



Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society

13th Annual Buddy Walk Program

October 6, 2018

Sponsorship Packet

Contacts:

John and Candy Bogardus
c/o The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society

*322 St. Johns Road
Guyton GA 31312*

*912-728-8505
Cell - 912-663-8573
Fax – 912-728-5247*

buddywalk@ldssga.org



Introduction

The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society is a family support group for all individuals touched by Down Syndrome. The mission of the Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society is to benefit people with Down Syndrome and their families through local leadership, outreach, education, and advocacy to champion and celebrate acceptance and inclusion. The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society (LDSS) is an affiliate of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS).

Since 1979, the National Down Syndrome Society has worked to achieve its vision of a world in which all people with Down Syndrome have the opportunity to realize their life aspirations. The NDSS is committed to being the national leader in supporting and enhancing the quality of life, and realizing the potential of all people with Down Syndrome.

The **mission** of the National Down Syndrome Society is to benefit people with Down Syndrome and their families through national leadership in education, research and advocacy.

Education. With model programs, an award-winning Web site, national conferences, and an Information and Referral Center, the NDSS provides targeted, in-depth information that meets the diverse needs of its constituents.

Research. The NDSS hosts international research conferences and is one of the largest private funders of Down syndrome research in the United States.

Advocacy. In cooperation with its 170 affiliate groups, the NDSS influences important local and federal legislation, establishes October as National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, organizes the Buddy Walk – the nation’s largest advocacy walk for Down syndrome – and much more.

What is Down syndrome?

Down Syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in approximately one in every 691 live births. It affects people of all ages, races and economic levels and is the most frequently occurring chromosomal abnormality. It occurs when there are three, rather than two, number 21 chromosomes present in every cell of the body. Instead of the usual 46 chromosomes, a person with Down syndrome has 47. It is this additional genetic material that alters the course of development and causes the characteristics associated with the syndrome. Down Syndrome affects over 350,000 people in the United States alone. Recent advances in our understanding of Down Syndrome have resulted in dramatic improvements in the life span and the understanding of the unlimited potential of those who are affected.



The Buddy Walk At a Glance

What: A major multi-site walking event occurring during the month of October, National Down Syndrome Awareness Month

Why: To raise much needed funds to support local and national programs, and to promote acceptance and inclusion of all people with Down Syndrome

How: Through individuals and groups who seek donations from friends, families and co-workers to sponsor their participation in walks around the country

When: Throughout the month of October, National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, more than 300 Buddy Walks will occur throughout the United States.

The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society's Buddy Walk will be

October 6, 2018

Forsyth Park – Savannah, Georgia

Audience: More than 200,000 participants nationally including children, young adults and adults with Down Syndrome, family members, friends, healthcare professionals, corporate teams and members of the community

The 13th Annual LDSS Buddy Walk will have 5,000+ participants.

Sponsor Benefits: Vary by level. *Recognition in advertising campaign, Company name on LDSS supporters' banner, Company name on the back of the Buddy Walk shirts, and website recognition.*

Sponsorship Levels:

Buddy Walk Title Sponsor	2018! \$7,500
Buddy Walk Buddy	\$3,210
Buddy Walk Advocate	\$1,500
Buddy Walk Friend	\$750

"The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society values our sponsorship partners. We are truly grateful to all of you for helping us reach our 13th year."



***THE LOWCOUNTRY DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY
BUDDY WALK
OCTOBER 6, 2018
Registration 8:30-10:00
Walk 10:30
Family Fun Festival 11:00-2:00***

The Buddy Walk - Family Festival at Forsyth Park in Savannah, Georgia – Fun activities for all including face painting, games, blow up slides, train rides, music, entertainment, information booths, food, and much more.

Serving our community with the funds we raise...

Through the outstanding support of our media sponsors, business sponsors, members, volunteers and the community we raised enough money last year to:

- **Provide “New Parent Packets” filled with resource materials for families learning about Down syndrome.**
- **Help send members and advocates to local and national conferences, seminars and workshops to bring back valuable information to our community.**
- **Hold the tenth annual CAMP BUDDY in Effingham and Chatham Counties for children with Down Syndrome from ages 3-18 providing much needed summertime physical, occupational and speech therapies. The growth of Camp Buddy will continue to be a major goal for the Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society.**
- **Sponsor the ninth annual “ Night of Champions”, an event that recognizes and awards the excellent contributions of employees with Down Syndrome and other intellectual different abilities and their employers.**





Buddy Walk SPONSOR: TITLE SPONSOR
\$7,500 for 2018!

A Buddy Walk Title Sponsor provides the opportunity to support vital medical and developmental research, education and inclusion programs that will benefit all people with Down syndrome.

A gift at this level provides:

Corporate Advertising and Promotional Materials

- Sponsor identification will appear in all print advertising for the Buddy Walk program.
- Corporate recognition on all Buddy Walk promotional materials, media and event materials.
- Pre-event publicity.
- Sponsor identification on all merchandise.

On-Site Signage and Recognition

- Sponsor recognition will appear on Buddy Walk sponsor signs.
- In addition, sponsor- provided signage could be displayed.
- Sponsors will be recognized from the podium and any sponsor representatives will be introduced at the event. A representative will have 3 minutes to address the Buddy Walk Attendees from the stage.
- Recognition on our Web site. The sponsor will be recognized on our home page, with brief editorial copy and hyperlink to the sponsor's own Web site.
- Sponsor-provided promotional materials will be distributed to participants at the event.

Terms

- Contribution is a minimum of \$7,500.00 cash to benefit local and national education, research and advocacy programs.
- Give or arrange \$7,500.00 in contributions/in-kind donations or materials.

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Buddy Walk SPONSOR: BUDDY
\$3,210 for 2018!

A gift at this level provides:

Corporate Advertising and Promotional Materials

- Sponsor identification will appear in all print advertising for the Buddy Walk program.
- Corporate recognition on all Buddy Walk promotional materials, media and event materials.
- Pre-event publicity.
- Sponsor identification on all t-shirts.

On-Site Signage and Recognition

- Sponsor recognition will appear on Buddy Walk sponsor signs.
- Sponsors will be recognized from the podium.
- Recognition on our Web site.
- Sponsor-provided promotional materials will be distributed to participants at the event.

Terms

- Contribution is a minimum of \$3,210.00 cash to benefit local and national education, research and advocacy programs.
- Give or arrange \$3,210.00 in contributions/in-kind donations or materials.

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Buddy Walk SPONSOR: ADVOCATE
\$1,500 for 2018!

A gift at this level provides:

Corporate Advertising and Promotional Materials

- Sponsor identification will appear in all print advertising for the Buddy Walk program.
- Corporate recognition on all Buddy Walk promotional materials, media and event materials.
- Sponsor identification on all t-shirts.

On-Site Signage and Recognition

- Sponsor recognition will appear on Buddy Walk sponsor signs.

Terms

- Contribution is a minimum of \$1,500.00 cash to benefit local and national education, research and advocacy programs.
- Give or arrange \$1,500.00 in contributions/in-kind donations or materials.

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**Buddy Walk SPONSOR: FRIEND
\$750 for 2018!**

A gift at this level provides:

Corporate Advertising and Promotional Materials

- Sponsor identification will appear in all print advertising for the Buddy Walk program.
- Corporate recognition on all Buddy Walk promotional materials, media and event materials.
- Sponsor identification on all t-shirts.

On-Site Signage and Recognition

- Recognition on our Web site.
- Sponsor-provided promotional materials will be distributed to participants at the event.

Terms

- Contribution is a minimum of \$750.00 cash to benefit local and national education, research and advocacy programs.
- Give or arrange \$750.00 in contributions/in-kind donations or materials.

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Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society Annual Camp Buddy

The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society annually hosts “Camp Buddy”, a summer camp, geared for children (ages 3 to 18) with Down syndrome. Many educational and recreational activities are designed with these special kids in mind; speech, physical and occupational therapists are on board to help campers exercise motor and speech skills among other areas that may need improvement.

The main purpose of this camp is to promote the retention of the educational accomplishments that the children have made during the school year by bridging the summer months to the upcoming school year.





Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society
Annual Night of Champions!

The Lowcountry Down Syndrome Society annually sponsors the “Night of Champions”, an event that recognizes and awards the excellent contributions of employees with Down syndrome and other different abilities and their employers.

The 2017 Night of Champions recognized six Champions and their Employers and was attended by 750+ family members, friends, co-workers, local business and community leaders.

