parents nights out
- Monthly Playgroups
- Mom’s Night out (6 per calendar year)
- Dad’s Get Together (6 per calendar year)
- 2013 World Down syndrome Day Family celebration
- 2013 World Down syndrome Day presentation at local Lions Clubs on 3/21
- R-Word/Peer sensitivity/Educator sensitivity Seminars
- 5th Annual Down syndrome Awareness Walk
History

The Down syndrome Association of Wisconsin – Green Bay Connection has been in existence since the early 1990’s. Formed by a small group of parents as a networking and support group, and funded by the local ARC, the group gained members quickly. In 2003, the local ARC discontinued support of the group and organizers began looking into ways to raise money to keep activities accessible to all families. In 2008, the group became a regional chapter of the Down syndrome Association of Wisconsin. In 2009, the first Down syndrome Awareness walk was held, raising over $2000.00, in 2012 the walk raised close to $15000.00. Currently there are approximately 120 members, across 5 counties in northeastern Wisconsin. We continue to enjoy growth and recognition in our area!
**DSA-W Fox Cities Mission/Vision:** We are here to provide **support** to families and individuals with Down syndrome through **education, information, and the exchange of ideas and experiences**.

DSA-W Fox Cities serves families of individuals with Down syndrome in the Fox Cities area, specifically in Outagamie, Winnebago, and Calumet counties.

**Address:**
DSA-W Fox Cities  
PO Box 2232  
Appleton, WI 54912

**Website:** [www.dsawfoxcities.org](http://www.dsawfoxcities.org)

**Email:** info@dsawfoxcities.org

**Facebook group:**
Down Syndrome Association Wisconsin Fox Cities

**Parent Network Coordinator:**
Maria Steenepoorte, maria@dsawfoxcities.org

**DSA-W Fox Cities Advisory Board:**
Maria Steenepoorte, President  
Debbie Merkel, Vice-President  
Michelle Zoromski, Treasurer  
Karen Domer, Secretary  
Melanie Baeten  
Shanna Buettner  
Sherry Nedens  
Sara Pingel
DSAW-Fox Cities History: DSAW-Fox Cities became a new Chapter of DSAW in February 2010, and formed an Advisory Committee of five individuals in January 2011. DSAW-Fox Cities then formed an Advisory Board of 8 individuals in January 2012.

DSAW-Fox Cities’ 2012 schedule of monthly events:
- 2nd Saturday Family Gatherings
- 2nd Tuesday DS Walk Committee meeting & Advisory Board meeting
- 4th Friday Play Dates
- Monthly Mom’s Night Out

2012 Annual Events:
- 2nd Annual DSAW-Fox Cities World Down Syndrome Day Celebration
- 3rd Annual Down Syndrome Awareness Walk
- 1st Annual DSAW-Fox Cities Holiday Party

DSAW Fox Cities Picture?
DSAW-Fox Cities’ accomplishments from January through December 2012:

- Totaled 115 families on the supported family database
- Served 95 families on the private Google email group
- Served 165 families and organizations with the e-newsletter
- Raised $75,000 before expenses at the 3rd Annual Down Syndrome Awareness Walk with 1,400 walkers
- Distributed 52 DS information packets in collaboration with NE Regional Center Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs to reach families at hospitals, genetic counselors, perinatalists, pediatric and OB clinics, and Birth to 3 programs
- Donated 60 books for new parent Down syndrome information packets for a total of $600
- Distributed 35 booklets “Understanding a Down Syndrome Diagnosis” and pamphlets “Delivering a Down Syndrome Diagnosis” to local medical professionals for total of $435
- Donated 6 Signing Time Classroom Edition kits to local school districts for a total of $1100
- Frequently submitted New Materials Suggestions to local public libraries to update DS resources
- Donated $4,000 in t-shirts to 11 schools for their Spread the Word to End the Word campaign
- Donated grocery/gas gift cards to 2 families experiencing extended hospitalizations for total $200
- Sponsored 9 sports participation scholarships totaling $395
- Sponsored 2 individuals for the Lose the Training Wheels camp for total $800
- Sponsored participation of parents in national Down syndrome conferences for total $1300
- Created 1 new scholarship opportunity for summer camp participation
- Sponsored 2 individuals for summer camp fees for total $750
- Received the first application for the Timothy Ditter Post-Secondary Education Scholarship
- Sponsored Handwriting Without Tears workshop & take-home kits for 75 attendees for total $10,000
- Sponsored toilet training and behavior workshop led by Alice Belgrade for total of $1,100
- Hosted CESA presentation of FAPE and IEP
- Hosted a total of 23 one-time or recurring social events
- Sponsored the 2nd annual World Down Syndrome Day Celebration at Wild Air for 27 families
- Sponsored DSAW-Fox Cities tables for our families to attend local fundraising dinners of other community organizations that also support our families
The vision of the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Sheboygan and Surrounding Counties is that we all understand the value of those with Down syndrome in our lives and our communities. We continually strive toward full acceptance, full access, full life and full potential. Our group is based in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and we support families in Manitowoc, Fond du Lac, Dodge and Sheboygan counties. We are a growing group, recently becoming a chapter of the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin in 2011.

Primary contact in Sheboygan is Joy Bosch, 920-979-5560, joy@dsaw.org

2012 Events
DSAW Walk – October 13, 2012
Attendance: 200+ Walkers and Bean Bag Participants
Walk Income: $8,785.55
Walk Expenses: $1,103.33
Walk Profit: $7,682.22

That’s My Pan Sale
Income: $1,155.55
Expenses: $866.10
Profit: $289.45

Looking to 2013 and 2014:
The DSAW Sheboygan Chapter is looking to get more people involved on our Advisory Board. We would like to get Peer Sensitivity training in local schools and to move to the surrounding counties in 2014.
In September 2012, The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, Inc. (DSAW) began discussions with leaders in the La Crosse area (La Crosse, Monroe, Vernon, Juneau and Adams counties) about working together to double the amount of programming available to local families. DSAW’s Board has authorized our starting up one new Chapter per year and there is optimism that the La Crosse families will be able to realize the benefits of leveraging DSAW’s infrastructure to double their programming to families over the next years.
Board Members
Andrew Gerbitz, Self Advocate
adgerb@charter.net
Andrew Gerbitz is from the town of Oconomowoc. He is the first self-advocate to hold a position on the DSAW board. Andrew graduated from high school twice, once from home school in 2002 and again from Mukwonago High School in 2004. While at MHS, he was a member of the swim team.

He is a certified child-care teacher and is active in Special Olympics basketball and swimming. Andrew is a voting member of his church and serves as an usher. Andrew has worked as a self-advocate in the past for other groups and the DSAW board is thrilled to count him as our own! His insight is priceless.

Tom O’Day, President
tommyoday@hotmail.com
Tom O’Day is a native of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin and now lives in Milwaukee’s North Shore. Tom is an attorney with a health insurance company in the Milwaukee area. Tom worked for a large law firm prior to his current position where he specialized in labor and employment law, as well as education law.

In addition to his J.D., Tom holds a Masters Degree in Education Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Wisconsin. His studies and past practice included analysis of state and federal education law, including the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA), the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and state and federal education finance policies. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2001, with distinction and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Tom also has experience in state government in legal, policy and campaign roles. Tom has worked in every branch of state government in various capacities for the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, the Wisconsin legislature, and the Governor’s Office.
Nicole Cook, Treasurer
Nicole Cook lives in Mequon, Wisconsin with her husband Jack and their daughter, Lily. Nicole is a tax senior manager at Deloitte in the Private Client Advisor Group. Nicole graduated from Central Michigan University in May of 2000 with a Bachelor Degree in accounting and moved to Milwaukee shortly after graduation.

Nicole has participated in events for various organizations through Deloitte, such as Junior Achievement and Big Brothers Big Sisters. She served as the DSAS camp coordinator for the 2008 Lose the Training Wheels Milwaukee Camp. She is looking forward to helping DSAS as a member of the finance committee and will continue to assist with the planning of several events. Nicole enjoys traveling and running in her free time.

Brian Perhach, Vice President
Brian Perhach is a native of Wauwatosa, WI and now lives in Whitefish Bay with his wife and three sons. Brian is an attorney with Gray & Associates, LLP specializing in bankruptcy law and creditor rights. Brian earned his undergraduate degree from UW-Stevens Point and his J.D. from Marquette University. Brian became involved with DSAS after the birth of their second son. Brian also serves on the DSAS Golf Committee.

Marita Stannis, Secretary
mstannis@live.com
Marita Stannis grew up in New Berlin and currently resides in West Allis with her husband and daughter, Madelyn. Marita is a Health and Safety Professional at Caterpillar. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater with a Bachelor Degree in Occupational Safety and Health. Marita became involved with DSAS after the birth of her daughter. She also serves on DSAS’s Medical Outreach Committee. Marita enjoys spending time with her family and traveling in her free time.
Pete Loeffel, Member at Large
Pete Loeffel lives in Wauwatosa with his wife, Jennifer, and two daughters, one of whom has Down syndrome. He received his Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is Director of the St. Francis Public Library. He is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research and enjoys running, reading and hiking.

Mike Bare, Member at Large
mike@mbare.org
Mike Bare is a native of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and currently resides on Milwaukee’s East Side with his wife. Mike is a research consultant for the Community Advocates Public Policy Institute. He specializes in energy, housing, and health care policy research, and is an expert on the intersection of policy with politics and the legislative process. Mike has an extensive grassroots politics and government background, having worked for and provided consulting to several campaigns. He also served as an aide to former U.S. Senator Russ Feingold in his Washington, DC office, and as the Research Director for his 2010 campaign. Mike holds an MA in political science from American University, where he was President of the Graduate Student Council. Mike has been a longtime volunteer for Special Olympics, and other disability organizations.
Liz Streubel, Member at Large
Liz Streubel lives in Whitefish Bay with her husband Vince and their dog Daisy. She is a special education teacher for the West Bend School District teaching special education at Jackson Elementary for grades kindergarten through second. Liz graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and went on to earn a Master of Education Degree in Special Education from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Liz specializes in providing inclusive environments for students with disabilities. She is an advocate for inclusion and the benefits of creating a school community where all students are included and welcomed. She is a trained Reading Recovery Advocate and a Certified Non-Violent Crisis Intervention instructor for her district. She has spoken at WOTA (Wisconsin Occupational Therapy Association) Conferences and with parent groups on the benefits of inclusive education services.

Amy Bontempo, Member at Large
Amy Bontempo is originally from Green Bay, Wisconsin and currently resides in Milwaukee with her husband Tony, their daughter Ave, and dog Tank. Amy earned her Bachelors Degree in Social Welfare from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is licensed through the state of Wisconsin. Amy has been employed by Penfield Children’s Center in Milwaukee for over 10 years. Amy is a Birth-to-Three Service Coordinator, supervises the Parent Mentor Program, and is Penfield’s Family Program Coordinator. As Penfield’s Family Program Coordinator, Amy is in charge of special events, educational programs, and social events. Amy serves on The Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin’s Volunteer Respite Program Advisory Board and has helped in implementing respite events for the Spanish speaking community in collaboration with Alianza Latina and their Down syndrome Support Group. In her free time, Amy enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

Mike Knoebel, Member at Large
Mike Knoebel grew up in Waukesha and currently resides in Menomonee Falls with his wife Cherie and three children. Mike graduated with a Bachelors Degree in business Administration from Lakeland College, and is currently a partner at Techstaff, a search firm specializing in recruiting engineering and technical professionals. Mike got involved in DSAW after the birth of his son Matthew, age 5, and was actively involved in helping launch the DSAW D.A.D.S. group. In his free time, Mike enjoys reading, golf, and volunteering at church.
Andrea Zahn, Member at Large
Andrea Zahn is a native of Brookfield and now resides in Waukesha. She is a Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management specializing in Non-Profit Management, Special Needs and Family Planning. Andrea graduated from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point in 2007 with a degree in Political Science and moved to Washington, DC shortly after graduation for four years. Upon her return, she quickly became involved with DSAW, Wisconsin Women’s Entrepreneurs and the Special Olympics Young Professionals Board. Andrea is looking forward to using her experience from DC in nonprofit management and event planning as well as her current experience in the financial industry in helping DSAW. She has become a member of the DSAW finance committee. Andrea’s strong connection to the special needs community stems from having several family members who are special needs teachers. In her spare time, Andrea enjoys baking and spending time with her boxer puppy.

Anthony Itracki, Member at Large
Anthony Itracki is a native of Michigan who earned his degree in History and Political Science from Ferris State University. Prior to living in Milwaukee Anthony lived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, working full time for the YMCA. Anthony continues his work for the YMCA as an Area Aquatic Director overseeing two YMCA centers in the Milwaukee Area. Anthony became involved with DSAW after exploring opportunities to continue giving back to the communities he lives and works in. Outside of DSAW Anthony also mentors through the Sponsor a Scholar Program, which aims to provide academic, personal and financial support to disadvantaged students who wish to pursue post-secondary education. Currently, Anthony resides on Milwaukee’s East Side and enjoys swimming, live music, biking The Oak Leaf Trail, and experiencing the different cultures of the city through festivals and other events.
Patrick Murtaugh, Member at Large

Patrick Murtaugh grew up in Winnetka, IL, and currently lives on the East Side of Milwaukee. He works in Institutional Equity Sales at Robert W. Baird & Co. after earning his B.S. in Business Management with a concentration in Finance from the Carroll School of Management at Boston College. Patrick became involved with DSAW to honor the life of his uncle who lived with Down syndrome and for his nephew.

He also serves as a Board Member for Milwaukee’s East Town Association and on the Advancement Committee for Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Patrick enjoys golfing, skiing, and traveling in his free time.

Sandy Siira, Member at Large

A Milwaukee area native, Sandy Siira lives with her husband and two Golden Retrievers, Daisy and Max. Sandy is currently a Managing Director of Human Resources with FedEx and has held executive level human resources positions over the past twelve years.

Sandy earned a master’s degree in Labor Relations and Human Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a bachelor’s degree in Business Management and Professional Communication from Alverno College. Sandy enjoys spending time with family, serving the community, appreciating nature, and physical fitness activities. Sandy supports numerous local organizations by sharing her gifts of time, talent and treasure.

Some of the support Sandy gives includes her roles as a board member of St. Coletta Day School of Milwaukee, committee member of United Way of Waukesha County, volunteer catechist for the Milwaukee Archdiocese, and student assessor at Alverno College.
Prenatal Diagnosis Education and Medical Outreach Program

In October 2011, MaterniT 21™ came out with a non-invasive test that would determine if a fetus had Down syndrome at only 10 weeks gestation with nearly 99% accuracy. DSAW has responded to non-invasive prenatal tests by developing a World-Class Prenatal Medical Outreach program. It is critical that we aggressively move forward to educate the medical community and expectant parents so that they can make informed decisions based on accurate and updated information.

“The change in parental testing is the most significant change that will occur in this generation and it is critical DSAW provides leadership around educating physicians and parents about Down syndrome.” (Ron Malloy, DSAW Executive Director)

The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin Inc.’s, Prenatal Medical Outreach program sets out to educate physicians to give balanced, un-biased, accurate, up-to-date, and a compassionate diagnosis of Down syndrome to expectant parents. Dr. Brian Skotko, one of the founders of two nationally recognized Down syndrome clinics, will conduct grand rounds where he will go around a hospital and talk to obstetricians about a new test called MaterniT 21™ PLUS and Down syndrome. Each physician will be formally invited to attend lunch with Dr. Skotko to learn more about MaterniT 21™ PLUS, how to deliver a compassionate diagnosis and how to talk about what Down syndrome is and isn’t.

We will also provide expectant parents with informative Down syndrome pregnancy packages and then provide them with new parent packages (available in English and in Spanish), a supportive and understanding community of parents of children with Down syndrome, and educational programs to help them become effective advocates for their children.

Financing such a critical program is one of the very first steps in making the program a reality. In 2012, we were awarded three grants: a $15,000 grant from Clark Charitable Foundation, a $5,000 grant from an anonymous donor, a $750 grant from the Helfaer (Evan and Marion) Foundation. An online fundraising appeal is set to begin in December 2012 and run through February 2013 to help to fund our Prenatal Medical Outreach program. We will continue to apply for grants in 2013 to help fund the remaining balance of our budget. Thanks to the generous support of our donors we plan to make great strides in carrying out our Prenatal Outreach program.

This year we’ve sent an eBlast to everyone in DSAW’s electronic database in late December. The eBlast was successful in identifying two new medical outreach committee members and five new donors.

Some program goals for 2013 include:

- Securing a database which includes Wisconsin doctors
- Distribute “Understanding a Prenatal Diagnosis” parent books
- Organize and implement a Bowl-A-Thon for Prenatal Medical Outreach
- Schedule Grand Rounds at local birthing hospital with Dr. Skotko
$500+ Corporate and Foundation Donors

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