



# ANNUAL REPORT

---

**DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY OF WICHITA**  
**FY 2023**

**JUNE 1, 2022 - MAY 31, 2023**

**[DSSWICHITA.ORG](http://DSSWICHITA.ORG) | [INFO@DSSWICHITA.ORG](mailto:INFO@DSSWICHITA.ORG)**  
**734 S. Washington Wichita, KS 67211 | 316-651-0114**

# Overview

This annual report is a comprehensive report on the Down Syndrome Society of Wichita's activities throughout the 2023 fiscal year, which began on June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. This report is intended to give participants and donors insight into organizational standing.

***For additional inquiries, please contact the office at 316-651-0114 or by email at [info@dsswichita.org](mailto:info@dsswichita.org).***



Pictured: Explore ICT Participants at Envision Art Gallery

## Board of Directors 2022-2023

Denise Sawyer, President  
Ivory Reed, Vice President  
Jennifer Allen, Treasurer  
Beth Hollenbeck, Secretary  
Alicia Simon

Austin Johnson  
Angela Clark  
Alicia Grissom  
Richard Dodd  
Wanda Whitworth

# Who We Are

*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.*

## Our 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.



Pictured: Collin at Spring Break Hoopla

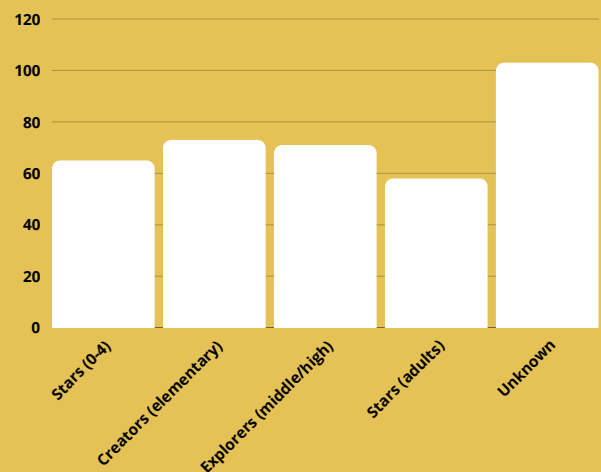
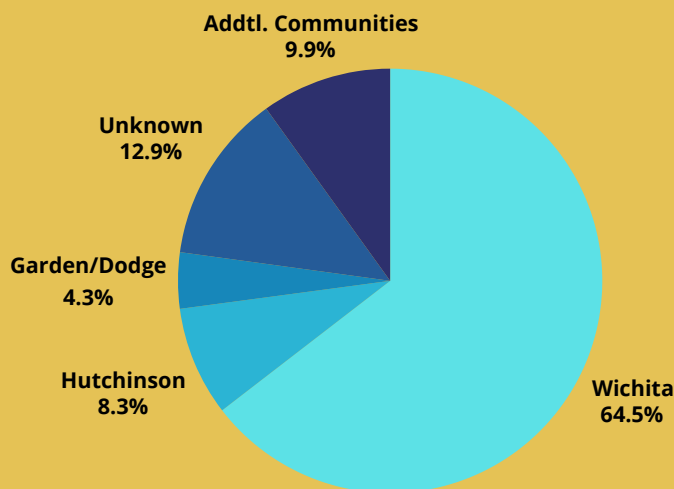
# Our Impact



# 370

Families Served

*\*Because most efforts were focused on securing a new organizational location, programs & services did not see a shift in participation or attendance*



*\*Unknown denotes the age was not collected or declined to provide at intake.  
\*Data samples taken from 2020-21 data.*

# 562

Volunteer Hours Served

# 160

Intern Hours Completed



# Financial Overview

---

## FINANCIAL PRACTICES

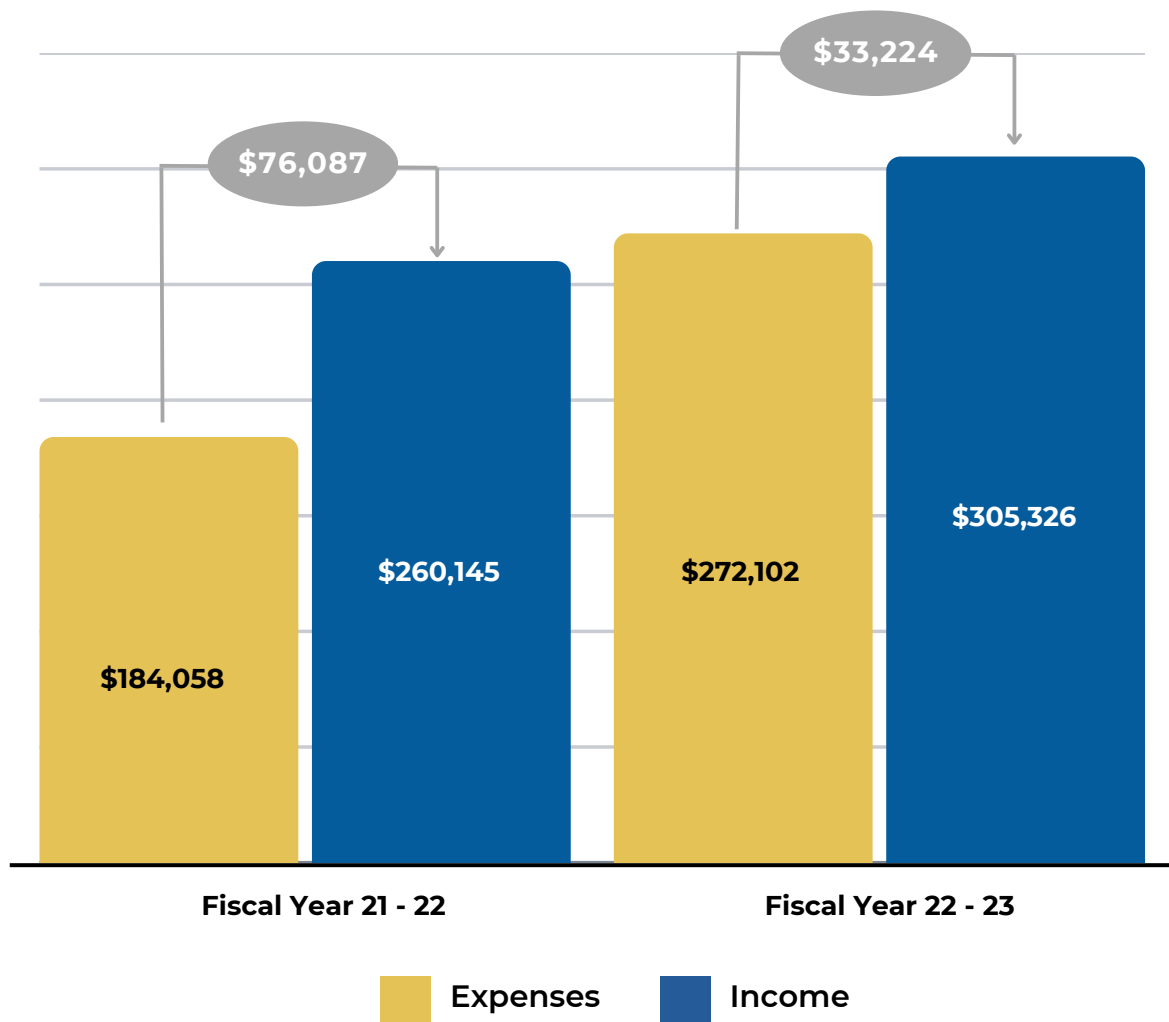
- DSSW is not a federally-funded agency, nor are we a United Way agency. Every dollar raised comes from either grants, fundraisers or donations.
- Our organization currently contracts with a grant writer on a limited basis (15 hrs./week) to address immediate funding opportunities.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION

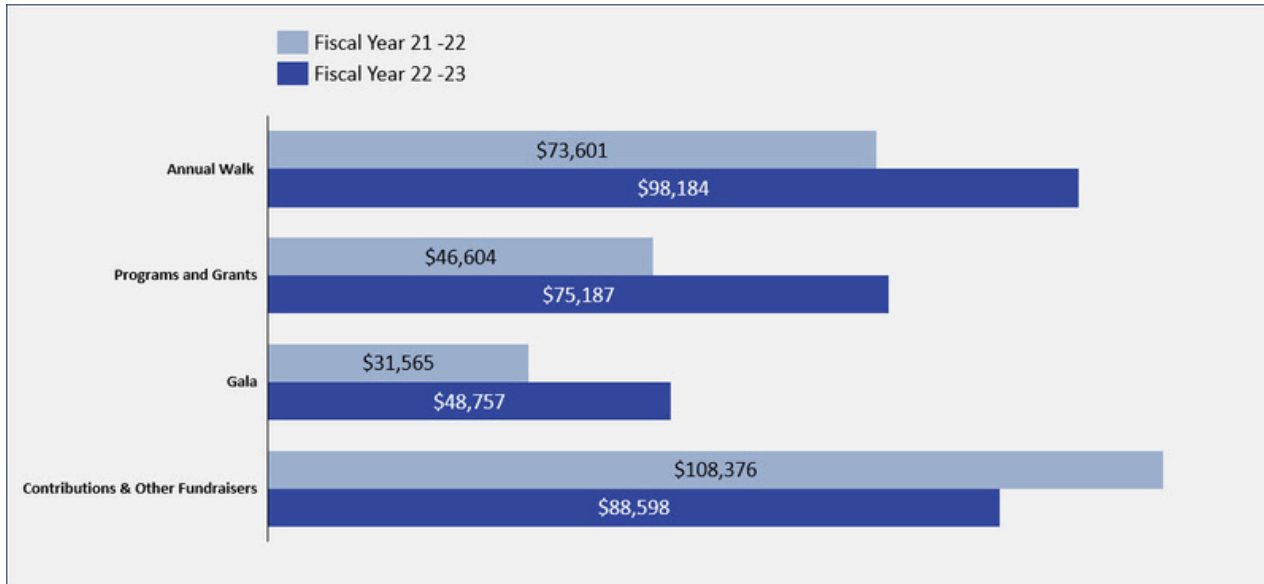
- **Monthly Giving Program** - monthly contribution for supporters to give in a way that best fits their monthly budgeting.
- **Memorial Giving Program** - family of deceased loved ones contribute gifts to the organization in lieu of friends sending flowers.
- **Fundraising events** - Parade of Stars 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.

## Income & Expense Comparison

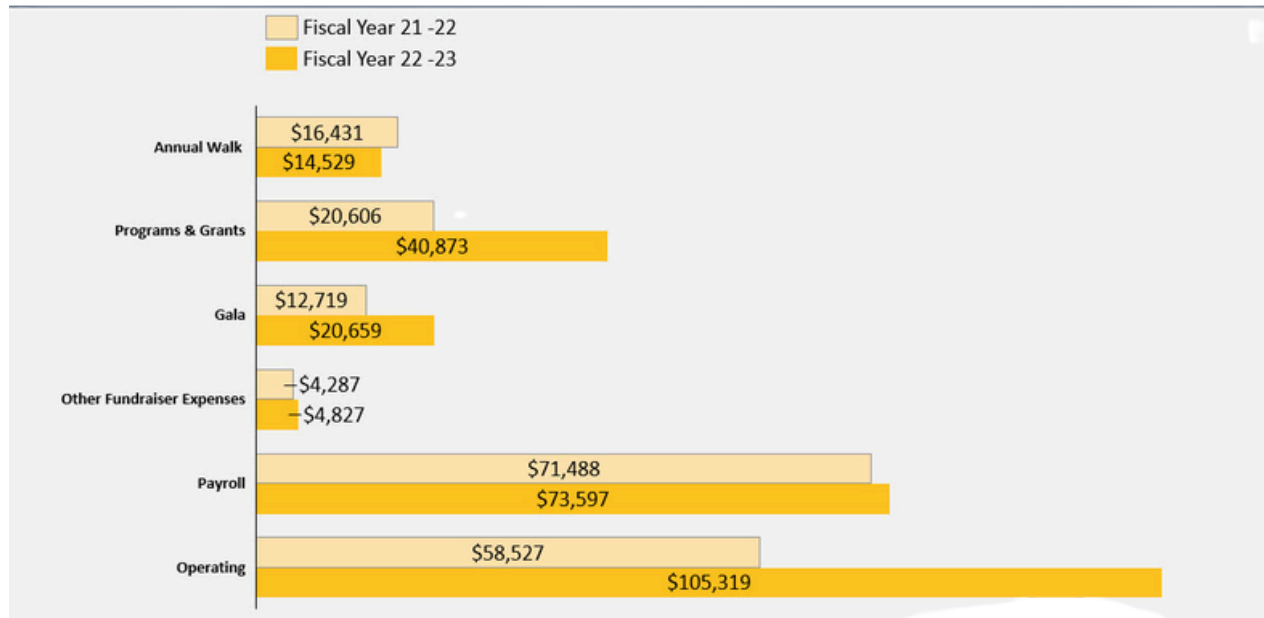
*This graph represents the total organization's expenses and income including staff, events, operating expenses and miscellaneous costs & income.*



## Income Comparison



## Expense Comparison



# Dream Forward Report

---



## **BUILDING CLOSING**

As of June 2022, the organization closed on its first owned property. The centrally-located Center has 8,000 sq. of programmable space to expand its programs and services and host its own activities. The building allows for expansion and growth.

## **BUILDING RENOVATIONS**

With the new location, the organization began renovations, which included:

- Deconstruction of the quonset hut
- Building of the new property fence
- Partial pavement to create additional parking stalls
- Began conversion of indoor lighting systems for efficiency
- Added security cameras for property safety

## **COMPLETED REMODEL PLANS**

The organization worked with Studium Architects to develop renovation plans to maximize space and develop for future use.

### CONTRACTORS TO EMPLOYEES

Upon the close of the fiscal year, the organization moved its contractors to employee status, providing stable jobs and longevity for the programs and services.



**Jermane Milton**  
*Program Coordinator*



**Jacque Phillips**  
*Program Coordinator*

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GIFTS

DSSW received its first capital campaign gifts of \$75,000 and \$10,000 from private donors in support of its expansion and program development efforts. Work continued with a development contractor to find grants and funds to assist in continuation of this project.





# Leaders in Giving

*Donors contributing over \$500*

## Individuals & Families

Amy Beabout  
Anita Oberwortmann  
Bill Pickert  
Barry Schwan  
Carol Downes  
David & Susan May  
Eric Butcher

Frank Edwards  
Friends of DSSW  
Jennifer Allen  
Kathleen Ryan  
Lauren Worley  
Matthew Flaminio  
Nicki Swan

Ron & Tracey Draper  
Steven Hardin  
Thomas and Katherine Kirk  
Zack Henderson  
Steve Mahon

## Businesses & Organizations

Bank of America  
BlackBaud  
Boynton Family Dental Arts  
Cargill  
Civitan Club  
DJA Financial Services

Emprise Bank  
Evil Squid Comics  
Garden City High School SPED  
IQ Lodging  
Kansas Orthopaedic Center  
Kansas Property Solutions

Kroger Rewards Program  
Learjet Employee's Care Fund  
PEC  
South Central Sealing & Paving  
Congregation of St. Joseph  
Universal Lubricants



## Memorials

Each year, several families celebrate the memory of their loved one through memorials towards the organization's program and services. We celebrate the legacies that these individuals have left behind and appreciate contributions made on their behalf:

Betty Nungesser  
Michael Pistole

# Words from our Executive Director

---



## ***Dear Friends and Supporters,***

As we reflect on the year from June 1, 2022, through May 31, 2023, we are filled with a deep sense of pride and gratitude for the remarkable milestones we've achieved together. Thanks to your continued support, we've been able to make significant strides toward our mission, and we are more excited than ever for what lies ahead.

One of the most exciting accomplishments of the year was the official move into our first owned building. This 8,000 square foot space represents more than just a physical location — it is a symbol of our growth and potential. The new building provides us with room to grow, expand, and continue serving our community in meaningful ways. It is a place where we can dream big and work toward a future filled with new opportunities and increased impact for the individuals we serve.

This year also marked a major transition for our organization. We were proud to convert our contractors into full-time employees, providing additional stability for our team and the people we support. This transition enhances our ability to provide consistent, high-quality services and strengthens the foundation for our future growth.

As we move into the next year, we encourage everyone to continue engaging with our organization and to explore new ways to connect, support, and grow with us. Your involvement — whether through attending events, volunteering, or spreading the word about our work — plays an essential role in our continued success.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. Your belief in our mission has been the driving force behind our accomplishments, and we look forward to the continued work we'll do together in the years to come.

With heartfelt thanks and excitement for the future,

*Natalie V. Rolfe*

**Natalie Rolfe**

*Executive Director*



**734 S Washington Ave. | [dsswichita.org](http://dsswichita.org) | [info@dsswichita.org](mailto:info@dsswichita.org) | 316-651-0114**