



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

JUNE 1, 2020 - MAY 31, 2021

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This annual report is a comprehensive report on the Down Syndrome Society of Wichita's activities throughout the 2021 fiscal year, which began on June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021. This report is intended to give participants and donors insight into organizational standing.

For additional inquiries, please contact the organizational office at 316-651-0114 or by email at info@dsswichita.org.



PRESIDENT'S WORDS



What a year it has been at the Down Syndrome Society, and all over the country and world. The pandemic had a huge impact on DSSW in several ways. Most impacted was one of our primary programs, our Connections groups. We strive to provide connection opportunities that bring our members together and also to provide connections for our members with the communities in which they live. It is difficult to provide personal connection in a time when we have been advised to maintain social distance. Another large impact came in our fundraising. The Parade of Stars Walk and the Jokers and Jazz Bash provide a large majority of our funding for programming and operations. Planning for these events with the ever-changing safety protocols was an added challenge to the already big job. As a result, our revenue from these events was down from previous years.

Your executive director, Natalie, and the DSSW board jumped into action and made changes to events and found creative ways, with the help of social media and other video conferencing platforms, to keep DSSW providing learning opportunities, connections groups and activities for our children, teens, and young adults. DSSW also was able to secure PPP loans to help cover some of the lost revenue. In addition to the unexpected programming changes, DSSW continued to welcome new families, provide resources, and work on its Dream Forward initiative to create new programming, and expand our office space to better serve our participants and families.

As we kick off our 2021/2022 fiscal year, we are taking steps to continue to Dream Forward and maneuver through these uncertain times. We want to thank our executive director, board members, volunteers, families and supporters for everything they have done to contribute to the furthering of our mission.

Sincerely,

Darcy Eads
Interim President
Down Syndrome Society of Wichita

DSSW

About the Organization

Natalie Rolfe (Executive Director) and the Board of Directors set out to clarify the mission of the Down Syndrome Society of Wichita as they continue working toward the future. In August 2020, the Board unanimously voted to update the organizational mission statement after a subcommittee completed the rewriting process.

The Down Syndrome Society of Wichita's mission is to provide programs and services that educate, connect, develop and advocate to improve the lives of the Down syndrome community.



Values



INCLUSION

We celebrate members of our community with Down syndrome and will strive to keep programming, events and ideas focused around their unique abilities.

AWARENESS

DSSW will raise awareness by building strong community relationships, corporate partnerships and maintaining a social media presence.

DEVELOPMENT

DSSW will create development opportunities for members of our community through effective programming, events and opportunities.

ADVOCACY

DSSW will advocate for those without a voice and assist them in speaking for themselves.

2021 RESULTS

22
NEW
FAMILIES

NEW FAMILIES

We welcomed over 22 new families to the organization, including some adults, newborns and families new to the area.

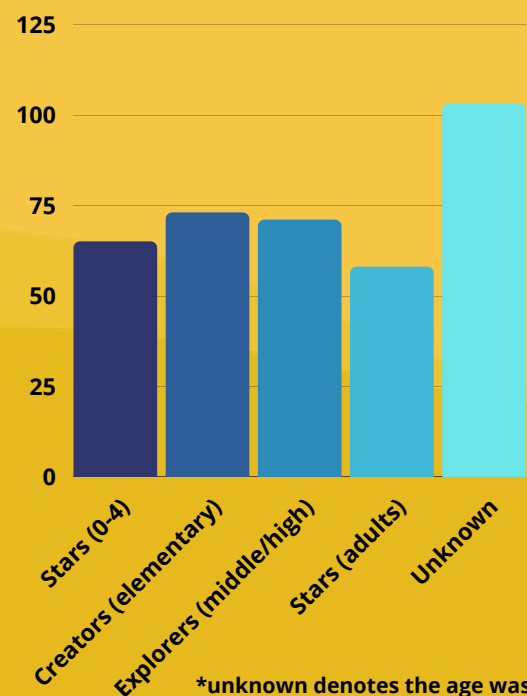
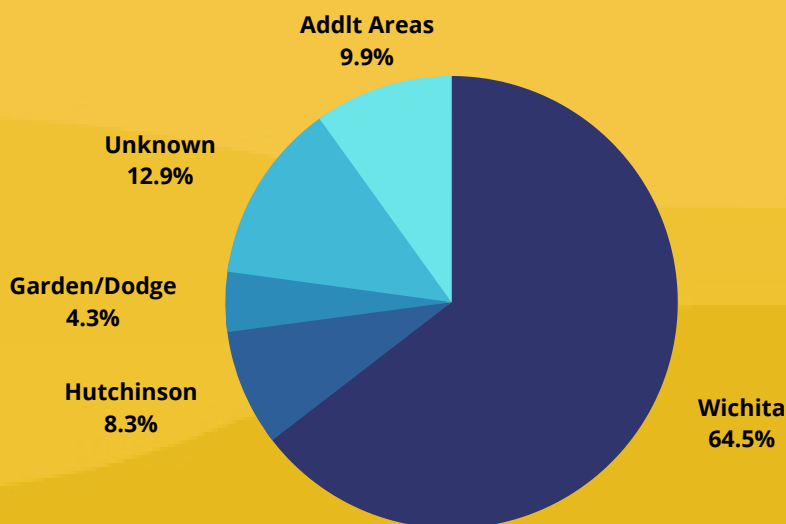
228
REACHES

PARTICIPATION THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

The organization switched to completely virtual programming and was able to conduct many programs including fitness sessions, connection groups, learning series and more!

CONTINUED GROWTH OF ORGANIZATION

With the tracking of new families, the organization continues to broaden its reach, and now tracks the age breakdown and grouping of participants. Our organization serves nearly 370 families.



*unknown denotes the age was not collected or declined to provide at intake.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

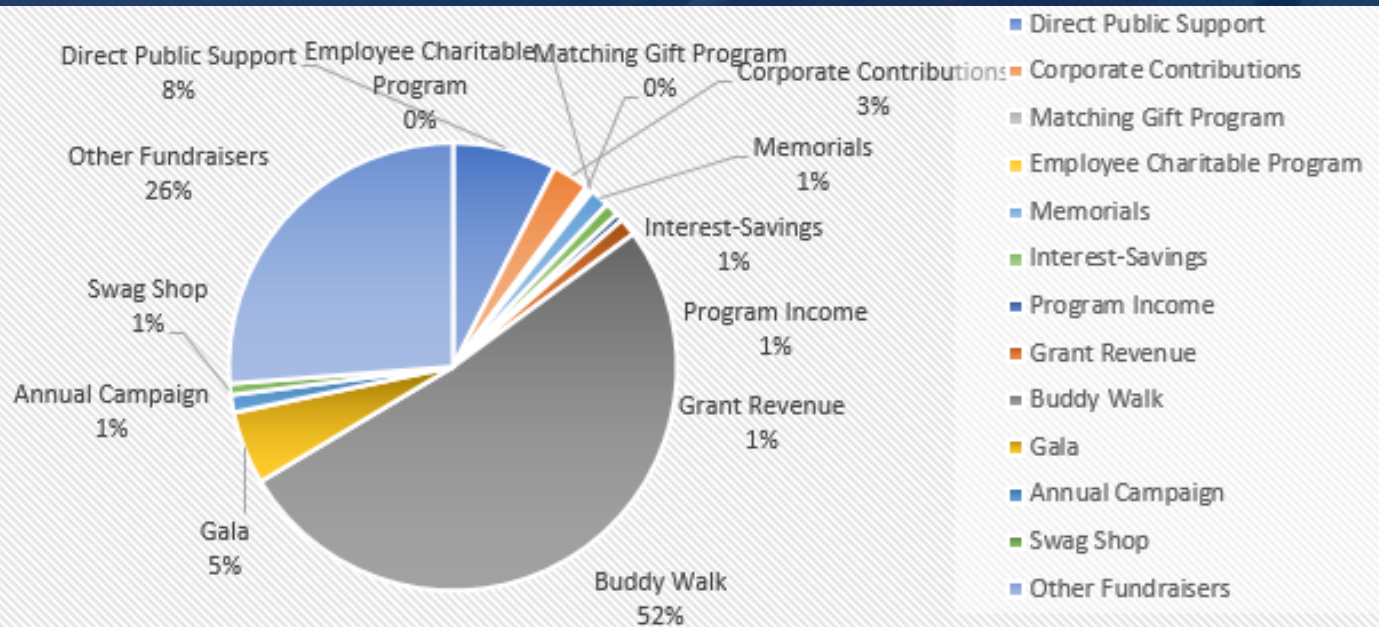
FINANCIAL PRACTICES

- DSSW is not a federally-funded agency, nor are we a United Way agency. Every dollar raised comes from either grants, fundraisers or donations.
- Our current model of several fundraisers will shift to focus more on grant writing and less on fundraising events.
- The organization participates in a 12-24 month external review with a contracted company to ensure sound financial practices.

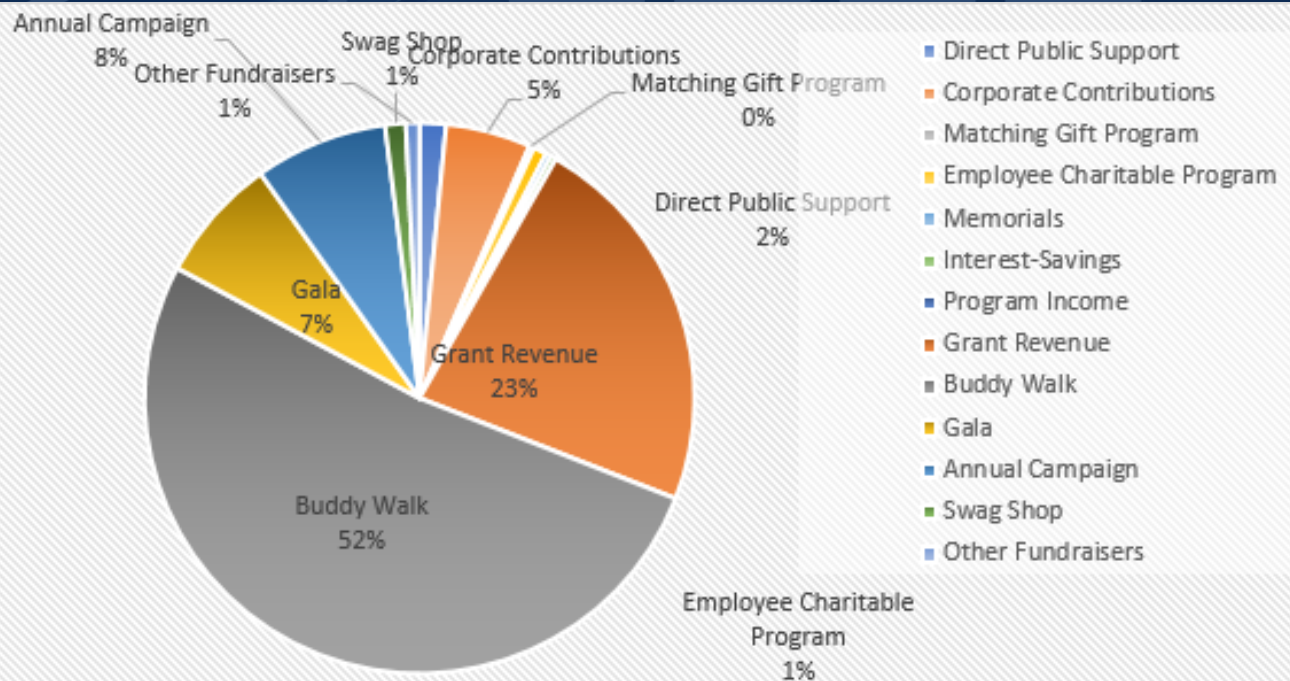
WAYS TO SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION

- **Monthly Giving Program** - monthly contribution for supporters to give in a way that best fits their monthly budgeting.
 - **Memorial Giving Program** - family of deceased loved ones contribute gifts to the organization in lieu of friends sending flowers.
 - **Fundraising events** - Parade of Stars annual walk brings in nearly 50% of each year's operational budgeting, while the Jokers and Jazz Bash provides additional support for programming and services. The organization secures additional funding through grants, corporate contributions, direct contributions, and small fundraisers.
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INCOME CHARTS



6/01/2019 - 5/31/2020



6/01/2020 - 5/31/2021

INCOME SUMMARY

6/01/2019 - 5/31/2020

Direct Public Support	10,232.91
Corporate Contributions	3,612.48
Matching Gift Program	372.60
Employee Charitable Program	335.60
Memorials	1,900.00
Interest-Savings	1,368.27
Program Income	730.00
Grant Revenue	1,750.00
Annual Walk	70,265.92
Gala	7,200.00
Annual Campaign	1,735.44
Swag Shop	1,098.79
Other Fundraisers	35,719.96

6/01/2020 - 5/31/2021

Direct Public Support	1,775.97
Corporate Contributions	5,736.53
Matching Gift Program	329.90
Employee Charitable Program	886.97
Memorials	365.00
Interest-Savings	381.14
Program Income	0.00
Grant Revenue	26,000.00
Annual Walk	59,504.75
Gala	8,428.00
Annual Campaign	8,951.70
Swag Shop	1,387.50
Other Fundraisers	915.00

EXPENSE SUMMARY

6/01/2019 - 5/31/2020

Annual Walk	23,346.20
Gala	4,906.93
Annual Campaign	358.21
Other Fundraiser	6,207.00
Outreach	1,169.64
Connections	4,304.51
Programs	165.23
Lending Library	25.00
Summer of Discovery	6,372.88
Internship	-
Artist workshops	345.70
Explore ICT	32.73
Conferences	1,263.40
Payroll Expenses	66,274.81
Operating Expenses	56,714.29

6/01/2020 - 5/31/2021

Annual Walk	10,206.44
Gala	2,167.25
Annual Campaign	1,637.50
Other Fundraiser	811.00
Outreach	899.58
Connections	1.36
Programs	590.00
Lending Library	
Summer of Discovery	(130.00)
Internship	78.00
Artist workshops	
Explore ICT	
Conferences	287.93
Payroll Expenses	68,993.51
Operating Expenses	51,722.10

Dream Forward

Since 2018, the Down Syndrome Society of Wichita has been on a journey of expansion to create valuable opportunities to serve our community with additional space, staff and much-needed resources to stabilize and create a more sustainable business model. After research, many site visits and parent surveying, the organization was able to pinpoint parent needs, along with potential programs and services for the future.

DSSW will always be a space for connectivity, resource sharing and networking for the Down syndrome community. As the only exclusive organization in the area, the focus on Down syndrome remains. However, necessary changes are required in order to stabilize and plan for a successful future as an organization.

The expansion project designed with DSSW families in mind, will provide access to quality services and programs, while remaining connected to the local Down syndrome community. The project goal is to stabilize the organization through sustainable programs, quality employees and heightened awareness.

BUILDING

Increased building space with at least 3,500+ sq. ft to accommodate regular programming and services. The ideal building will include:

- 2 conference/program areas
- 1 parent lounge with resources, dvds and books
- 1 technology lab
- office space
- 1 small play room for young children
- adequate storage space

ENHANCED SERVICES

Funding for start up and expansion of services, including the Explore ICT Independent Skills Adult program

TRANSPORTATION

2-passenger vans for program participants and support of adult program needs.

3 EMPLOYEES

Funding for 3 part time employees for 2 years.

PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

Cost of completing the program including material, supplies and more.

PROGRESS MADE

- \$20,000 – Sunderland Foundation
- \$2,500 – Circus Project (technology lab)
- \$5,000 – Fidelity Bank (technology lab)
- 10–15 grants awaiting response
- Location of interest
- Development Consultant secured
- Expansion team presentations – completed

LEADERS IN GIVING

Donors contributing over \$500

INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

Jennifer Allen
Christine Bacci
Eric Butcher
David Carr
Richard Dinkel
Steve & Regine Feilmeier
Matt Flamini
Ross Goering
The Hardin Family
Dr. Elaine Harrington
Matt & Beth Hollenbeck
Thomas Kirk
Mark & Michelle Kittrell
David & Susan May
Kevin Mullen
Luther Ottaway
John Premkumar
Richard Swan
Josh & Lisa Umbehr

BUSINESSES/ORGANIZATIONS

Capitol Federal Foundation
Circus Project
Congregation of St. Joseph
Fidelity Bank
Goebel Family - Star
Lumber Charity
Kroger
Hooray Hoopla, LLC
PEC
Rock Christian Fellowship
Strategic Range Solutions
Sunderland Foundation
Thrivent Funds