



Broward
Gold Coast
Down Syndrome
Organization

UPDATES & NEWS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Broward ESE Advisory Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 20th at 6:15pm-8:45pm
Plantation High School media center
- Joe DiMaggio Resource Fair
Saturday, Sept. 23rd at 10:00-1:00pm
Signature Grand
- SU4DS Walk Volunteer Meeting
Monday, September 25th at 6:30PM
Broward Gold Coast Office
*ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST ATTEND
- Down Syndrome Committee General Meeting
Thursday, September 28th at 6:00-8:00pm
Broward Gold Coast Office
- Initial Brainstorming of Parent Support Group
Saturday, Sept. 30th at 10:00am-12:00pm
Broward Gold Coast Office
- SU4DS Shirt Pick-Up
Tuesday, October 3rd from 6:00-8:00pm
Broward Gold Coast Office
- Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk
Saturday, October 7th, 8am check-in
Walk starts promptly at 8:45am-12pm
at Markham Park-Shelters 2 & 3
- Post SU4DS Walk Meeting
Monday, October 16th at 6:30pm
Broward Gold Coast Office
- Broward ESE Advisory Monthly General Meeting
Wednesday, October 18th at 6:15pm-8:45pm
Indian Ridge Middle
- DS Exceptional Educator's Training
Tuesday, October 24th from 8:00-3:00pm
Arthur Ashe
- I Can Living & Learning Center
Halloween Dance Party
Sunday, October 29th at 12:00pm
Tree Top Park Royal Poinciana Room

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!



We had an Amazing turnout at our Open House Ribbon Cutting ceremony!

Thank you to the Mayor of Plantation, the City Commissioners, the Plantation Chamber of Commerce, the Ambassador who attended, Jon Robinson of Rock and Brews, our wonderful members and several new parents and families who came to join us at this wonderful event! We couldn't do it all without our great Board, Staff & Members!



Our Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk is almost here!



Our 2023 Step Up 4 Down Syndrome T-Shirt

JOIN US! Saturday, October 7th, 2023 • 8am to 12pm

8am check-in. Walk starts promptly at 8:45am

Markham Park, Sunrise, FL (Shelters 2 & 3)



Our Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk is around the corner!

Please save the dates below and join us as we finalize the details for our 2023 Walk!

September 1st- Deadline for Sponsorships to get logo on shirts and banner.

- Deadline to qualify for "I AM" signs
- \$200 in Team donations or 20 Team Members
- Registration fee increases to \$40

September 5th- Finalize Walk Meeting-Plantation Office at 6:30pm

September 25th-Volunteer Meeting-Plantation Office at 6:30pm-
All Volunteers MUST attend.

October 3rd- Shirt Pick-Up- Plantation Office at 6:00-8:00pm

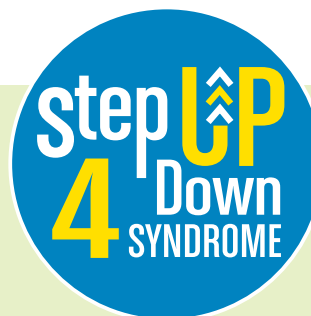
October 7th- Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk at Markham Park

Please Register your Teams and Walkers and set up your Sponsorship at our Walk website: <https://www.ds-stride.org/su4ds>

Register to Volunteer here:

[Volunteers: Step Up 4 Down Syndrome Walk \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.ds-stride.org/su4ds)

Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization
7301 NW 4th Street, Suite #103
Plantation, FL 33317



Remember to create your Team and add your walkers and donations! We have some great team incentives happening weekly until the Walk!

If you or someone you know is interested in Sponsoring our Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk this October, please send them this link! bgcdownsyntax.org/st4ds/sponsor. Many thanks in advance!

If you have any questions, please contact director@bgcdownsyntax.org.

If you are interested in Volunteering, please click on the link: [signupgenius.com](https://www.ds-stride.org/su4ds)



FAMILY SPOTLIGHT: The Turner Family

Hello! I am Nadine, along, with my husband, Robin, and our son, Noah, we are the Turners! My mom, Norma, resides with us, and is also part of the Turner Crew. Another member of our family is our 10-year-old Havanese dog by the name of Benny. Noah is a happy, 16-year-old with Down syndrome. Noah loves Soccer, and is a big Messi fan. Basketball is his second favorite, with LeBron James being his favorite player; he also loves the Florida Panthers Hockey team.

When he was younger, he would introduce himself as Noah LeBron James Turner. We love to travel, and road trips are one of our favorite things to do. Noah's favorite animal is the Florida Panther, so we try to visit the Sanctuary's that have these beautiful animals. Noah holds a blue belt in Taekwondo and so we spend quite a bit of time running around with him. We are very happy to be a part of this amazing organization. We joined BGCDSDO when Noah was just about 4 months old. We learned so much from the other parents as they were living the same life we were living at the time. We are happy to be a part of this family, and look forward to the future with our kids.

BGCDSO Member Events



Our members had a wonderful time at the **Father's Day Event** held at **Nailed DIY Studio**.

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Broadway Through the Years, what a show! Our **Teens and Adults Social Group** had an amazing time!



A huge thank you to Tony from the **Palegic Gear** for organizing the **D.A.D.S. Fishing Trip**, beach and surf day for our dads and their kids and to Streetwaves.org, for giving paddle board and surfing lessons. We appreciate the Down Syndrome Association of Central Florida and D.A.D.S from Central Florida, for including us in their fun day!



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Thank you to Eric and Anna Katz & their wonderful staff at the **Sock Monster Laundromat** in Pompano Beach for hosting a very fun and beneficial training session. Our members learned the ins and outs of the laundromat and had a nice picnic lunch while we waited between washing and drying!



Dr. Alvaranga, pediatrician from the Pediatric Mobile Clinic at Memorial Healthcare System, engaged with our teens and adults with DS about personal hygiene and staying healthy. Special appearances from the City of Lauderdale Commissioner, Melissa P. Dunn, and Chief Stanley, LHPD, as well as Mr. Georry Luberice, a Community Engagement Coordinator, who provided refreshments for the event. Special thanks to Yvonne Pubien from Nailed It DIY, for hosting our evening. Finally, much gratitude to Nadine Turner, our parent volunteer coordinator, for putting this fun event together for us!



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What a great time everyone had at our **Back to School Sunday Funday** at **Calypso Cove**! The weather and company were both perfect!



BGCDSO Community Resource Events



Our Vice-President, Daniella Roeder, and Executive Director, Bach Todaro, attended the **Plantation Chamber of Commerce Members Luncheon** to introduce themselves and our wonderful organization to the commerce.

Great turn-out at the **DS Roundtable** at the **Family Café** in Orlando, June 9-11th! Thank you to the families who came out to support us and learn about the important topics that were presented. Special thanks to our facilitators, Alexai Perez and Michelle Tetschner for their time and expertise to help us with the session.



Down Syndrome Roundtable

Manatee Spring II

Friday
06.09.2023
1:30 PM-2:30 PM



Come network with other families who love an individual with Down syndrome, as our facilitators help answer some of the more frequently asked questions facing people with Down syndrome in Florida. Resources will also be available to enable each individual to reach his or her own potential.

Session Facilitated by:



Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization located in South Florida and is dedicated to serving the Down syndrome community and offering support to families that need the resources we offer. Learn more by visiting bgcdso.org



Our board members attended the **National Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention** in Orlando.



The **I Can Living & Learning Resource Fair** was held at the NW Regional Library in Coral Springs. MaryBeth Gebbia and Kristina Armstrong manned the table, and were able to share our DS resources and pick up additional resources from other local services.



Thank you to **Walmart Supercenters** #1916 in Coconut Creek, #1387 and #2963 in Coral Springs, and #2151 in Sunrise for choosing the BGCDSO as the recipients of their Community Grants. Thank you for supporting our Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk!



Our gratitude to **Dave Plotnik from A.A.I. Golf Cart Transport Service**, for a donation of \$250 towards our \$10K Challenge! Thank you, Amy Britton for your connection, and support of Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization. You have just doubled a donation to \$500 for our organization! Thank you so much!



Our \$10K Challenge is Here!

A generous Friend of BGCDSO, will match ALL GENERAL DONATIONS made to our website at bgcdownsyntax.org, write \$10K challenge in the notes, OR if you make a GENERAL DONATION to the Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 Walk at ds-stride.org/su4ds up to \$10,000! Help us today! Share with your friends, family and neighbors!



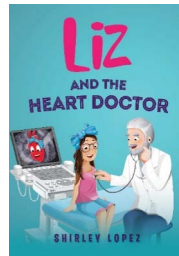
Special shout out to **Papa's Raw Bar** #papasrawbar for hosting a fundraiser for our organization. We appreciate your generous donation, and your support!

Education/Community Services



Read the Current and Past Issues of South Florida Family Life SouthFloridaFamilyLife.com: Broward, Miami-Dade & Palm Beach.

Shirley Lopez is a BGCD SO Member, Author, and Bronze Sponsor who is excited to share her new book called, **Liz and the Heart Doctor**, with the Down syndrome and other Exceptional communities! More children's books based on Liz's journey coming soon at www.cloudsstars.com.



Special Needs and Inclusion Fair

September 23, 2023
10 am - 1 pm

Signature Grand

6900 West State Road 84, Davie, Florida, 33317

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital Family Life



Meeting Schedule 2023-2024 School Year

SERVE: Children from age 3 entering Pre-K (transitioning from Early Steps) to their transitional exit from Broward County Schools at age 22.
GROUPS: National Down Syndrome Congress and its local chapters around the country, Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization

General meetings will be held on Thursdays.

6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization office

The Plaza at City Hall

7301 NW 4th Street

Suite #103

Plantation, FL 33317



September 28, 2023

December 14, 2023

March 14, 2024

May 23, 2024



The Down Syndrome Committee (DS Committee) is a parent driven group of volunteers with a mandate of nurturing greater understanding, acceptance, inclusion and independence for students with Down syndrome across Broward County. We represent all students through collaboration, consultation and participation on school, District and community-derived committees and organizations. DS Committee is a sub-committee of Exceptional Student Education Advisory Council of Broward County that operates under School Board Policy 1.22

Follow us on Facebook "LIKE" our page at
<https://www.facebook.com/DSCommittee>



Bach Todaro, Chair
dscommitteeboard@gmail.com

Laura Gangadeen, Vice-Chair
downsyndromeinclusionbroward@gmail.com

Barbie Doll with DS



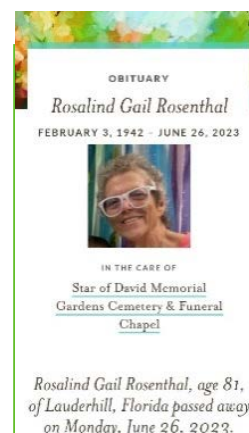
On their YouTube Channel, Zofia's Sensory Spin, Zofia & Jemma unboxed the first Barbie doll representing a person with Down syndrome released by Mattel earlier this year "to allow even

more children to see themselves in Barbie." Barbie worked closely with the National Down Syndrome Society in order to accurately represent a person with Down syndrome. NDSS President and CEO Kandi Pickard said, "This Barbie serves as a reminder that we should never underestimate the power of representation. It is a huge step forward for inclusion and a moment that we are celebrating."

[WATCH THE UNBOXING HERE](#)



Congratulations to **Alyssa and Joey** for being selected for the National Down Syndrome Society video presentation in Times Square, New York!



A funeral service for Rosalind will be held 1:30 PM Thursday, June 29, 2023 at Star of David Memorial Gardens Cemetery and Funeral Chapel, 7701 Bailey Road, North Lauderdale, FL 33068, followed by a committal service.

Contributions in Rosalind's memory may be made to Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization, bgcdownsyndrome.org. 954-530-3089

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.starofdavidfuneralchapel.com for the Rosenthal family.

CALENDARIO DE EVENTOS

- Reunión General Mensual del Comité de ESE de Broward
Miércoles, Septiembre 20, 6:15 pm - 8:45 pm
Plantation High School
- Feria de Recursos del Joe DiMaggio
Sábado, Septiembre 23, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Signature Grand
- Reunión de Voluntarios para la Caminata SU4DS
Lunes, Septiembre 25, 6:30 pm
Oficina de Broward Gold Coast
TODOS LOS VOLUNTARIOS DEBEN ATENDER
- Reunión General del Comité de Síndrome de Down
Jueves, Septiembre 28, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Oficina de Broward Gold Coast
- Reunión de Lluvia de Ideas para Grupos de Apoyo a Padres
Sábado, Septiembre 30, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Oficina de Broward Gold Coast
- Entrega de Camisetas Caminata SU4DS
Jueves, Octubre 3, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Oficina de Broward Gold Coast
- Caminata SU4DS 2023
Sábado, Octubre 7, 8:45 am
Parque Markham - Pabellones 2 & 3
- Reunión Post Caminata SU4DS
Lunes, Octubre 16, 6:30 pm
Oficina de Broward Gold Coast

- Reunión General Mensual del Comité de ESE de Broward
Miércoles, Octubre 18, 6:15 pm - 8:45 pm
Indian Ridge Middle
- Entrenamiento para Profesores de Educación Especial
Martes, Octubre 24, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Arthur Ashe
- Fiesta de Halloween - I Can Living & Learning Center
Sábado, Octubre 29, 12:00 pm
Tree Top Park - Royal Poinciana Room

**Muy Pronto Nuestra Caminata Step up 4
Down Syndrome**
Acompañanos! Sábado, Octubre 7 2023
8 am a 12 pm
Parque Markham, Sunrise FL.
(Pabellones 2 & 3)



¡Recuerden crear sus equipos, agregar sus caminantes y recoger sus donaciones! ¡Tenemos muy buenos incentivos cada semana antes de la caminata!

Si usted o alguien que conozca esta interesado en patrocinar nuestra caminata Step Up 4 Down Syndrome 2023 este Octubre, por favor compartir el siguiente enlace www.bgcdownsyndrome.org/stt4ds/sponsor Muchas gracias!

Para preguntas, por favor contactar director@bgcdownsyndrome.org



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Plantation, FL 33317

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Any Questions?

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

This newsletter reports items of interest relating to Down syndrome and provides a forum for others. The Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization (BGCD SO) does not promote or recommend any therapy, treatment, etc. BGCD SO will not espouse any particular political or religious view. Individuals or organizations referred to are not necessarily endorsed by this publication or its editor. We wish to bring together those interested in Down syndrome and attempt to create an optimistic outlook and attitude. The editor reserves the right to make corrections as are appropriate and in accord with established editorial practice in material submitted for publication. Please submit articles to info@bgcdownsyndrome.org.