

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild's

Ninth Annual

Saturday
October 2, 2010
Sam Houston Park
4101 Line Ave
(off Western Street
in Amarillo)
Registration: 9:00 AM
Walk: 10:00 AM



The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild (PDSG) was founded in 2002 to promote a greater understanding of the medical and developmental aspects of Down syndrome. In conjunction with the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) - the largest non-governmental supporter of research and advocacy for Down syndrome - and the National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC) the Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild strives to improve the lives of those persons affected by Down syndrome living in the Panhandle.

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild works to increase public awareness about Down syndrome, to assist families in addressing the needs of children born with this genetic condition, and to sponsor community events. We work with the NDSS to dispel the myths associated with Down syndrome, while helping people with Down syndrome in the community achieve their full potential. The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild develops and disseminates the most current information, as well as, plans activities to increase awareness and acceptance of people with Down syndrome.

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild encourages fellowship, fosters a community of families affected by Down syndrome, and promotes public awareness of the dignity, promise, and potential of all persons with Down syndrome.

What Your Contribution Goes To

New Parent Program

- *New parents are presented with a comprehensive packet that includes up-to-date information addressing the medical, developmental, and personal issues that they face*
- *Upon request, a representative-parent from PDSG will meet with new parents in their home, at the hospital, or by telephone to answer any questions and inform them of sources of support and information*
- *Parents are invited to attend training seminars and meetings featuring speakers and discussions on a wide variety of topics related to Down syndrome*

Library Initiative

- *Supply local libraries with the most current educational material, including a wide selection of children's books that promote inclusion and encourage interaction between children with Down syndrome and their peers*

Social Programs

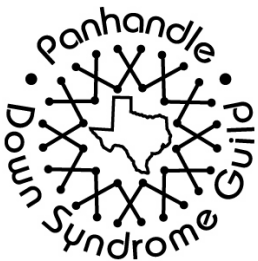
- *Sponsor events throughout the year that bring together families of people with Down syndrome for fellowship and to share success strategies*

Down Syndrome Awareness Calendar

- *Featuring pictures of our own local "Superstars" with Down syndrome*

National Down Syndrome Society

- *PDSG sends delegates to the NDSS or NDSC annual convention to learn the most current information on Down syndrome*



Down Syndrome

- *Down syndrome occurs when an individual has three, rather than two, copies of the 21st chromosome. This additional genetic material alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with Down syndrome.*
- *Down syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal abnormality. One in every 720 babies is born with Down syndrome. This rate is increasing.*
- *There are more than 350,000 people living with Down syndrome in the United States.*
- *Down syndrome affects people of all ages, races and economic levels.*
- *People with Down syndrome have an increased risk for certain medical conditions such as congenital heart defects, respiratory and hearing problems, Alzheimer's disease, childhood leukemia, and thyroid conditions. Many of these conditions are now treatable, so most people with Down syndrome lead healthy lives.*
- *Life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has increased dramatically in recent decades - from 25 in 1983 to 56 today.*
- *All people with Down syndrome experience cognitive delays, but the effect is usually mild to moderate and is not indicative of the many strengths and talents that each individual possesses.*
- *Quality educational programs, a stimulating home environment, good health care, and positive support from family, friends and the community enable people with Down syndrome to develop their full potential and lead fulfilling lives.*
- *Researchers are making great strides in identifying the genes on Chromosome 21 that cause the characteristics of Down syndrome. Many feel strongly that it will be possible to improve, correct or prevent many of the problems associated with Down syndrome in the future.*



The Buddy Walk

- *The Buddy Walk was established by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995 to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October.*
- *The Buddy Walk has three primary goals:*
 - *To promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome;*
 - *To raise funds locally and nationally for education, research and advocacy programs; and*
 - *To enhance the position of the Down syndrome community, enabling us to positively influence local and national policy and practice.*
- *Since 1995, more than 3,000,000 people have participated in a Buddy Walk*
- *Most Buddy Walks take place from September through November to recognize Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October.*
- *Anyone who wants to support acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome can participate in the Buddy Walk.*

Sponsorship Levels

Pal(\$250 Cash/\$500 In Kind)

- Identification on Registration Forms*
- Recognition from Podium
- Sponsor-Provided Signage displayed
- Recognition on Buddy Walk Event Sponsor Sign
- Sponsor-Provided Promotional Material distributed at Event
- 2 T-Shirts provided

Amigo(\$500 Cash/\$1000 In Kind)

- All "Pal" Benefits, PLUS
- Recognition on Buddy Walk Promotional, Media, & Event Materials
- Small Logo on T-Shirt
- 4 T-Shirts Provided



Friend (\$1000 Cash/\$2000 In Kind)

- All "Amigo" Benefits, PLUS
- Induction into the Buddy Walk Hall of Fame
- Representatives Introduced at Event
- Pre-Event Publicity
- Medium-Sized Logo on T-Shirt
- 8 T-Shirts Provided



Buddy(\$2500 Cash)

- All "Friend" Benefits, PLUS
- Marquee Recognition as Co-Sponsor of Event
- Presentation of Plaque
- Large Logo on T-Shirt
- 10 T-Shirts Provided

In order to have your company's information included in all Buddy Walk materials, please complete the enclosed form by August 21, 2010.

Sponsor Registration Form

YES!!! I WILL BE A SPONSOR FOR THE NINTH ANNUAL PDSG BUDDY WALK!!

MY LEVEL OF SPONSORSHIP WILL BE:

- _____ **"PAL"** (\$250 cash or \$500 in-kind)
- _____ **"AMIGO"** (\$500 cash or \$1000 in-kind)
- _____ **"FRIEND"** (\$1000 cash or \$2000 in-kind)
- _____ **"BUDDY"** (\$2500 cash)



Primary contact: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

*Please return this form by August 21st to ensure Sponsor name will appear on pre-Buddy Walk materials.
Return forms to :*

PDSG
PO BOX 20783
Amarillo, TX 79114

Shirt sizes (enter quantity)

Children: Toddler _____ S _____
M _____ L _____
Adult: S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____
2XL _____ 3XL _____ 4XL _____

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization. Contributions may be tax deductible. Check with your accountant.

For more information call:

Jeff Medford : 382-2326
Vicki Cabrera: 468-9088 or 670-1568

Or email: PanhandleDSG@yahoo.com