

expanding our impact

*DSAF Mission Partner
Opportunities*



definition of a star



A: a natural luminous body visible in the sky especially at night

B: an often star-shaped ornament or medal worn as a badge of honor, authority, or rank

C: a performer in the most prominent or important role

dsaf definition: A person with Down syndrome glowing with success, wearing their badge of Down syndrome with pride, and living out their most prominent role as a vital, active, valued, and loved member of the community.

a message from the president

"I knew when my son, Ethan, was in the NICU 13 years ago that a lot of the information that I researched and received about Down syndrome was not the most current or up to date. The information limited what the expectations of our kids with Down syndrome should be, and my husband and I wanted more for him. I'm proud to say that the Down Syndrome Association for Families of Nebraska (DSAF) has been a driving force in Nebraska over the past decade for providing positive, current, and accurate resources for individuals and families. DSAF helps improve the lives of people with Down syndrome and builds support and relationships throughout our community.

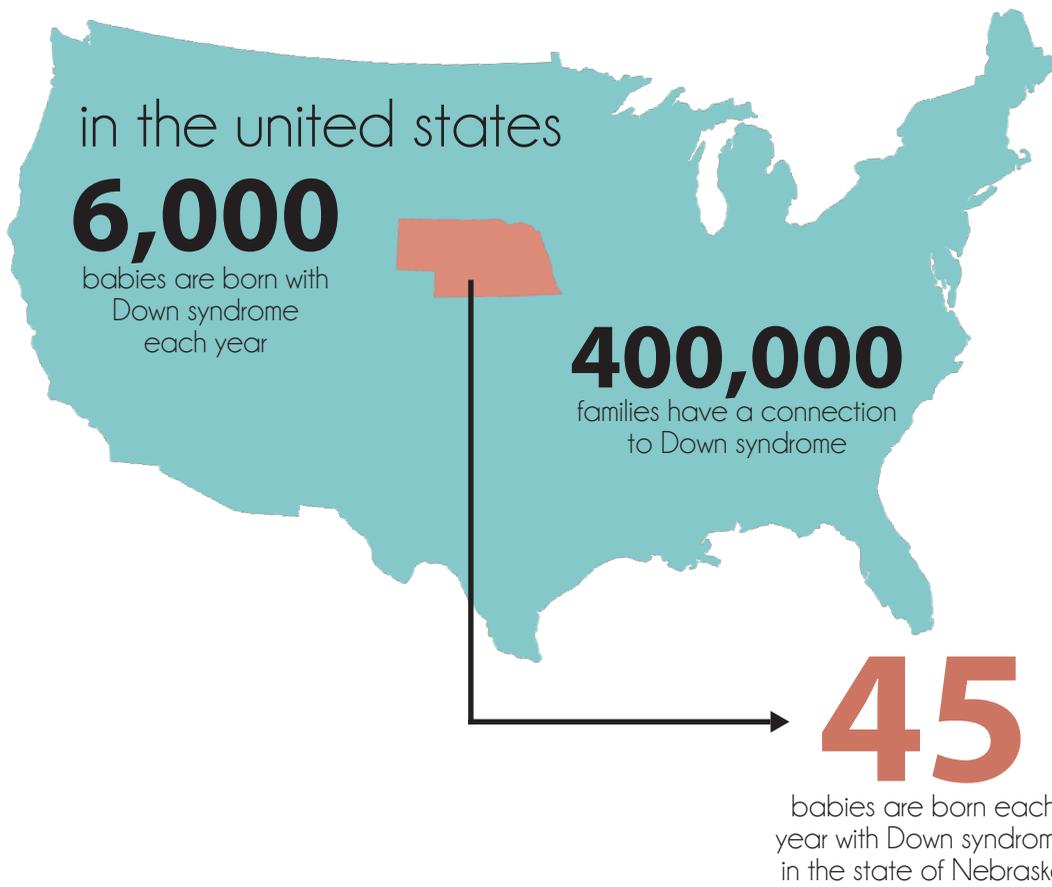
Every person with Down syndrome deserves to feel like a star. When they are involved in DSAF, everything from our logo to our programming reflects the star inside each of us.

Thank you for helping people with Down syndrome succeed. Thank you for helping them shoot for the stars.

WOW does the future look bright!

Liz Echterkamp
DSAF Board President





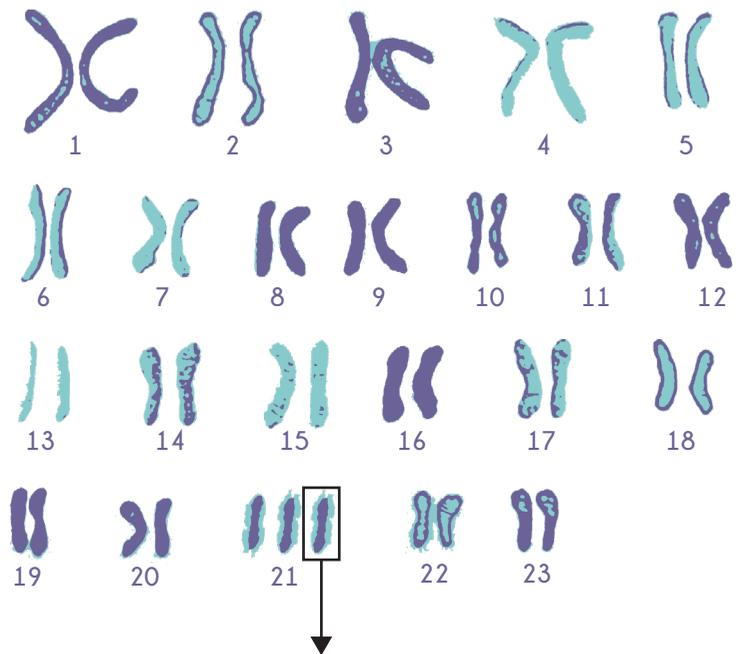
the need

People with Down syndrome are significantly predisposed to certain medical conditions including congenital heart defects, sleep apnea, and Alzheimer's disease. There is also evidence of an increased risk of celiac disease, autism, childhood leukemia and seizures.

Down syndrome is the leading cause of intellectual and developmental delays, which are typically mild to moderate.

what is down syndrome?

Down syndrome is a genetic condition that is usually caused by an extra copy of the twenty-first chromosome. While it is the most common genetic condition and there are some common characteristics and physical traits, **every individual with Down syndrome is unique.**



Down syndrome occurs when an individual has a full or partial copy of chromosome 21.



But most importantly, people with Down syndrome are **individuals** with **unique qualities** and **bright futures** that deserve to be celebrated.



our mission ★

The Down Syndrome Association for Families of Nebraska (DSAF) recognizes that every person with Down syndrome is an individual who has a unique purpose and set of abilities. It is our mission to provide support and a positive vision for the future for individuals with Down syndrome and their families, friends, and allies who share in their lives.

DSAF is more than just an association.
It is a place of **belonging** and **hope**.
It is a **positive vision** for the future.
It is where **stars** are born.

our services

Since the start of DSAF 25 years ago, every dollar raised has gone to three primary focus areas of the organization: **connecting**, **supporting**, and **engaging** the Down syndrome community.

We Connect: DSAF builds a sense of community and creates safe and meaningful opportunities for families to network and support one another through large and small group events like the age-appropriate Lil' STARS, Super STARS, and Teen/Young Adult STARS enrichment activities, Parent/Moms/Dads Night Outs, and Siblings Connect. Five large-group community events are also hosted each year like the Summer Swim Party, Night at the Lincoln Children's Museum, and Trip to the Pumpkin Patch.

We Support: New parent support is critical for parents of a child with Down syndrome. Upon receiving a diagnosis, new parents find a helping hand extended through DSAF's First-Call Parent Support Program and New Parent Brunches. After birth, New Baby Welcome Baskets are a life-changing gift distributed to parents reminding them that their child is, first and foremost, their baby. Finally, local doctors, nurses, and teachers are provided with training and accurate and positive information and literature regarding Down syndrome by the Medical Outreach team.

We Engage: DSAF fosters supportive and inclusive relationships with local schools, medical offices, businesses, and other allies through community engagement efforts led by DSAF staff, board, and volunteers. All are invited to participate in the annual Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk and World Down Syndrome Day celebrations. These two events are the Capital City's largest Down syndrome awareness and advocacy events with nearly 2,000 people in attendance between the two events. The *Down Syndrome Community Connections* quarterly newsletter, DSAF Ed. Series, and Circles® Curriculum are examples of educational opportunities which provide inspiration, tailored resources, and training for parents and community-members to help them best support their friend or loved one with Down syndrome.

we connect...

- **928** Families, Friends, Educators, and Allies in **126** Nebraska Communities
- **1,169** Attendees at **44** Yearly Enrichment Events with **149** Volunteers
- **1,250** People via Facebook Private and Public Pages

we support...

- **111** People with Down Syndrome – a.k.a. Our Stars
- **70** DSAF Medical Outreach Visits to NICUs, Hospitals, Labor & Delivery Units, and Physicians
- **90%** of New Families in Lincoln with Prenatal or Birth Diagnosis Connected to DSAF Medical Outreach Team

we engage...

- **10** Board Members and **2** Staff
- **1,200** Attendees at the Annual Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk
- **1,000+** Families Receive *Down Syndrome Community Connections* Print and E-Newsletters



"Early on, we contacted DSAF for support. It has been amazing to receive the support from other families and to see these families happy and flourishing."

-Jen Vancura, Parent

mission partner opportunities

You are important to us. Therefore, we have expanded the number of opportunities and ways you can help advance the mission to better reflect the year-round nature of our work. Because DSAF is more than just a Walk.

We invite YOU to be a **star**. Will you consider supporting DSAF?



Presenting Sponsor: \$10,000

Shooting Star: \$5,000

Rising Star: \$2,500

Gold Star: \$1,000

Red Star: \$500

Blue Star: \$250



Your support will create a positive vision of the future for people with Down syndrome **all year long.**

expanding the impact

It takes a lot of teamwork and resources to create stars. DSAF depends on donations and fundraisers to provide programs and services and meet operational costs. It is only through the generosity of many individuals, corporations, and grants that DSAF is able to provide quality programs and services for individuals with Down syndrome and their families in Nebraska.

Nearly 85% of all funding goes directly to support the mission of DSAF serving the needs of Nebraska families. Join DSAF and help create a positive vision of the future for people with Down syndrome. Your dollars allow Nebraska families to gain essential resources as they support their loved one with Down syndrome from birth through adulthood.

mission partner benefits



How will YOU be a star?

where you will be seen...

Presenting Sponsor: \$10,000
 Shooting Star: \$5,000
 Rising Star: \$2,500
 Gold Star: \$1,000
 Red Star: \$500 (NEW! Dual Event Sponsorship Level)
 Blue Star: \$250

NAMING RIGHTS to Step Up Walk AND World Down Syndrome Day events, example: Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk/World Down Syndrome Day presented by "Your Company"	X					
Recognition by logo as Presenting Sponsor on all print and electronic marketing materials, promotions with media partnerships, event day signage, social media, etc. for Step Up Walk, World Down Syndrome Day AND large-group events or program of choice	X					
Recognition by logo at large-group events OR program of choice	X	X				
Opportunity for short sponsor remarks from the stage at Step Up Walk AND World Down Syndrome Day	X	X				
Recognition by logo in Monthly e-newsletters to 1,500+ people	X	X	X			
Recognition in quarterly DS Community Connections newsletter to 1,000+ homes	X	X	X	X		
DUAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP for Step Up Walk AND World Down Syndrome Day	X	X	X	X	X	
Recognition on Step Up Walk T-shirt worn by 500+ people	X	X	X	X	X	
Recognition on event signage, website, and social media for Step Up Walk	X	X	X	X	X	X

how you can engage...

Custom engagement opportunity for company employees	X					
Engagement opportunity with DSAF members at 1 event/program of choice (i.e. Large Group Community event or the DSAF Educational Series)	X	X				
Short article in 1 DS Community Connections Newsletter to 1,000+ families	X	X	X			
First pick of booth space at Step Up Walk to host an engagement activity for attendees and pass out information to audience of 1,200+ people	X	X	X	X		
Complimentary T-shirt(s) and registration(s) to Step Up Walk	6	5	4	3	2	1

how you will see your impact...

In-Person Mission Partner Presentation by DSAF Staff	X					
Branded quarterly Mission Partner Update	X	X	X			
Quarterly Mission Partner Update	X	X	X	X		
Recognition in Annual Report	X	X	X	X	X	X

mission partner commitment form



Mission Partner Commitments can be paid online at <https://www.ds-stride.org/dsafstepup/sponsors>. If you would prefer to mail in your contribution, complete this form by August 31, 2020. For commitments of \$1,000 or greater, please email your company's logo as a high-resolution JPG or PNG file to Mary Sweeney at mary@dsafnebraska.org by August 31.

Full Name: _____

Organization/Business: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Please clearly mark the level of commitment you would like to provide to DSAF:

- Presenting Sponsor: \$10,000
- Shooting Star: \$5,000
- Rising Star: \$2,500
- Gold Star: \$1,000
- Red Star: \$500
- Blue Star: \$250

Total Commitment: \$ _____

Multi-Year Commitment Option

- I would like to make this a multi-year commitment for ____ years. (Please indicate number of years).

Workplace Giving

- I would like to establish a workplace giving opportunity for my employees that supports DSAF.
- We already have a program in place, and I would be happy to introduce you to my office workplace giving contact.

Monthly/Legacy Gifts

- Please have someone contact me about Monthly Giving.
- Please have someone contact me about Legacy Gifts.

Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk Credit (Optional)

Please have my commitment credited to the following Step Up for Down Syndrome Walk Team(s):

**SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE BY AUGUST 31. COMPLETE THE FORM
ONLINE OR MAIL CHECKS TO:
DSAF, PO Box 57362, Lincoln, NE 68505.
Please write "DSAF Mission Partner" in the memo line.**

