



**Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island  
100 Washington St #325  
West Warwick, RI 02893  
401-463-5751**

Greetings,

The Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island (DSSRI) is a non-profit parent support organization dedicated to promoting the rights, dignity and potential of all individuals with Down syndrome through advocacy, education, public awareness and support.

We proudly fund and coordinate many public awareness programs as well as family activities. Such programs include a Sweetheart Dinner Dance, World Down Syndrome Day Fundraiser, Family Bowling Night, Spring Egg Hunt, Women's Motivational Tea, Buddy Walk® and Fall Harvest Festival, Trunk or Treat, Holiday Party and a New Year, New You Fundraiser. DSSRI also offers a variety of informational programs and webinars. Such programs include Creating a Special Needs Financial Plan, Anne Tucker Roberts Presentation, Maximizing Cognitive Development, Launch Party for I Am Leah, ABLE vs Special Needs Trusts.

We create and distribute new parent baskets to celebrate babies born with Down syndrome which include informational books and pamphlets for the new parents as well as assorted baby items to welcome the new baby. A new parent welcome team is also available to visit with parents to provide support as they navigate through the diagnosis, birth, and beyond.

The DSSRI also advocates in the service system and in the community. In the past year we have gone into the family court to advocate for the rights of families requesting our assistance and attended IEP meetings. We have also presented educational programs to students at various elementary schools throughout Rhode Island, discussing what Down syndrome is and highlighting the importance of inclusion. We are especially proud that on March 21, 2019 Rhode Island Speaker of the House, Nicholas Mattiello, joined the entire House of Representatives to officially commemorate the date as World Down Syndrome Day in the State of Rhode Island.

We are asking that you consider becoming a sponsor of the 2020 Virtual Buddy Walk® and Fall Harvest Festival, which is being held on October 24, 2020. In return for your generosity, your organization will be recognized on all our social media platforms. The DSSRI is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible. Our Federal Identification number is 05-0397084. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [sponsor@dssri.org](mailto:sponsor@dssri.org).

Thank you for your support,

*Melissa Hansen*

*Vice President*

*Down Syndrome Society of Rhode Island*