

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



LEADERSHIP CORNER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Esteemed Members,

It is with a heavy heart that I address you today. Our beloved organization, which has stood as a beacon of hope and support for countless individuals, is now facing an unprecedented financial crisis. The very core of our mission, the objectives that drive us to serve, uplift, and transform lives, is at risk of being compromised.

Over the years, your unwavering support and generosity have allowed us to achieve remarkable milestones. Together, we have touched lives, created opportunities, and fostered a community of compassion and resilience. But today, we find ourselves at a crossroads where the future of our organization hangs in the balance.

Despite our best efforts to navigate the turbulent waters of financial uncertainty, we have reached a critical juncture. Donations have dropped 89% due to loss of principal donators and the ongoing post-pandemic recovery. In addition, our main fundraising event only reached 46% of its target goal. Our resources are depleting, and without immediate intervention, the programs and services that define our essence may cease to exist. The thought of turning away those who rely on us for hope and assistance is unbearable.

Now, more than ever, we need your support. We would greatly appreciate it if you could share this urgent call to action with others who may be willing to help by donating to our cause. Let us unite in this moment of need and demonstrate the power of collective compassion.

Together, we can overcome this challenge and emerge stronger, reaffirming our commitment to those who need us the most.

With heartfelt gratitude and hope,

Paola Herrera
President
BROWARD GOLD COST DOWN SYNDROME

STAY INFORMED!

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FEBRUARY- ACTIVITIES

Our Children's Social Group

Our kids had a great time watching Pete The Cat at the **Broward Center for** Performing Arts Amaturo Theatre...





Read-Along

At our monthly Read Along, we had a special visit from the Women Soccer Team of Fort Lauderdale United FC. Our kids made Valentine's goodie bags for their family and friends.

READING, CRAFTS,

CELEBRITIES

321 Dance- 2025

WOW! What great fun everyone had at our highly requested 321 Dance that promotes inclusion, acceptance, friendship and networking.



DANCE



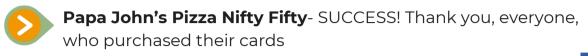






FEBRUARY- GROWTH

FUNDRAISING, LEADERSHIP, COMMUNITY



World Down Syndrome Day Shirt- AVAILABLE! First come first served. Scan QR code or go to our shop on our site to purchase.

https://bgcdownsyndrome.org/shop/

FT Lauderdale United FC- On February 22nd, FTLUTD FC started donating \$5 of every ticket sold to their matches. SCAN QR code on flyer for more information and sign up

for a game!





New Families- We are grateful to have the opportunity to provide this safe space for our new families. Special thanks to A Special Miracle, and our parent volunteers for their welcome baskets along with essential resources.

Advisory Board- We had a full house at our 1st Advisory Board meeting of the year! Our gratitue to the advisory for their time and dedication to BGCDSO. We appreciate your support!











FEBRUARY-BIRTHDAYS

Jerónimo Hernández- 2/03 Lillyann Carraher- 2/11



Johanna Arteaga 2/12

Kori Armstrong- 2/19





FEBRUARY-UPCOMING EVENTS

- **3.08** | Coffee and Conversations- Join us at this parent only get together to talk, drink coffee and connect!
- **3.21** World Down Syndrome Day- Sparez! Reserve your spot and go bowling with us!
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid Training** Let's take advantage of this one day training and learn how to guide our special ones through mental health.
- Spring Shopping Social- Let's shop for a cause! When you shop at the
 4.05 | Shopping social BGCDSO will recieve a percentage of the profits.
 Sicilian Oven- Dine and help raise funds for BGCDSO! Let them know you are supporting us and they will give back a portion of the sale.
 4.07 | Thank you!
- Hoppy Egg Hunt 2025- Spring is coming! Join us at Tree Tops Park4.19 Davie for a picnic and arts & crafts.
- Adult Mental Health First Aid Training- Let's take advantage of this one day training and learn how to guide our special ones through mental health.

Make A Mother's Day Floral Arrangement- Time to make our moms feel extra special! Limited to first 30 who reserve.

5.10







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FEBRUARY- SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you Gordon and Patricia Garland!

For organizing the 11th Annual 321 Dance



A special thanks to our generous sponsors for making the 321 Dance a success!





Broward **Gold Coast** Down Syndrome

Organization

Broward Parks and Recreation



Torro Auto Brokers



Sarita Martine Bistro



Southeast Society of Health-System **Pharmacists**



Funky Biscuit



Smith Stationary



Event Concierge Group



Junie Lamour Law









