



dsaw

Down Syndrome

Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

awareness • acceptance • assistance



2014 / 2015 Annual Report to the Community

Celebrating the past,
planning for the future

Dear Friends,

You create miracles at the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin (DSAW) all year long!! Because of your support, I am awestruck at all that we have accomplished in 2015, and the bright outlook going forward for individuals with Down syndrome and other special needs in our state.

We are making terrific strides. DSAW has tripled its programming in the last five years, reaching more families earlier and with quality services across their lifespan. Additionally, we have 8 chapters across the state; DSAW is now within a 30 minute drive of 80% of the population with Down syndrome in Wisconsin.

Our work however, is far from complete. With advancements in prenatal testing, thousands of medical professionals must be trained on how to deliver a fair, accurate, unbiased and compassionate diagnosis of Down syndrome to new and expectant parents. New parents must get adequate support and resources to help them navigate those vital early years, as well as any challenges that arise across their lifespan. "Typically developing" students need proper sensitivity training on how to include their friends with special needs in their schools and in their lives.

Individuals with Down syndrome and their families are more prepared than ever before in history to lead rich and rewarding, meaningful lives...but an agency like DSAW must be at the forefront of cutting-edge programming, individually designed to help them excel at school, at home, in the community, and to prepare them for an independent life with housing, supports, and income.

We deeply appreciate your beautiful contributions of time and treasure to help advance our work. **We could not do this vital work without YOU!** Whether it's the scared young couple who has just received the news and fears the unknown; or the families who need support with potty-training, learning how to ride a bike, and navigating the public school and benefits systems, or those who need help transitioning from high-school to adulthood - **the Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin is there!**

YOU CREATE MIRACLES ALL YEAR LONG! It starts with a ripple, and when combined with the collective support of thousands of individuals across the State, it becomes a tidal wave of impact.

Yours in service,



Dawn Nuoffer
Executive Director



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OUR MISSION

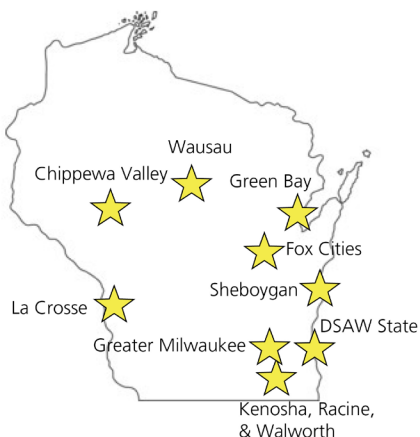
is to provide support to families and individuals with Down syndrome through education, information, programs, services, and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

OUR VISION

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.

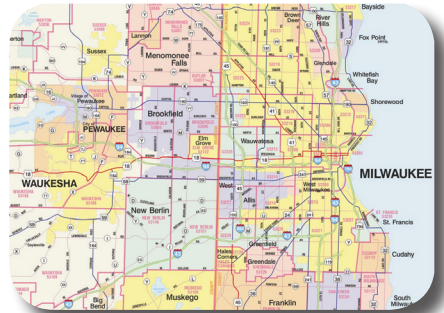
OUR TEAM

DSAW has eight chapters throughout the state. DSAW is now within a 30 minute drive of more than 80% of the individuals with Down syndrome in Wisconsin.



Where we've been...

1990: DSAW was founded by Joan Balliet, a nurse and mother of a child with Down syndrome.



1997: DSAW opened its first office on the northwest side of Milwaukee.

1995: DSAW hired its first part-time office manager and began fundraising.

2010: Fox Cities becomes a DSAW chapter. DADs group launches. First Peer Sensitivity Trainings are held in schools.



2012: Prenatal Medical Outreach begins in response to new blood tests that cause record termination rates.

2011: Sheboygan becomes a chapter.

2000: DSAW launched its first website.

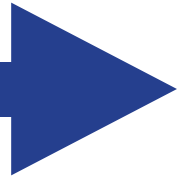


2008: Green Bay becomes a chapter, and DSAW hosts its first “Lose the Training Wheels” event.

2007: The chapter system begins with DSAW’s first chapter, Chippewa Valley.



2009: DSAW moves state headquarters to the Marian Center in St. Francis.



2013: COTH-Greater La Crosse becomes a chapter. Milwaukee becomes a separate chapter.



2015: Board approves creation of DSAW-Wausau and DSAW-Racine chapters.

2014: DSAW-Family Services is launched. Dawn Nuoffer becomes DSAW’s new Executive Director.



...and where we're going

Programs & Services



Fraternal & advocacy support: individuals and families find the support they need right in their local chapter.

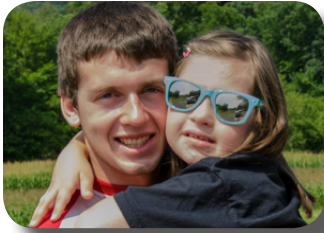
DSAW Family Services: helping adults and young adults live independently through support with benefits, housing, employment, and more.



Parent's First Call: information for expectant and new parents, including a support group for fathers (D.A.D.S - Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome).

Ongoing Programming & Support from Birth to Adulthood: whether it's help in navigating Birth-to-3, advocating for appropriate medical care, support with potty training, developing a robust IEP when entering school, formulating a plan post-high school, or maybe just learning how to ride a bike, DSAW has a program to help.





School Peer Sensitivity Training: typically-abled peers and family members are trained on what Down syndrome is, what it isn't, and how to be a good friend to

someone with Down syndrome.

Medical Outreach: recent advancements in prenatal testing have resulted in skyrocketing termination rates for fetuses with Down syndrome. DSAW

conducts trainings for medical professionals around the state on delivering an unbiased, accurate, and compassionate Down syndrome diagnosis.



Grants/Scholarships and Financial Resources for member families: families can access DSAW for financial assistance with therapies, communication devices, or education programs. Individuals with Down syndrome can receive grants to help them pay for school or vocational training, too!



Administrative Staff



Dawn Nuoffer, Executive Director

Dawn became DSAW's Executive Director in December 2014. Her previous experience includes the creation of housing for homeless and disabled veterans, the opening of wrap-around resource centers providing employment and training support, benefits assistance, financial assistance, and a full spectrum of counseling and holistic services

for individuals in poverty. She has dreamt big dreams and worked hard with passionate individuals to bring those dreams to fruition for the betterment of some of society's most vulnerable populations --- dreams like a not-for-profit café which trains veterans in the food service and hospitality industry, or state of the art kitchens training individuals with disabilities and barriers to employment.

Abbey Nicholas, Development & Marketing Associate



Abbey has been with DSAW since February 2015. She graduated from Marquette in May 2014 with a BA in Social Welfare & Justice, and will graduate from the University of Notre Dame in May 2016 with a MS in Management. She fell in love with working for people with disabilities during her time as Administrative Assistant at the Milwaukee Center for Independence. She also has

experience in Project Management from her work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.

Board of Directors

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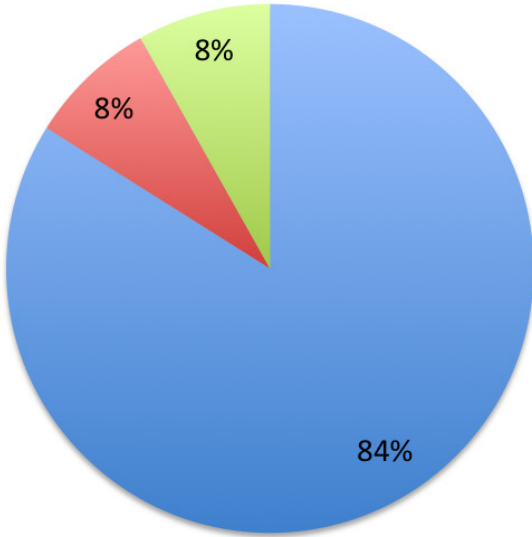


Jim Fackelman
Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Sam Wahlen
Bode Financial Group

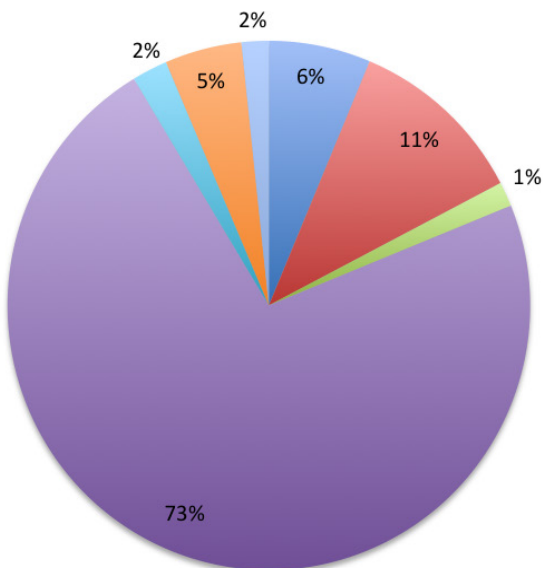
Financials

2014 Expenses



- Program services
- Management & general
- Fundraising

2014 Revenue



- Donations
- Grants
- Memberships
- Events
- Program Income
- In-Kind Contributions
- Miscellaneous

The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin raises funds in the following ways:

- Annual Appeal
- Grant writing
- Employee giving
- Special events
- Estate planning & bequests

DSAW is 100% funded by private individuals and concerned corporate citizens and foundations that believe just as we do that with appropriate investment and just the right amount of supports, our loved ones can accomplish amazing things!



2015 Top Donors

Julie Aguilar	James Fackelman	Potawatomi Foundation
Allen Foundation	Thomas Fear	Racine Community Fndn
Alpine Construction	Angie Flaherty	Reichl Construction Inc.
American Society For Quality	Kathlyn Fletcher	Randy Rickert
Aunt Amy	Kyle Freistedt	Rust-Oleum Corporation
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Anonymous Angel	Brooke Furmanek	Sitzmark Ski Club
Bader Philanthropies, Inc.	Joseph and Karen Garcia	Jon Skarie
Barnes Group Foundation, INC.	Gardtec, Inc.	Steven Smith
Batteries Plus Bulbs	Paul Gilbride	Kristin Olson Smith
Linda Black	Green Bay Packers Fndn	Stackner Family Fndn
James Buchanan	Sally Herzberg	Barbara Stein
Cardinal Capital Management	Andy Hiegel	The Dentists
CCB Technology	The Irwin Family	The Home Depot
Cedar Ridge Elder Services Llc	Pam Jung	Theradynamics Physical
Anne Chapman	Andrew Kiernan	Therapy, S.C.
Bradley & Katlyn Cherek	Gerald King	Timothy J Tikalsky Enterprises
Marjorie L. Christiansen Foundation	Mark Klahn	Time Warner Cable
Community Fndn of North Central WI	Kimberly Kluenser	Tranquility Way Llc
Jack & Nicole Cook	Mike Knoebel	The Trytek Family
Cream City Construction	Larry & Valori Kolarczyk	United Heartland
Curative Care Network	Kottke Construction LLC	Phyllis Verhaalen
George Demolas	Ladish Company Fndn	Judith Wagner
Karen Dicosimo	Jill Lenhart	Natalie Weber
Amy Difiore	David Lenz	The Westcott Family
Patrick Dunks	Rose Levendoski	Raven Williams
The Dwyer Family	Frank Luthi	Lora & Stuart Wilson
Elcano Dental	Madjack Applications	Robin Wilson
Erie Insurance	James Maslowski	Timothy Zelko
Evan and Marion Helfaer Foundation	Laura Michaelis	Wisconsin State Council --
Everyauto.Com	Tim Mierendorf	Knights Of Columbus
James Fackelman	Celina Mandli	Greater Milwaukee Association
Thomas Fear	Arthur & Mary Ellen Nennig	of Realtors Youth
Angie Flaherty	James & Maria Nogueron	Foundation
Kathlyn Fletcher	Dawn Nuoffer	QBS LAW S.C.
Kyle Freistedt	Peggy Nuoffer	
Gwen Frohmader	Barb Obst	
Brooke Furmanek	David Olson	
Joseph & Kaye Garcia	Otto Bremer Foundation	
Gardtec, Inc.	Marilyn Parise	
Paul Gilbride	Lori Paulin	

This annual report is available to the community at www.dsaw.org



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