

COLUMBUS BUDDYWALK®

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 • FORTRESS OBETZ



FUNDRAISING TOOLKIT

WELCOME!

The 2024 Columbus Buddy Walk® is just around the corner and we couldn't be more thrilled to have your team on board! We can't wait for you to be a part of the festivities on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at Fortress Obetz!

Whether you're a seasoned veteran or a first-time walker, we want to make sure you're well-prepared for the event and have all the tools you need to reach your fundraising goals. That's why we've designed a special toolkit just for you.

One of the first things we encourage you to do is customize your team page. Add a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome and share your story to help spread awareness for this great cause. Once you've done that, you can invite your friends and family to join your team or donate to the Columbus Buddy Walk® through text messages, emails, and social media posts. This team captain toolkit includes a variety of ideas on how to do this effectively.

You can access all of these helpful resources through the Team Captain Corner on the Columbus Buddy Walk website at www.columbusbuddywalk.org.

If you have any questions along the way, don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email. To make sure you receive all important updates and information leading up to the event, please add my email address (ebrillhart@dsaco.net) to your contacts.

We can't wait to see you and your team on September 29th!

Evanthia Brillhart
Director of Marketing & Events
DSACO



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ABOUT DSACO

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) exists to support families, promote community involvement, and encourage a lifetime of opportunities for people with Down syndrome. We believe this can be achieved by providing families and individuals living with Down syndrome with meaningful, convenient, and unique opportunities to discover independence and to celebrate their achievements.

DIAGNOSIS

EARLY CHILDHOOD

SCHOOL AGE

TEENS

ADULTHOOD

At the heart of our mission is a commitment to support the Down syndrome community, which we consider our diverse and dynamic family. Our goal is to empower individuals with Down syndrome by offering a comprehensive range of programs and resources tailored to meet their unique and evolving needs. By working together, we can create a brighter future for everyone in the community.

40 Years of Serving Families:

For 40 years, DSACO has been serving families throughout Central Ohio who have a loved one with Down syndrome. 40 years of listening, learning, and elevating the voices of families to ensure their needs are heard. 40 years of advocating, educating, and innovating to ensure their needs are met:



DIVERSITY OUTREACH STRATEGIES

Forged new community partnerships within the Somali and Hispanic & Latino communities to successfully increase participation across diverse groups, including a new Somali Resource Group.



EXPAND OUR PROGRAMS TO TEENS & ADULTS

The commitment to teens & adults with Down syndrome is evident with the expansion of programming for them. DSACO has added a new Adult Stamping Club location, a new fitness program in 321go!, and a High School Social Group to bridge new connections among high school aged individuals.



INCREASE IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES

DSACO is committed to meeting families where they are. Beyond linking families with local resources, we extend financial assistance during challenging times. Our belief is that supporting the entire family not only addresses immediate needs, but also nurtures a lifetime of opportunities for people with Down syndrome.

To learn more about the impact you're making, please visit www.dsaco.net.

EVENT DETAILS

Sunday, September 29, 2024 | 9AM - 2 PM

Fortress Obetz

2015 Recreation Trail, Obetz OH 43207

The Columbus Buddy Walk® is an annual event that raises awareness for Down syndrome, promotes inclusivity, and celebrates the abilities and accomplishments of people with Down syndrome. The event includes a short, leisurely walk, music, and fun activities for all ages. This year's event promises to be bigger and better than ever, with an expected turnout of thousands of participants. We have so many fun activities planned for this year! Below is some information you may find helpful if this is your first time attending the event.

Event Day Timeline (Tentative):

- » **7:00 AM** • Tailgate Parking Lot opens up to start setting up - please do not arrive prior to 7:00 AM
- » **8:30 AM** • All cars must be parked outside the main tailgate lot - cars will not be allowed back into the tailgating lot until 1:30 PM for safety reasons
- » **9:00 AM** • Activities Open & Registration, T-Shirt Pick Up booths open up - if you register prior to the event and pick up your t-shirts on T-Shirt Pick Up Day, you DO NOT have to visit either booth
- » **10:00 AM** • Opening Ceremonies on Stage
- » **10:30 AM** • Walk Begins (DSACO will provide walk times to teams that are tailgating)
- » **12:30 PM** • Closing Ceremonies on Stage
- » **2:00 PM** • Event Activities End

Traffic & Parking:

We anticipate an attendance of 10,000 -12,000 people, so traffic is to be expected. We will have Obetz police available to help direct traffic as you exit I-270 S. We also have contracted a parking company to assist with efficient parking in the complex. Please be patient and arrive early if traffic is a concern to you!

On-site activities - NEW in 2024:

DSACO and the Columbus Buddy Walk Committee work really hard to confirm fun activities to have on-site during the event. All paid attendees will be given an **all-access wristband** which will grant them access to the activities provided. Here are some things we featured at the 2023 Columbus Buddy Walk and hope to have return for 2024:

- » Meet & Greets with Super Heroes and Princess Characters
- » Inflatables & Bounce Houses
- » Toddler Area featuring a Soft Play Ball Pit (for ages 5 and under)
- » Balloon Twisters
- » Airbrush Tattoos/Face Painting
- » Touch A Truck
- » Hair Braiding/Tinsel
- » Pumpkin Painting
- » Games





Helpful Items:

- » **POSTERS/SIGNS** - Help us line the Walk Route with posters & signs for your team! Team Captains are invited to bring posters/signs/banners/yard signs to be set-up along the Walk Route. Prior to the walk, teams can drop signs off at the DSACO office during T-Shirt Pick Up. If you forget or your signs are not ready in time, don't worry you can bring signs to the event and drop them off outside the main gate of the venue until 9:30 AM. Once the Walk is completed ~12:30 PM, DSACO will have volunteers take everything down and set it outside the main gate for pick up. Signs that are left at the event will be thrown away/recycled.
- » **SENSORY ROOM** - Our sensory room has been a great addition the last few years. Located inside the Courtyard in a quiet and temperature controlled space, the Sensory Room is a great space at the event for our friends that need a quick break from the crowd/loud music. Ear plugs, fidgets, puzzles & soft surfaces will be available inside the Sensory Room.
- » **FOOD TRUCKS/VENDORS**- DSACO typically arranges multiple food trucks/vendors to be on-site the day of the event so attendees can purchase food. These trucks/vendors have agreed to give back a percentage of the day's sales to DSACO as a donation! Find out a listing of trucks as we get closer to the event under "Walk Day Information" on the website!



TAILGATING 411:

Teams are encouraged to arrive at 7 AM to choose a tailgate spot and set up. As a fundraising incentive, teams that raise \$1,000 or more will have the opportunity to pre-select a “reserved tailgate spot.” These designated spots will be marked with chalk before the event day and will be specifically reserved for certain teams. However, all teams are welcome to set up a tailgate spot, and having a “reserved” spot is not mandatory for tailgating. The available space is ample, and we’ve never experienced it filling up completely!

Here are some suggestions to bring with you, if you are planning to set-up a tailgate:

- » **TENT/TABLES/CHAIRS** - it’s nice to have a “home base” during the event - many teams set-up 10 X 10 pop-up tent(s) with folding tables and chairs. Ask team members to bring camp chairs with them to the event, too!
- » **COOLER WITH DRINKS**
- » **BANNER OR SIGNS** that let people know who you are! These can be printed (Staples, FedEx, UPS all have printing services) or handmade.
- » **KIDS ACTIVITIES** - This is absolutely not necessary, but if you’re team has a lot of kids - it may be nice to have some items they can play with at your tailgate - a lot of teams bring games like corn hole, yard jenga, a football for catch or frisbee. If kids are younger, ideas could be legos, bubbles, sensory bins, trucks, etc.
- » **FOOD** - Many team captains provide a breakfast option or snack items for their team members and will bring items like bagels, donuts, coffee travelers, bags of chips/pretzels, etc. Please know, that you do not have to provide anything, if you don’t want to - DSACO has arranged numerous food trucks to be at the event!



FUNDRAISING INCENTIVES

By challenging our community to aim high in their fundraising efforts, we are able to better provide a variety of information, education, support and assistance to people with Down syndrome and their families in 23 Ohio counties. As a direct result of your fundraising efforts, DSACO, over the past year, has provided 35 New Parent Welcome Packages, 200 IEP Kits, 200 Down Syndrome Awareness Classroom Packets, 50 Hospital Care Packages for in-patient families, and much more! **Every dollar raised impacts a life.**

STERLING Tailgate:

Raise **\$15,000** or more by August 30

- VIP reserved tailgate spot
- Tables & chairs (up to 4 tables and 24 chairs)
- Donated breakfast pastries and coffee for your team
- Banner with team name
- 5 Big Head Cutouts of your loved one with Down syndrome's photo
- Balloon Garland for Tent
- Rental of one (1) 10x10 Tent
- Poster featuring a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome
- Free customization and delivery of team shirts to team captains
- \$50 Kroger Gift Card to help with tailgate expenses
- Lunch catered at the event for your team
- Visit with Brutus* at your tailgate

PLATINUM Tailgate:

Raise **\$10,000** or more by August 30

- VIP reserved tailgate spot
- Tables & chairs (up to 4 tables and 24 chairs)
- Donated breakfast pastries and coffee for the team
- Banner with team name
- 5 Big Head Cutouts of your loved one with Down syndrome's photo
- Balloon Garland for Tent
- Rental of one (1) 10x10 Tent
- Poster featuring a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome
- Free customization and delivery of team shirts to team captains
- \$50 Kroger Gift Card to help with tailgate expenses
- Lunch catered at the event for your team

GOLD Tailgate:

Raise **\$7,500** or more by August 30

- Reserved tailgate spot
- 4 Tables to use at the event
- Donated breakfast pastries and coffee for the team
- Banner with team name
- Balloon Garland for Tent
- Poster featuring a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome
- Free customization and delivery of team shirts to team captains
- \$50 Kroger Gift Card to help with tailgate expenses

SILVER Tailgate:

Raise **\$5,000** or more by August 30

- Reserved tailgate spot
- 2 Tables to use at the event
- Banner with team name
- Balloon Garland for Tent
- Poster featuring a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome
- Free customization and delivery of team shirts to team captains

BRONZE Tailgate:

Raise **\$2,500** or more by August 30

- Reserved tailgate spot
- Commemorative poster featuring a photo of your loved one with Down syndrome
- Free customization of team shirts

BLUE Tailgate:

Raise **\$1,000** or more by August 30

- Reserved tailgate spot

INCENTIVE DEADLINE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2024 AT NOON

Fundraising Incentive Deadline/T-Shirt Guarantee Deadline is the day where we look at fundraising totals and provide the above incentives off these numbers. After this deadline, we cannot make changes, due to the ordering process.

FUNDRAISING 101

We are so thrilled that you have decided to fundraise for the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO), on behalf of your Columbus Buddy Walk® team! DSACO depends on donations and fundraisers to do everything we do. It is only through the generosity of many individuals, corporations, and grants that DSACO is able to provide a full spectrum of opportunities — quality programs, valuable services, and robust resources — for people with Down syndrome and their families. We need your help!

We have pulled together a quick four-step method to assist you in your fundraising.

STEP ONE: PLAN

Before you begin fundraising, we suggest creating a plan for your fundraising efforts. We understand that fundraising may look different this year and want to help you the best we can, so please reach out if you are looking for ideas! We want you to be successful with your fundraising!

Build your network! Think about a list of people or businesses who might donate to your efforts this year. We recommend starting with:

- » Friends and families
- » Current or former colleagues and classmates
- » Neighbors
- » Church/Religious network
- » Local businesses your family frequents (restaurants, retail stores, etc.)
- » Social media connections

STEP TWO: TELL YOUR STORY

We encourage you to tell your story. Your child or the person who inspired you to create a team for the Columbus Buddy Walk is a great start to your story. The questions below can help you practice your story:

- » Why do you participate in the Columbus Buddy Walk?
- » How have the funds raised by the Columbus Buddy Walk helped your family? (How has certain programming impacted you and your child? Have you attended any of DSACO's numerous resource and activity groups?)
- » What are your child's goals for this year? How can the funds you raise help your child reach these goals?
- » How has Down syndrome impacted your life and why do you believe it's important to raise money for DSACO?

Tell your story in creative ways - post photos or videos on social media outlets and encourage people to support your fundraising efforts.

FUNDRAISING 101

STEP THREE: REMINDING YOUR NETWORK

We understand that reminding your networks about your fundraising can be difficult given how long the Buddy Walk fundraising season is. We suggest using stories of your child to promote your fundraising efforts throughout the year. Sending out notes to remind your network about a milestone your child has reached, can also be a great way to solicit for additional donations at different times of the year. **The more personal you make it, the better!**

STEP FOUR: THANKING YOUR DONORS

Don't forget to thank all those people who supported your family this year. The Columbus Buddy Walk website makes it easy to download your donor report with addresses, so you can send a quick, but heartfelt thank you note. In previous years, team captains have found value in sending out photos from the event to thank donors.

FUNDRAISING MILESTONES

Fundraising for the Columbus Buddy Walk® should be fun and fulfilling for your whole family, not stressful! Give yourself plenty of time to fundraise by registering your team early!

YOUR BUDDY'S BIRTHDAY: Consider asking for donations to your team's fundraising goal in lieu of birthday gifts this year.

YOUR BIRTHDAY/FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER: Consider creating a Facebook fundraiser around the time of your birthday to raise money for your Buddy Walk team! We just ask that in the title of your fundraiser you mention the team name (i.e.: Susie's Birthday Fundraiser for Team Ella Grow Strong). This helps us easily distinguish which donations go to which fundraiser/Buddy Walk team when the large sum Facebook reports get pulled twice a month. The Stride tool makes it very easy to connect a fundraiser from your team page to your Facebook page!

SPRING CLEANING: Before the summer heat kicks in, pick a weekend morning to sell those old clothes and forgotten treasures sitting around your home. You can even sell items on Facebook Marketplace and donate the proceeds to your Buddy Walk team!

EVERYONE LOVES A GOOD COMPETITION: Reach out to a fellow team captain or even your spouse, and tell your friends and family that you're doing a competition to see who can raise the most money. The winner could get to pie the other in the face, or dump a bucket of cold water on the other, etc.



FUNDRAISING 101

We encourage you to choose some creative ways to fundraise for your team, aside from soliciting donations through letters and social media. Think outside the box! **We've pulled together some FUN Fundraising Ideas that we've seen and LOVED!**

SIMPLE FUNDRAISING IDEAS:

- » **Encourage your friends/family/network to register to walk with you!** For every person that registers to walk, their \$21 fee goes towards your fundraising total. Plus, within the registration process, you can add an additional donation to your cart .
- » **Encourage all teammates to contact their HR director** to find out how their company handles company matching gifts and encourage them to get their contributions matched.
- » **Think of ways you can assist people in your neighborhood** or network to raise money, such as mowing lawns, picking up groceries, helping with yard work, etc.
- » **Include information in company newsletters**, intranets and bulletin boards - DSACO has templates in Canva you can use!
- » **Host a T-Shirt Fundraiser**, work with a company that will help you design a team t-shirt and then funnel the sales through their site. Typically, these companies only take the cost of each t-shirt and the rest of the sales are donated to your team (we like companies like Bonfire, Custom Ink, etc.)
- » **Host a birthday fundraiser on Facebook** - be sure to include your Buddy Walk team name so we can apply it to your fundraising total.

IDEAS THAT REQUIRE SOME WORK:

- » **Have a consultant party** (ex. Pampered Chef, Color Street, Thirty-One Gifts, etc.) and have a portion of the proceeds go to your team. These can be done 100% online and virtually! There are numerous DSACO Moms who are consultants for many of these businesses and who are always willing to assist!
- » **Have an Online Raffle!** Ask friends and local businesses to donate items and services that can be auctioned or raffled off for donations, even look through your home to see if you have any unopened gifts that you would be willing to part with and use for online raffles/auctions!
- » **Have a Garage Sale!** That's right - just pull together the items you're looking to sell and post photos within Facebook Marketplace or a Facebook event and collect donations for the items and enforce porch pickups for the items, if you don't feel comfortable having an actual garage sale. You can even have "thank you" cards printed and include one with each pick up to further spread awareness!
- » **Host a bracket competition or "squares" for an upcoming sporting event** - ask friends and family to "buy-in" and the winner of the bracket or competition can split the pot with your Buddy Walk team. Many teams do this for the Superbowl, March Madness Tournament, or golf events.

A LOT OF EFFORT, BIG PAY OFF IDEAS:

- » **Look for sponsors for the event** - sponsorship packages can be downloaded from the Columbus Buddy Walk® website - these sponsorships will count towards your team's fundraising goal.

SOCIAL MEDIA TIPS

Once you've started putting your social networking skills to use, don't forget about your social media skills! Consider using Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, LinkedIn, Snapchat, YouTube, a blog, or any platform when prepping and participating in the Columbus Buddy Walk®. These are great channels to recognize your donors and team members, ask for donations, and share your story!

SOCIAL MEDIA BEST PRACTICES

- Share your story
- Use one of our social media graphic templates to bring awareness to your team
- Use emojis & photos/videos when posting
- Tag DSACO in your posts - we love seeing what you're up to and we might re-share your posts (with your permission!)
- Share a video about a DSACO program that has meant a lot to your family that friends or family could help support with a donation to your Buddy Walk team
- Share your team page link in all your posts regularly
- Add your team page link in your social media bios so people can easily access it

BUDDY WALK SOCIAL MEDIA ASSETS AVAILABLE!

Check out the **Team Captain Tab** on the Columbus Buddy Walk website to access the Canva Templates available!



Instagram Post Examples



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE REGISTRATION FEE?

- » The registration fee is \$21 per person, plus \$9 for a t-shirt. People with Down syndrome can register for FREE by selecting the “Person with Down syndrome” registration type. Each registered attendee will receive an all-access wristband granting access to the family-friendly activities at the event. While guests who haven’t registered are still welcome to participate in the walk, only those with wristbands will have access to additional activities such as bounce houses, balloon twisters, toddler zone, etc.
- » DSACO values equal opportunity for program participation. Email info@dsaco.net for fee waiver requests due to financial challenges. DSACO will only waive registration fees for immediate DSACO family members; others are welcome to join without registering.

SHOULD I REGISTER MY KIDS?

- » Yes, we encourage you to register all attendees, including toddlers in strollers. This helps us better plan for the day of the event. Additionally, only those who register will receive a wristband to participate in the activities and a t-shirt (for an additional \$9). We offer t-shirt sizes ranging from 6-month onesies to 4XL.

I HAVE A FAMILY MEMBER WHO WANTS TO JOIN MY TEAM BUT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE WALK. CAN THEY STILL JOIN MY TEAM?

- » Absolutely! Family members can still support you by joining your team and fundraising as team members, even if they are unable to attend the event. However, please note that only registered individuals will receive event t-shirts. While donations are incredibly generous, they do not include a t-shirt.

WHEN IS THE CUT-OFF TO JOIN A TEAM?

- » You can register online up until **Friday, September 27, 2024, at noon**. Alternatively, you can also register at the event. However, we encourage everyone to register before August 30, 2024, to provide us with a good headcount for better event planning. Please note that registrants after the August 30, 2024 deadline are not guaranteed their preferred t-shirt size.

SOME OF MY FAMILY WOULD LIKE TO COME, BUT NOT WALK. DO THEY NEED TO REGISTER?

- » We encourage all participants to register by August 30, 2024. If they would like to receive an event t-shirt, registration is mandatory. Please note that we cannot guarantee event t-shirts will be available for walk-up attendees on the day of the event.

SOMEONE DONATED TO MY TEAM, BUT MEANT TO REGISTER FOR THE WALK, WHAT SHOULD THEY DO?

- » All attendees must complete the registration process online. If a donation was made and the individual now intends to attend the walk, they will need to complete the registration process online to receive a wristband & t-shirt. While all donations are greatly appreciated, donors will NOT receive an event t-shirt unless they register for the event. **If someone wishes to convert their donation into a registration fee, please contact Tech Support at support@ds-connex.org.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS *(continued)*

IF I AM REGISTERED, DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING ELSE TO BE PRE-REGISTERED?

- » No, if you are already registered online, you are all set.

ARE DONATIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

- » Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by the law. The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Our tax ID number is 31-1126185.

WHERE DO I GET A DONATION TRACKING FORM?

- » A donation tracking form is enclosed in this packet. You may also print additional donation forms from the Team Captain's Corner on the Columbus Buddy Walk® website.

WHO SHOULD COLUMBUS BUDDY WALK CHECKS BE MADE PAYABLE TO?

- » For tax purposes, please make checks payable to the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio or DSACO. Checks should not be written to Buddy Walk teams, team captains or individual participants.

DO I HAVE TO SEND IN MY DONATIONS? CAN I CONTINUE TO COLLECT DONATIONS AFTER THE WALK? WHAT IF MY DONORS DON'T WANT TO DONATE ONLINE? WHERE DO I SEND THE CHECKS?

- » Please mail in or bring donations to the DSACO office as soon as you can to the address below. You may enter your donations on your Team Fundraising Page before sending them - once DSACO receives your checks, we can approve your submissions. Your donations must be to DSACO before or on October 31, 2024.

Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio
INSERT BUDDY WALK TEAM NAME
510 East North Broadway, Suite 401
Columbus, OH 43214

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE BEFORE THE CHECKS I MAILED SHOW UP ON MY PAGE?

- » Team Captains are able to enter their own check(s) on their team page. These will show up along the donation column, but will not impact the fundraising total until the check(s) are received by DSACO and approved. Please allow four weeks for your donations to be deposited, processed and approved by DSACO.

WHAT IF PEOPLE WANT TO GIVE ME CASH?

- » It is safest and best for record-keeping that you convert all cash received to a check or money order. If you are able, the safest option is to send a personal check covering the full amount, along with the corresponding donation forms to the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio. We will be able to credit your friends and family for their generosity. If this is not possible, you can always bring the cash donations and appropriate donation forms to the DSACO office or the Columbus Buddy Walk® and turn it in at Registration.



CORPORATE MATCHING

I THINK MY COMPANY MATCHES. HOW DO I GET THIS STARTED?

- » Every company handles its own matching gift program differently. Please contact your company's Human Resources department for instructions on how to double your fundraising efforts through matching gifts. Please be aware that some matching gifts can take up to six months to receive, so please plan accordingly.

WHERE DO I SEND MY MATCHING GIFT FORM?

- » You can send your matching gift form to:

Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio
INSERT BUDDY WALK TEAM NAME
510 East North Broadway, Suite 401
Columbus, OH 43214

I SUBMITTED A FORM FOR MATCHING GIFTS BUT DO NOT SEE THE DONATION ON MY PAGE. WHERE IS IT?

- » The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio cannot post a matching gift until the corporation involved approves it. Unfortunately, corporations match gifts on a different timetable during the year. If you have questions regarding your matching gift, please contact your company to see if the donation has indeed been matched. If it has, please contact DSACO at (614) 263-6020, and we will do everything we can to ensure that the donation appears on your page.



PERMISSION TO FUNDRAISE

The below form may be downloaded and printed directly from the Columbus Buddy Walk® website. Some businesses or organizations may ask you to show this as you begin fundraising for your team. Complete the form and print out a few copies so you have some to spare.

We encourage you to ask local businesses to support your Columbus Buddy Walk team, through in-kind donations or monetary contributions. We do ask that you refrain from engaging in corporate businesses that DSACO approaches for event sponsorships. If you are unsure of these corporate businesses, please contact Evanthia Brillhart, Director of Marketing and Events, at ebrillhart@dsaco.net to confirm before reaching out.

Permission to Fundraise on behalf of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio

This document gives _____ permission to serve as an “agent” to solicit donations on behalf of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio in conjunction with their event the Columbus Buddy Walk® held on Sunday, September 29, 2024 at Fortress Obetz.

The Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio is a 501(c)(3) organization with the tax ID of 31-1126185; you may request a W-9 from our office at 614-263-6020.

PROHIBITED FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The policies of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio prohibit the following solicitation practices:

- » Use of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio or Columbus Buddy Walk® name at the direct point-of-purchase sale of alcoholic or tobacco products.
- » Use of the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio or Columbus Buddy Walk® name in relation to any business activity that cannot guarantee full accounting for funds generated, such as vending machines and candy boxes.
- » Customer prospect campaigns conducted by independent contractors.
- » Promotions to attract new patients to any form of medical treatment.
- » Promotions related to the delivery of professional services.

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OHIO'S MISSION STATEMENT

To support families, promote community involvement and encourage a lifetime opportunities for people with Down syndrome.

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OHIO'S VISION STATEMENT

For people with Down syndrome to achieve their fullest potential in an accepting and inclusive community.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering at the Columbus Buddy Walk is a great way to give back to the community and make a positive impact in the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families. By volunteering, you can help to ensure that the event runs smoothly and that everyone has a fun and enjoyable experience. You can also meet new people, build relationships, and learn more about Down syndrome. Volunteering at the Columbus Buddy Walk is a rewarding experience that allows you to make a difference and promote inclusion and acceptance in the community.

WHAT KIND OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

There are various volunteer opportunities available including registration, set-up, tear-down, games & activities, handing out medals, and helping with t-shirt pick up.

DO I NEED ANY SPECIAL SKILLS TO VOLUNTEER?

No, you do not need any special skills to volunteer. We provide instructions for all volunteers, and we welcome all abilities and backgrounds.

HOW LONG IS THE VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT?

The volunteer commitment varies depending on the shift you sign up for, but shifts can range from 4-6 hours.

IS THERE AN AGE REQUIREMENT FOR VOLUNTEERS?

Volunteers must be at least 16 years old, or 14-15 years old if accompanied by an adult.

CAN I VOLUNTEER WITH FRIENDS OR FAMILY MEMBERS?

Yes, we encourage volunteers to bring friends and family members. Just make sure that each person signs up individually so we can have an accurate count of our volunteer team and provide enough volunteer t-shirts.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR WHEN VOLUNTEERING?

We recommend wearing comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing and comfortable shoes. Volunteers will receive a t-shirt to wear during the event.

WILL I RECEIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FOR VOLUNTEERING?

Yes, we are happy to sign off on community service hours for volunteers who need them.

To sign-up, please visit www.columbusbuddywalk.org.





COLUMBUS BUDDY WALK® DONATION TRACKING FORM:

Use this form to track and collect donations you receive to support your Buddy Walk® team. To ensure that the funds you raise are credited to your team, please include the name of your team and your team captain's name. This form, along with your donations, must be received by DSACO by August 30, 2024 for funds to qualify for t-shirt customization and other incentives. Columbus Buddy Walk® donations will be accepted through October 31, 2024.

* Many employers match their employee's charitable donations. Check with your employer to see if your contribution will be matched.

Your Name/Walker Name: _____

Team Name: _____ Team Captain's Name: _____

| CONTRIBUTOR'S NAME | PHONE | EMAIL ADDRESS | AMOUNT |
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TOTAL \$