Greetings from Executive Director Bach Todaro:

Dear Broward Gold Coast Families and Friends,

On behalf of the Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization, I would like to thank Jeanne Del Vecchio for the three years she served as the Secretary of our board. As a board member, Jeanne’s input was invaluable; she often offered a unique perspective to better serve our organization. She always put forth her best efforts and we appreciate her unparalleled dedication.

Thank you, Jeanne for your and your family’s 20 years of membership. We appreciate you for your ongoing support of our organization.

Sincerely,

Bach Todaro, Executive Director
Join the Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization as we unite for a common cause and raise funds at the 2022 Step Up 4 Down Syndrome Walk. Whether you have Down syndrome, know someone who does, or just want to show your support, take the first step and donate or register today! Help us spread the word; all are welcome for our day of celebration!

- Individual with Down syndrome: FREE, includes t-shirt until 9/15
- Walk Registration (ages 5 & Under): $10, includes t-shirt until 9/15
- Walk Registration (ages 6 & Up): 7/1-7/31: $25, includes t-shirt.
- Walk Registration (ages 6 & Up): 8/1-8/31: $30, includes t-shirt.
- Walk Registration (ages 6 & Up): 9/1-9/30: $35, t-shirt not included after 9/15
- Day of Walk Registration - 10/1 (Ages 6 & Up): $40, t-shirt not included
- Virtual Walk Registration: $30, includes t-shirt with shipping until 9/15

Register/Donate at ds-stride.org/su4ds

Thank you to those who came out for our annual Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2022 Walk planning meeting, we appreciate your support!
Family Spotlight: The Hernandez Family

HI EVERYONE!

We are the Hernandez Family and are so proud to be a part of the amazing community that is BGCDS. Having Jeronimo in our lives has changed them for the best, and love to be able to share our journey with all of you!

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US:

We are from Colombia, we love to spend quality time together with friends and family and give back to the community in any way we can. We have volunteered for 7 years now in many organizations that bring awareness to Down Syndrome, such as coaching baseball and soccer teams, SU4DS Walk, and many more activities! Stepping up and sending a message about the importance of inclusion has always been one of our top priorities.

We are explorers from the heart, we love to travel and try new things we never thought we would do.

Thank you Floyd Family for your Generous Donation!

Victoria, our BGCDSO President, met Renee Floyd at an event at their children's school. This meeting led to Renee and Jimmy's son, JT, wanting to do a good deed for his 9th Birthday. Rather than receive gifts, JT's wish was for his family and friends to donate to the BGCDSO. The family raised 2K to give back to our organization! This family is a true class act, giving so generously to our community and we thank the Floyd family and friends who helped raised such an incredible amount of money for our organization!

Our Gratitude to Walmart

A Special Thank You Walmart Store #1916, Walmart Neighborhood Market #4380, and Walmart - Sam's Club #6637 for your generous donations through the Walmart Community Grant Program. We appreciate Walmart's support of the Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization over the years.

BGCDSO Swag Shop

Did you know we have our own shop on our website? Check out all the products we have for sale.

BUY NOW
Children’s Social Group
Mother’s Day Floral Arrangement

Our Children's Social Group had a wonderful time at the Mother’s Day Floral Arrangement event! A big thank you to Patricia Garland, our Parent Volunteer, for organizing the event. We appreciate it!
Another awesome event for our Teen & Young Adult Social Group! This was one for the books! Thanks Lucy Whitson and Laura Lorenzo, our Parent Volunteers, for all your help organizing the event.
Family Fun Picnic

Thank you to all the families who came out to enjoy the day with us. We met new families and reconnected with old friends. Thank you to all our volunteers who helped us to make the day so fantastic! Special thanks to our parent volunteer, Aura Krimmer, for capturing our family fun day, and to all the other members who shared their photos.
Feelin’ Groovy 70’s Dance Party

We would like to send a Huge Thank You to the I Can Living and Learning Center for sponsoring our Feelin’ Groovy 70’s Dance Party on Sunday, June 5th. Our members and members from the Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization had a blast.

Mission

To help and support people with disabilities prepare for, find, obtain and maintain employment, and enhance their independence.

- Established in 2016
- Vendor for State of Florida, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
- Section 501(c)3 NON-PROFIT organization
- Successfully placed over 700 clients in appropriate jobs
- Focus on clients’ ABILITIES rather than their disabilities

Service clients in Miami/ Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, & St. Lucie Counties
- Staff consists of college-educated professionals with degrees in special education, psychology, business administration, law, and social work
- Create PARTNERSHIPS with local employers and provide valuable services to businesses
- Change lives by giving our clients a CHANCE

Debbie Telsey
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1761 West Hillsboro Blvd. Suite 402 Deerfield Beach, FL 33442
For more information, please visit their website at icanfl.org
Father’s Day Event
Our members had a great time at the Father’s Day celebration! Thank you, Karate America for hosting the event. Thank you, Rob Armstrong, for organizing it, and Roberto McCalla for food and drinks. Special thanks to Kristina Armstrong for capturing such a fun time!
Gustavo De Oliveira of Pembroke Pines was selected for the USA Down Syndrome Swimming National Team and will compete at the 10th Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships sponsored by the Down Syndrome International Swimming Organization (DSISO) in Albufeira, Portugal in October. In order to swim at the World competition, Gustavo had to meet or exceed the qualifying times set by DSISO. Gustavo qualified in the event.

"I am so excited to have been selected for the national team," said Gustavo. "I can't wait to represent the United States at the World competition."

To prepare for the competition, Gustavo is swimming morning and afternoons every day.

"It is a lot of hard work, but it is worth it!" said Gustavo. USADSS connects swimmers with Down syndrome to opportunities for personal growth as they journey toward inclusion in local, national, or international level competition.

The Down Syndrome International Swimming Organization (DSISO) was created to provide swimmers with Down Syndrome the opportunity to swim at World Class level through its World Championships held every two years, and also tracks World and Regional records.

Congratulations to Gustavo de Oliveira

Congratulations to eight Artistic swimmers from the Miramar Mermaids AWD Synchronized Team are very excited since they have been selected as National Qualifiers to represent The USA with the USA Down Syndrome swim team for the Artistic Swimming category at the World Championship hosted by the Down Syndrome International Swimming Organization (DSISO) taking place this coming October 17-23, 2022 in Albufeira, Portugal.

Click on the link below to help them raise some funds to cover plane tickets, room and board, dinners, swimmers event package, team bathing suits, etc. Their goal is $30,000 for the eight swimmers.

You can donate to their cause by using the link below. Please make sure to specify in the notes the donation is for their trip to Portugal! dsaom.org
Community Resources/Events

Air travel for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can be challenging. There can be a lot of confusion, lack of assistance and damaged wheelchairs. Please click here to see the most recent version of the Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights, which includes links to a video and a downloadable PDF: conta.cc/3uXYvb7
CALENDARIO DE EVENTOS

• Reunión General Mensual del Comité de ESE de Broward (virtual)
  Miércoles, Agosto 10 – 6:30 pm

• Primer Día de Colegio en las Escuelas Públicas de Broward
  Martes Agosto 16

• Evento para Miembros de BGCDSO – Diversión en el Sol Parque de Agua (todas las edades)
  Sábado Agosto 20 en el Calypso Cove - Margate

• Evento para Miembros de BGCDSO – Desayuno para Familias Nuevas
  Fecha, Hora y Lugar por definir

• Reunión General del Comité de Síndrome de Down (Virtual)
  Jueves, Septiembre 15 – 6:00 pm

• Evento para Miembros de BGCDSO – Grupo Social de Niños (hasta 12 años)
  Fecha, Hora y Lugar por definir

• Fin de Semana de Retiro Deliver The Dream
  Para familias con hijos que tengan un Síndrome Genético
  Septiembre 16-18 The Fountains Resort – Orlando

• Reunión General Mensual del Comité de ESE de Broward
  Miércoles, Septiembre 21 – 6:30 pm – Lugar por definir

• Entrenamiento en Educación Especial – Síndrome de Down
  Viernes, Septiembre 23 – 8:00 am – Salón de Conferencias Arthur Ashe

• Feria de Inclusión y Necesidades Especiales del Hospital de Niños Joe DiMaggio
  Sabado, Septiembre 24 – Signature Grand – 10 am – 2 pm

• Evento para Miembros de BGCDSO - Grupo Social de Jóvenes y Adultos (mayores de 13 años)
  Fecha, Hora y Lugar por definir

• Caminata Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2022
  Sabado, Octubre 1 – Markham Park – Caminata empieza a las 8:15 am

• Reunión General Mensual del Comité ESE de Broward
  miércoles, Octubre 19 – 6:30 pm – Lugar por definir

• Reunión General del Comité de Síndrome de Down (Virtual)
  Jueves, Noviembre 17 – 6:00 pm

Our Condolences to the Dissman Family

It is with great sadness that we are sharing the news of the passing of one of our former members, Oliver Dissman. Oliver’s daughter’s name is Olivia, whom he loved with all his heart, and she was his world. Please keep Olivia and her family in your prayers.

A GoFundMe fundraiser was created as an ongoing affirmation of Oliver’s love for Olivia.

gofundme.com/f/olivers-affirmation-of-love-for-olivia

Please help them if you can. Thank you.
Fun in the sun!

Calypso Cove, Margate

6200 Royal Palm Blvd. Margate, FL 33063

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Come enjoy the waterpark from 10am to 6pm.
Lunch and refreshments will be served inside the
community center from 11am -1pm only.

Attendance available with active BGCDSO membership.
Space is limited to individuals with Down syndrome,
their parents and siblings.

Any Questions?
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Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization • Statement of Policy and Disclaimer
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