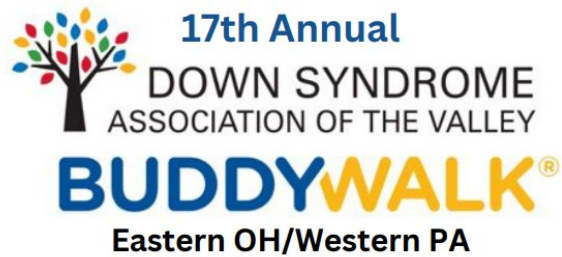
 **17th Annual**
DOWN SYNDROME
ASSOCIATION OF THE VALLEY
BUDDYWALK®
Eastern OH/Western PA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024
EASTWOOD FIELD



TEAM CAPTAIN
INFORMATION



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Eastwood Field, Niles—1:00pm

Dear Buddy Walk® Team Captain,

The annual Buddy Walk is the largest fundraising and awareness event of the Down Syndrome Association of the Valley. Your support enables us to continue to provide an array of services and opportunities to our families and the communities we serve throughout eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

Team Captains play a vital role in the success of the DSAV Buddy Walk®. As a Team Captain, you are the personal face of the event, increasing awareness of Down syndrome in our communities and supporting the mission of the Down Syndrome Association of the Valley. Your leadership is invaluable to DSAV and your hard work and support is sincerely appreciated.

The 17th Annual Buddy Walk® will be held on Sunday, September 15th at Eastwood Field in Niles. Team Captains will again be offered an opportunity to participate in BUDDY WALK LANE, in which one vehicle/team can park inside the event area and set up tailgate style as a team gathering point.

Please review the Team Captain information as well as the Corporate Sponsorship opportunities and top team fundraising incentives. If you have any questions, or need assistance with online registration, please do not hesitate to contact the DSAV office.

Thank you for supporting the Down Syndrome Association of the Valley.

Sincerely,

*Down Syndrome Association of the Valley
Buddy Walk®Committee*

Email : office@dsav.org | 330-726-3728





What is the Buddy Walk

The Buddy Walk program was established by the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) in 1995 to celebrate Down Syndrome and to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down Syndrome.

DSAV Buddy Walk

The 17th Annual DSAV Buddy Walk of Eastern Ohio/Western Pennsylvania will take place on Sunday, September 15, 2024 at Eastwood Field in Niles, Ohio. The day of celebration begins at 11:45am with dancing at center stage, family friendly activities in the resource area, bounce houses, entertainment by local mascots, superheroes, princesses, local cheerleaders, and a magnificent basket raffle. The 1/2 mile walk around Eastwood field kicks off at 1:00pm.

How To Be A part of the Celebration

The Buddy Walk is open to participants of all ages and abilities. A “Buddy” is an individual with Down syndrome. All registered Buddy’s receive free admission to the event, which includes the event T-shirt and a Buddy Medal.

- Create a team— Buddy Walk teams do not have to be large—any size team is welcomed. Teams also do not need to have a team “buddy”—Sports teams, high schools, clubs, etc. are all welcome to create a team and join in celebrating abilities
- Join the DSAV All Stars Team— If you prefer not to create a team, consider joining the DSAV Team. On the registration page choose “join an existing team” and select DSAV.

Buddy Walk Lane Registered teams will be able to drive one vehicle into the event venue and set up “tailgate style”. This will serve as a meeting point for team members as well as the area in which “your” walk will begin. Pop Up tents and food is permitted (no alcoholic beverages) Buddy Walk Lane is optional. Food will also be available for purchase at the Eastwood Field concession stand for those that do not wish to bring their own lunch/snacks.

Earning Team Incentives

Team incentives are based on the amount of money that your team raises by the cutoff date of noon on August 19, 2024. Teams names must be registered by August 9, 2024 to qualify for team incentives.

Team donations include:

- Registration fees for anyone joining your team
- Corporate Sponsorship donations
- General donations allocated to your team
- Team fundraising events (i.e., golf outing, sip n paint, raffles, etc.)



TO QUALIFY FOR ALL TEAM INCENTIVES:

- ◆ **TEAM Name must be registered online by Friday, August 9, 2024**
- ◆ **All money must be turned into the DSAV office by noon on Monday, August 19, 2024**

1ST PLACE Fundraising Team:

- Reserved Tent on Buddy Walk Lane
- 1st in line for event kick off
- Professional photo session for the team “Buddy”
- Feature photo prominently displayed at the Regional Down Syndrome Center for Success and DSAV marketing materials throughout the year
- Team name printed on the back of the Buddy Walk T-Shirt
- Personalized team sign along walk route
- Recognition on DSAV social media/marketing
- Assortment of Commemorative merchandise

TOP 5 Fundraising Teams

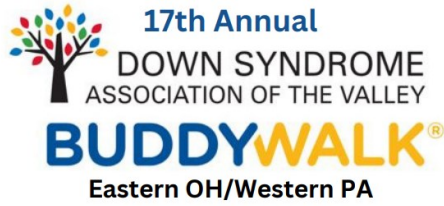
- Professional photo session for the team “Buddy”
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- Personalized team sign along walk route
- Recognition in DSAV social media/marketing
- Assortment of Commemorative merchandise

TOP 10 Fundraising Teams

- Team name printed on the back of the Buddy Walk T-Shirt
- Personalized team sign along walk route
- Recognition in DSAV social media/marketing
- Assortment of Commemorative merchandise

TOP 20 Fundraising Teams

- Personalized team sign along walk route
- Recognition in DSAV social media/marketing
- Assortment of Commemorative merchandise



BASKET RAFFLE DONATION FORM

The Basket Raffle is an integral part of the Buddy Walk. Please consider donating a completed basket, gift cards, or an item that can be used /combined to make a basket. Please return this form with your donation.

- Donating Gift Card or Basket Raffle Item(s) Estimated Value of Item(s) or Basket
 Donating Completed Basket \$ _____

Donation Description: List the items being donated

Company Name _____

(as it should appear on all Buddy Walk materials):

Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

**Please return your donation to DSAV by
Wednesday, September 11, 2024
Contact us at 330-726-3728 or buddywalk@dsav.org to make arrangements
to have your donated basket picked up**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



2024 IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, March 15 - Online Registration Opens

www.ds-stride.org/dsavbuddywalk

Friday, August 9

- TEAM name must be registered. Teams not registered online by August 9th will not qualify for top honors and team incentives

Thursday, August 15

- Corporate Sponsorship logo's and payment are due.
- Sponsorships secured by a team are added to Buddy Walk Team total.

Monday, August 19 - T-shirt deadline.

- All money due to DSAV by Noon to qualify for top honors and team incentives

Wednesday, September 4

- Last Day to register for Buddy Walk Lane Parking Permit

Tuesday, September 10 & Wednesday, September 11

- T-Shirt pick up at Regional Down Syndrome for Success - time TBD
- Last Day to submit Basket Raffle donations

Sunday, September 15, 2024 - 17th Annual Buddy Walk® , Eastwood Field

Buddy Walk Lane opens: 10:30-11:15am

Gates Open 11:45am

Walk Kicks off at 1:00pm