The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild proudly presents the 22nd Annual Buddy Walk

Saturday, September 30th @ Sam Houston Park in Amarillo, TX (registration starts at 9:00am, the walk starts at 10:00am and the fun lasts until 1:00pm)
The Buddy Walk

The Buddy Walk program was established in 1995 by the National Down Syndrome Society to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome and to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October. The name Buddy Walk promotes inclusion between friends of every ability. The Buddy Walk has grown from 17 walks in 1995 to more than 320 pre-pandemic across the country and around the world! Last year Down syndrome groups saw 325,000 participants raising over $12 million dollars for education, Down syndrome research and advocacy. The Buddy Walk was ranked among the top 30 fundraising events nationwide by the Peer-to-Peer Professional Forum and was ranked #30 for money raised, #13 for number of events and #7 for number of participants.

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild is pleased to be able to host this “party in the park” again this year! It is only with the help of generous individuals and businesses that we are able to put on this wonderful community event. We would love for you to be a part of the fun!

Facts About 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 691 babies is born with Down syndrome.

- 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.

- 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.

- People with Down syndrome attend school, find work, participate in decisions that affect them, and contribute to society.

- 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 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.

**PDSG Projects**

- 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.

- The PDSG supplies local libraries and providers with the most current educational materials and a wide selection of children’s books that promote inclusion and encourage interaction between children with Down syndrome and their peers.
Become A Sponsor Today!

“Pal” ............... $250
♦ Sponsor-Provided Signage Displayed
♦ Sponsor-Provided Promotional Material Distributed at Event
♦ 2 Buddy Walk T-Shirts

“Amigo” ............ $500
♦ All “Pal” Benefits, plus
♦ Name or Logo on T-Shirt
♦ 4 Buddy Walk T-Shirts

“Friend” ........... $1,000
♦ All “Amigo” Benefits, plus
♦ Medium-Sized Logo on T-Shirt
♦ Up to 8 Buddy Walk T-Shirts

“Buddy” .......... $2,500
♦ All “Friend” Benefits, plus,
♦ Pre-Event Publicity
♦ Marquee Recognition as Co-Sponsor of Event
♦ Presentation of Plaque at the Event
♦ Large Logo on T-Shirt
♦ Up to 10 Buddy Walk T-Shirts

“Best Buddy” ...... $5,000
♦ All “Buddy” Benefits, plus
♦ Marquee Recognition as Presenting Sponsor of Event
♦ Representative of Sponsor can speak live at Event
♦ Largest Logo on T-Shirts
♦ Up to 15 Buddy Walk T-Shirts

Become A Sponsor Today!
YES!!! I WILL BE A SPONSOR
FOR THE 22nd ANNUAL PDSG
BUDDY WALK!!

MY LEVEL OF SPONSORSHIP WILL BE:

♦ “PAL” ($250) ______________
♦ “AMIGO” ($500)____________
♦ “FRIEND” ($1000)__________
♦ “BUDDY” ($2500)__________
♦ “BEST BUDDY” ($5000)______

Primary Contact:____________________________________________________
Business Name:____________________________________________________
Address:__________________________________________________________
Phone:____________________________________________________________
Email:____________________________________________________________

Please return by August 18, 2023 to ensure
sponsor info will appear on Buddy Walk shirts, if
applicable. Send form to PanhandleDSG@yahoo.com
or mail to address below. Sponsorship money can
be paid via check or card and is requested by
August 31, 2023. Online payments can be made at
www.pdsg.org via the Donate link.

The Panhandle Down Syndrome Guild is a 501 C3 non-
profit organization so donations may be tax deductible.