

# DSANI

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION  
of Northeast Indiana

April - June 2017

Issue Two

Volume One

## Quarterly Newsletter

**HAPPY SPRING!** We are always looking for information for the newsletter! **Any time you have a tidbit you'd like to share with our DSANI family – please feel free to send it, and a picture if you wish, to: [administrator@dsani.org](mailto:administrator@dsani.org).** We will do our best to include it in the next newsletter!

You'll also find out about the latest advocacy, medical and research news that we have to share. Also included will be any other news or information available at the time of publication.

**NOTE** – you will still get emails from DSANI announcing news and activities pertinent to our families! These emails are able to provide more in-depth information than what can be included in the newsletter.

Newsletters will be posted on DSANI's website ([www.dsani.org](http://www.dsani.org)) and will be **emailed** out to you as well.

Speaking of DSANI's website – we are in the process of significantly updating the website and its usability to DSANI members! This will take some time, but we will keep you informed throughout the process! **We are still looking for a webmaster...if you have experience in updating websites, and would be willing to help us as information needs updated, features need added, etc., please contact** the office ([administrator@dsani.org](mailto:administrator@dsani.org) or (260) 471-9964).

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We are so excited to announce that the **TEAM FOCUS YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM** is hosting a tournament on May 6 & 7 in Coldwater, Michigan! **Proceeds from the tournament are being donated to DSANI!** This outstanding youth basketball program not only teaches kids basketball skills, but also, and more

importantly, teaches them all about giving back and being good community citizens! If you and your family are available that weekend for a short road trip – it would be great to take in some of the tournament and show your support for the program! More details will be sent out via email as tournament time approaches. On a side note - the Team Focus players were part of the awesome volunteer crew at last year's Buddy Walk, and have already committed to helping again this year! We are always truly humbled and most grateful when organizations and businesses in our community choose to support DSANI and its mission.



Thank you to those families and friends who took part in [Texas Roadhouse Night](#) in February! A great time was had by all, and as a result of your efforts, DSANI received a check for 10% of the tabs that DSANI's friends and families presented that night!

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

DSANI member, **Kristy Meeks**, is excited that she was chosen by the NDSC to be a presenter at the NDSC "Livin' the Dream" Youth & Adult conference in Sacramento, CA this summer! Kristy attended the Youth & Adult conference and participated in the talent show when it was in Indianapolis a few years ago. When she and her family received a request for "engaging self-advocates (ages 15

& older) to share their talents, experiences and perspectives with their peers”, Kristy knew she wanted to apply. She and her mom, Kathy, submitted a proposal for Kristy to speak about her job at Goodwill. After Goodwill featured Kristy in their TV commercials, billboards, drop boxes and magazines, Kristy became somewhat of a local celebrity.

She was often recognized out in the community. Her proposal was a 4-5 minute discussion on a panel and her segment is titled “How I Became a Celebrity in My Hometown”. The Meeks family is looking forward to attending the conference together, including workshops and dances!



Self Advocate Kristy Meeks

DSANI member **Chris Bly** was recently featured in a WPTA 21 story on World Down Syndrome Day! See the complete feature here: [http://www.wpta21.com/story/34966466/meet-chris-bly-a-down-syndrome-ambassador#.WNGe7fp\\_APc.facebook](http://www.wpta21.com/story/34966466/meet-chris-bly-a-down-syndrome-ambassador#.WNGe7fp_APc.facebook)

Congratulations Chris on all of your outstanding accomplishments!



Self Advocate Chris Bly

## **WORLD DOWN SYNDROME CELEBRATION RECAP**

World Down Syndrome Day was a great day to honor our loved ones with that little something extra! DSANI and GiGi’s Playhouse joined forces to celebrate with a Sock Hop, snacks and a tattoo station (3-21 themed, of course!). It was great to see those families that were able to make it out celebrate!

We were equally as thrilled that the City of Fort Wayne lit the MLK Jr. Bridge in blue and yellow on 3-21! We are grateful to the City for their support of Down syndrome acceptance!



MLK Jr. Bridge Lit for World Down Syndrome Day!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

Looking ahead to the third quarter and beyond, the following are dates to add to your calendar:

7/10-14 Camp Red Cedar (ages 6-12)

7/20-23 NDSC Conference

7/29 DSANI TinCaps Night

7/31-8/4 Camp Red Cedar (ages 13+)

8/20 DSANI Awareness Day at TinCaps Game

9/8 Buddy Walk Pre-Party

**9/9 BUDDY WALK!!**

*More information on each event will be available as the time approaches.*

## **BUDDY WALK COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING**

Would you like to be on the Buddy Walk Planning Committee? If so – please plan to attend our next meeting, on **Monday, April 17**. We will meet **at 6 pm at Turnstone** (3320 N. Clinton). It takes many people to pull off a successful Buddy Walk – and we’d love to have your help and ideas!

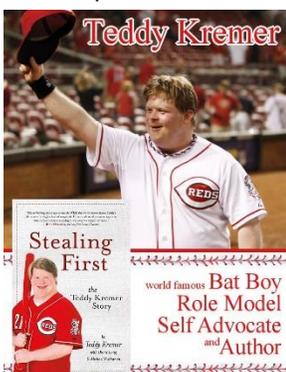


## **BUDDY WALK GRAND MARSHAL NOMINATIONS**

We are currently accepting nominations for the 2017 Buddy Walk Grand Marshal! Do you know a self-advocate that would make a great Grand Marshal? If so, please let us know by emailing: [s.yoder@dsani.org](mailto:s.yoder@dsani.org). Nominations will be accepted through May 30!

## **ANNUAL MEETING – DON'T MISS OUR SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER!!**

The DSANI Annual Meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 25 at 6 pm** at Turnstone, in the Main Conference Room. After a short recap of 2016, we will welcome



world famous Cincinnati Reds batboy, Teddy Kremer and his parents, as our special guest speakers! Teddy is an outstanding ambassador and quite a charming fellow! Please make plans to attend – **but be sure to RSVP!**

## **ADVOCACY CORNER**

### **ESSA applies to ALL Students!!**

The “Every Student Succeeds Act” (ESSA) is the most recent version of the federal government’s education law, and replaces the “No Child Left Behind Act” (NCLB), which has been in place since 2002. This law, recently repealed at the federal level, gives states more power AND responsibility as to how they spend their money; this flexibility offers unprecedented opportunities and challenges. IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE LET THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KNOW WHAT IS IMPORTANT, AS IT APPLIES TO THE EDUCATION OF OUR CHILDREN. The new law will go into full effect in the 2017-18 school year.

The purpose of Title I of ESSA is “to provide all children with the opportunity to receive a fair, equitable and high quality education and to close educational achievement gaps.”

It is a general education law that applies to ALL students in grades K-12, but focuses on certain subgroups of students, including those with disabilities. It can enhance implementation of IDEA **IF** your state’s ESSA plan is strong. **Because of this, your advocacy counts!** If you’d like to voice your input or find out the current status of ESSA, please read about the community meetings below and plan to attend.

The department of Education is holding several community meetings, **and will be in Fort Wayne on April 20, 2017 from 6:30-8:00pm ET**, at the Fort Wayne Urban League. The session is listed as “Closed” on the DOE website, because they have to list capacity and follow that format. There will probably be people who do not show up, so **if you would like your name added to the list of participants, please call Patrick McAlister, Director of Policy, at 1-317-232-7794.**

**ESSA Community Meeting**  
**April 20, 2017**  
**6:30-8:00 PM**  
**Fort Wayne Urban League**  
**2135 Hanna Street**  
**Fort Wayne, IN 46803**

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Even though the AHCR (American Health Care Reform Act) was recently pulled from the floor of the senate without a vote, many disability advocacy groups are actively watching to be sure cuts to Medicaid and other programs critical to families are not being put on the chopping block.

Are you interested in public policy and actions you can take? If so, you can learn more about how you can be involved in Indiana public policy, please consider joining the Indiana Advocacy Facebook group. You can join at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/519893051519032>.

There are a number of ways to become more involved in advocacy matters! Whether it’s being involved in the Buddy Walk on Washington, where you meet with federal lawmakers; bringing Down syndrome awareness & acceptance to schools and the community; advocating for your student, etc., there are a myriad of ways to let YOUR

community know how important issues that affect your family are to you. Please join us as we move forward on this very important endeavor.

## **PARENT BLOGS**

Do you have parent blogs that you enjoy? Our Outreach Chair, Annie Miller, is compiling an updated list of blogs for new parents! If there are blogs that have helped in your parenting journey, please share them with Annie! Her email address is: [anmerrick@gmail.com](mailto:anmerrick@gmail.com).

## **SECOND QUARTER PROGRAMMING**

**PLEASE NOTE** – *Details about all events will be emailed to you prior to each event.*

### **HEAR CARE CONNECTION SEMINAR**

- **Tuesday, April 18 6 pm** @ Turnstone – Main Conference Room

Come learn about hearing issues connected to Down syndrome, and what may be done to help correct them. Dr. Tina Sheehan, a licensed audiologist, will be on hand to lead this session. You will also learn more about the services that Hear Care Connection may be able to offer your family.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

- **Tuesday, April 25 6 – 8 pm** @ Turnstone – Main Conference Room

See details earlier in this newsletter.

### **“ALICE IN WONDERLAND” PRODUCTION**

- **Friday, April 28 5:30 pm** @ Peace United Church of Christ – 9123 Aboite Center Road

Students of musical therapist, Heather Palmer, have been hard at work preparing for their production of “Alice in Wonderland”. We hope you’ll make plans to join us!

### **DSANI TALENT SHOW**

- **Saturday, May 6 6 – 9 pm** @ St. Joe Township Community Room

Interested Self-Advocate and Friendship Club members will provide the entertainment for a fun night! A dance will follow the Talent Show. More details about the night will

follow. If you are a Self-Advocate or Friendship Club member with a talent to share, contact Kathy Meeks at [kmmeeks@aol.com](mailto:kmmeeks@aol.com) to sign up to perform. **Open to anyone who wants to attend**, this event is not to be missed!

### **TEAM FOCUS YOUTH BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

- **Saturday & Sunday May 6-7** @ Coldwater, MI

As outlined earlier, this tournament will be donating proceeds to DSANI! More details to follow.

### **DISABILITIES EXPO**

- **Saturday, May 13** @ Memorial Coliseum  
10 am – 3 pm

This event is a fabulous opportunity to gather information from area service providers on a wide range of topics helpful to your families. There is an art exhibit, keynote speakers and other entertainment as well. This is a **FREE** event – and very worth your time to attend!

### **CASS HOUSING PRESENTATION**

- **Monday, May 15** @ Turnstone – Main Conference Room

Have you been hearing buzz about CASS Housing but haven’t been able to attend one of the information sessions? This is your chance to hear all about this innovative approach to housing! David Buuck, Founder & CEO, will join us to present CASS Housing to you and your family. Think your loved one is too young for you to learn about the program? Let’s just say...it’s never too early to begin planning!

### **DSANI ZOO DAY**

- **Sunday, May 21** @ Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo – Franke Park

Plans are being finalized for Zoo Day, and details will be forthcoming, but we hope you’ll plan to attend. DSANI will provide sandwiches and drinks, with families bringing the balance of their picnic lunches. Watch your email for more information!

## **SOCIAL GROUPS ROUNDUP**

**INFANT/TODDLER PLAYGROUP** – The Playgroup will meet in April. For more information and to RSVP, please contact: [samgray.dsani@gmail.com](mailto:samgray.dsani@gmail.com). Other activities, dates and times will be shared as they become available.

**BUDDY CLUB** – Plans are in the works for the next Buddy Club activity.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB** – Plans are being made for the next Friendship Club activity. Details to follow.

**SELF-ADVOCATES** – The Self-Advocates will travel to Black Pines Animal Sanctuary on May 20. The group will also enjoy a picnic lunch (lunch is provided by you). More information will be forthcoming! Contact Rita Augustin at [ritaaug1960@gmail.com](mailto:ritaaug1960@gmail.com) with questions.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** – The DSANI Talent Show (featuring acts from the Self-Advocate and Friendship Clubs) will take place on **Saturday, May 6** at the St. Joe Township Community Center!! This event is open for ANYONE TO ATTEND! Last year was the inaugural year for this event – and it was awesome!! For information about the dance or the talent show, please contact Kathy Meeks at [kmmeeks@aol.com](mailto:kmmeeks@aol.com).

**D.A.D.S.** – The D.A.D.S. meet the fourth Thursday of each month, at various locations around the city. Feel free to email: [dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com](mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com) with any questions. The D.A.D.S. will meet on Thursday, April 27 at the Hoppy Gnome in downtown Fort Wayne at 6:30 pm.

**The annual D.A.D.S. golf outing will take place on Friday, June 9!!** Save the date and gather a team! You'll enjoy a great day of golf and help support the D.A.D.S. group at the same time!



**MOMS** – The next MOMS event is being scheduled for Friday, May 12 at an Escape Room here in town! More details will follow in the next week or so. If you have ideas for MOMS activities, please contact Jennifer Cordray at [Jennifer.cordray@sanofi.com](mailto:Jennifer.cordray@sanofi.com).

**GRANDPARENTS** – The Grandparents group met at The Lodge on Huguenard Road earlier this year. Their next event is scheduled for **April 29 at 5 pm**, when the group will meet at GiGi's Playhouse for a tour. For more details, please contact Deb Clark at [dclark@votawelectric.com](mailto:dclark@votawelectric.com).

**OUTREACH** – Annie Miller, Outreach Chair, is busy meeting with new families and area organizations! We are so grateful for you, Annie!

## **GUEST ARTICLE**

*Pat Nuffer, a long-time DSANI member, is this month's guest writer. Pat & her husband, Rick, are the parents of Carl, an active DSANI self-advocate. Pat is a wealth of information and is always more than willing to share her knowledge with any parents who may have questions. Thank you, Pat!*

It seems like the sky is the limit for people with Down syndrome these days. Even as we set high and “typical” expectations for our son, Carl, 35 years ago, we still did not envision him living on his own. We pushed for and effected full inclusion; we learned the law back then and learned advocacy skills that opened doors for him all the way along, though not often a smooth or easy transition. So when it came to adulthood, secure in his job, waiver services achieved, and his own parents downsizing, it seemed logical for Carl to want to live on his own. He had lived in an apartment, first with his brother for 6 months to bridge the gap from our home to a “guys pad”. Working with Ft Wayne Housing had been a real pleasure and his apartment relationship with them had proven beneficial. So it was an opportunity of “the sky’s the limit” to move into the concept of home ownership.



Working with several agencies in Indiana who facilitate this goal, Carl soon “graduated” from the classes Ft Wayne Housing offered, and a new home was begun to be built in the same subdivision as ours. Fast forward four successful years and we are now “tweaking” the concept even further.

With Rick’s retirement came the opportunity to travel more and be with our other grown children who lived far away. The lure of Texas winters (where we had lived for 20 years) was strong, but Carl often acted up while we were gone together for long periods of time. So we needed to provide more supports for him as we tried to gain greater “freedom.”

A long term ideological love for an organization, L’Arche, came into play. That international organization has developed communities where people with and without disabilities choose to live together in a mutually supportive environment. It just seemed like the “natural”

extension of an inclusive education we had chosen for Carl.

So we developed the idea of a “valued neighbor” to live in Carl’s house. We chose a graduate student coming to Huntington University for a three year Occupational Therapy doctorate. The director of the department suggested this young man, and we spent a summer getting to know him and having the two guys spending time together. Then in late August, Carter moved into Carl’s house.

We outlined some general guidelines for a “valued neighbor”, someone one close that is a friend whom Carl can count on for help, and just being there. Carter lives rent free and has some specific times when the guys do things together like cook meals, work out at the Y, and watch movies in the man cave (garage).

This winter, Rick and I left for Texas for 2 months of blessed time together, periodic phone and skype calls but generally a problem free time. Carl is learning his life is secure here in Ft Wayne, apart from us, though always a phone call away. We might tweak this further with a local organization, CASS, which is embodying the same concept of L’Arche. They are offering our community housing options that are not presently available for people with disabilities.

As we seek to find options that best match our own philosophies and our children’s desires, it is good to know there are many more models out there. While home ownership, or even living with a friend who does not have a disability is not for everyone perhaps, it is an option that parents can explore as we all reach high in our expectations and dreams for our children.

## **AREA NEWS OF INTEREST**

### **TURNSTONE**

Turnstone recently announced a partnership with Special Olympics and their Unified Sports program. Please see the attached brochure for more details, or contact: Rio James at Turnstone, by phone at (260) 969-7678 or by email at: [rio@turnstone.org](mailto:rio@turnstone.org).

DSANI will also email out the Turnstone quarterly schedule of classes as well, when it is received. There are a large number of offerings for different ages and interests.

### **CAMP RED CEDAR**

Again this year, Camp Red Cedar is offering two weeks (age specific) for DSANI campers. The first session will take place from July 10-14, for ages 6-12. The second session happens from July 31 to August 4, and is for campers ages 13 and over. The cost of the camp is \$360 for those families who do NOT have the Medicaid Waiver. However, for families who are **current** DSANI members, DSANI pays for \$175 toward the camp costs. There is no charge for the camp if your child has the Medicaid waiver. To learn more about the camp, please visit [www.campedcedar.org](http://www.campedcedar.org); to obtain the camp code to sign your child up for camp, please contact: [s.yoder@dsani.org](mailto:s.yoder@dsani.org).

### **DOWN SYNDROME INDIANA**

DSI is hosting a one day research seminar in Indianapolis on Saturday, April 29. For more info, please visit: [www.dsindiana.org/conference.php](http://www.dsindiana.org/conference.php)

## **DOWN SYNDROME ORGANIZATION WEBSITES**

National Down Syndrome Society – [www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org)

National Down Syndrome Congress – [www.ndscenter.org](http://www.ndscenter.org)

DS-Connect: The Down Syndrome Registry – [www.dsconnect.nih.gov](http://www.dsconnect.nih.gov)

LuMind Research Down Syndrome Foundation – [www.lumindfoundation.org](http://www.lumindfoundation.org)

Global Down Syndrome Foundation – [www.globaldownsyndrome.org](http://www.globaldownsyndrome.org)

## **2017 DSANI MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN**

2017 Membership renewal forms will be emailed and sent to DSANI families in the next month or two. Please remember, we have no way of knowing if your email address, mailing address, phone number, etc. changes unless we have an updated form on file.

While we ask that the membership fee is paid each year, this will be critical once the improved website and data management program is up and running. There will be sections of the website that will require members to have a password in order to gain access. The password will only be given out if you are a member in good standing.

You must also be a current member to be able to register your loved one for Camp Red Cedar in the summer.

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## **NEWSLETTER NAMING CONTEST!**

Do you have a **GREAT** idea for a name for the newsletter? If so – we want to hear from you!! **Naming submissions should be returned to the DSANI office by April 30, 2017!** The winner will be awarded a \$25 VISA gift card! Good luck!

Also - If you have information you think would be helpful to families, and should be included in the newsletter, please forward it to the DSANI office at: [administrator@dsani.org](mailto:administrator@dsani.org)

## **ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY**

Do you, or someone you know, have a business that they would like to advertise in the DSANI newsletter? If so, please contact: [s.yoder@dsani.org](mailto:s.yoder@dsani.org) for more information.

## **STAY CONNECTED TO DSANI!**

**Mailing address:** PO Box 13611, Fort Wayne, IN 46865

**Physical address:** 3320 N. Clinton Street – Fort Wayne (Turnstone)

**Phone:** (260) 471-9964

**Email:** [administrator@dsani.org](mailto:administrator@dsani.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/dsanortheastindiana/](http://www.facebook.com/dsanortheastindiana/)

**Twitter:** @DSANI4U



# DSANI D.A.D.S. Annual Golf Outing

## Friday, June 9th, 2017

The NE Indiana chapter of Dads Appreciating Down syndrome (DADS) is seeking sponsors for their annual Golf Outing Fundraiser. This event is DADS main fundraising activity. Proceeds are used to support the three key values of DADS. Support, Action, and Fellowship. We would not be able to function without your generosity, and we are extremely grateful for your continued support for Down syndrome in our community.

### Event Title Sponsor- \$2000

Includes: Two Foursomes and Title Sponsor Advertising

### Platinum Sponsor - \$500

Includes: One Foursome and Hole Sponsor

### Gold Sponsor - \$200

Includes: One Player entry and Hole Sponsor

### Hole Sponsor - \$100

Includes: Hole Sponsor sign posted at Tee



## Also Seeking

Food Sponsor or Catering

Silent Auction Items

Hole In One Sponsorships

Participant gifts ie: coozies or commemorative T-shirts



Contact: Matt Kartholl ; 260.417.8101 ; 9318 Woodchime Ct, Ft. Wayne, IN 46804

# Special Olympics Unified Sports Fitness Club

The purpose of this program is to allow individuals to meet once a week to maintain fitness activity and socialize with individuals with and without intellectual disabilities.

We will be meeting every Thursday night to walk around our indoor track, with nutrition and health conversations once a month. Special Olympics will provide individuals with a tracking device to monitor their individual and club progress. There will be incentives for individuals when they reach various number of steps. Participants are encouraged to stay active throughout the week, outside of group sessions.

**To join Turnstone's Team, contact Rio James, Recreation Coordinator at [rio@turnstone.org](mailto:rio@turnstone.org) or 260-969-7678.**



- You do not have to currently be involved with Special Olympics to join
- You must be 8 years or older
- Partners (parents, friends, etc.) must be registered as a Class A Volunteer through Special Olympics to be involved

There will be two introductory meetings if you want to get involved. We will be answering questions, handing out forms, and registering your devices for our team!

**Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30pm**

**Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30pm**

## Program Information

**Start:** April 6<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:00-7:00pm

**Location:** Plassman Athletic Center at Turnstone (Parking Lot B)

**Meetings:** every week on Thursday's

\*\*This is an ongoing program.



**Turnstone**  
Creating possibilities.



Contact **Rio James** if you want to get involved after the start date,

or if you are unable to make it to the introductory meetings.

**JOIN US AS WE WELCOME  
WORLD FAMOUS CINCINNATI REDS BAT BOY, TEDDY KREMER,  
AND HIS PARENTS – DAVE & CHERYL AS OUR SPECIAL GUEST  
SPEAKERS!**

**DSANI ANNUAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 25**

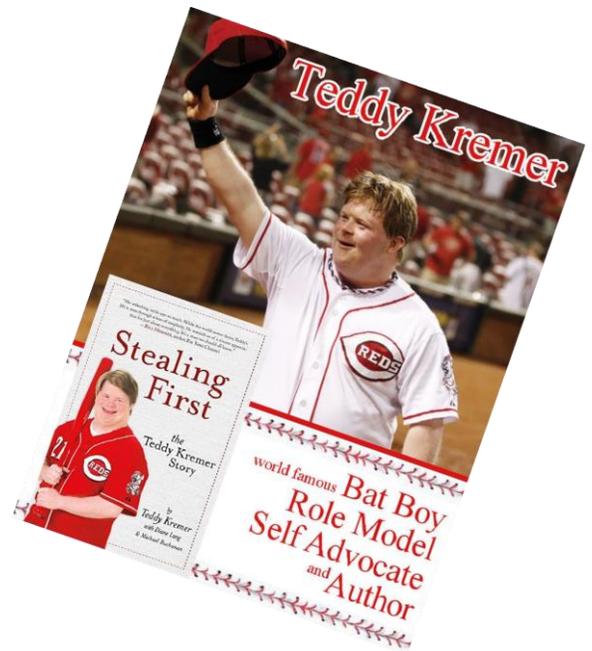
**6:00 PM**

**TURNSTONE**

**PLASSMAN ATHLETIC CENTER**

3320 N. Clinton Street - Fort Wayne

*(Park in Parking Lot B, Community Conference Room is just inside the doors straight ahead.)*



**PLEASE RSVP TO:**

**administrator@dsani.org**

**by APRIL 18**

**Appetizers  
will be served**

**2017 DSANI  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FOR MORE INFO</u>
3-5	Buddy Walk on Washington	Washington, DC		
8	My Way Matinee ("Boss Baby")	Coldwater Crossing	10:30 am	
11	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
17	Buddy Walk Planning Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
18	Hear Care Connection Seminar	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
25	Annual Meeting	Turnstone	6 - 8 pm	<a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
26	Family Fun Night	Turnstone	4 - 7 pm	
27	D.A.D.S.	Hoppy Gnome - downtown	6:30 pm	<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
28	"Alice In Wonderland" Performance	Peace United Church	5:30 pm	Heather Palmer - It is Music Time!
29	Grandparents Group	GiGi's Playhouse	5 pm	Deb Clark - <a href="mailto:dclark@votawelectric.com">dclark@votawelectric.com</a>
<b><u>MAY</u></b>				
6	Self-Advocate / Friendship Club Talent Show!	St. Joe Twnshp. Comm. Room	6 - 9 pm	Kathy Meeks - <a href="mailto:kmmeeks@aol.com">kmmeeks@aol.com</a>
6-7	Team Focus Youth Basketball Tournament (benefitting DSANI)	Coldwater, MI	all day	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
9	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
12	MOMS	Escape Room	TBD	More details to follow
13	DisAbilities Expo	Memorial Coliseum	10 am - 3 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
15	CASS Housing Presentation	Turnstone (Main Conf. Room)	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
20	Self-Advocate Activity	Black Pine Animal Sanctuary	Details to follow	Rita Augustin <a href="mailto:ritaaug1960@gmail.com">ritaaug1960@gmail.com</a>
21	Zoo Day	FW Children's Zoo	Noon	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>

**2017 DSANI  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

	<b><u>EVENT</u></b>	<b><u>PLACE</u></b>	<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>FOR MORE INFO</u></b>
24	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>JUNE</u></b>				
9	D.A.D.S. Golf Outing	Donald Ross Golf Course	Noon	Matt Kartholl - <a href="mailto:Matt.kartholl@gmail.com">Matt.kartholl@gmail.com</a>
13	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
15	Grandparents Group	Salvatori's	6:30 pm	Deb Clark - <a href="mailto:dclark@votawelectric.com">dclark@votawelectric.com</a>
28	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>JULY</u></b>				
8	Chalk Walk - Three Rivers Festival	Main Street		
10-14	Camp Red Cedar 6-12	Camp Red Cedar		DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
11	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
20-23	NDSC Conference	Sacramento, CA		
27	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
29	TinCaps Night	Parkview Field	7:05 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
31-8/4	Camp Red Cedar 13+	Camp Red Cedar		DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
<b><u>AUGUST</u></b>				
8	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
20	TinCaps Awareness Day	Parkview Field		DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
24	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>

**2017 DSANI  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>FOR MORE INFO</u>
<b><u>SEPTEMBER</u></b>				
8	Buddy Walk Pre-Party	TBD	6 - 8:30 pm	<a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
9	<b>BUDDY WALK!!</b>	Parkview Field	9 am - 1 pm	<a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
19	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	<a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
28	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>OCTOBER</u></b>				
1 - 31	DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH			
10	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
26	D.A.D.S.	TBD		<a href="mailto:dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com">dsani.dads.outreach@gmail.com</a>
<b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b>				
14	Board Meeting	Turnstone	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
<b><u>DECEMBER</u></b>				
3	All DSANI Holiday Party	Scout Park Conf. Center	1 - 4 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>
14	Board Meeting	TBD	6 pm	DSANI Office - <a href="mailto:administrator@dsani.org">administrator@dsani.org</a>

*Speakers, activities and other events will be added to the calendar as dates and details are confirmed. Check the website often - and watch your emails!*

*Rev. 3/27/17*