

# Down Syndrome Development Council

FORUM-Dec 2008 volume 26



## The DDC Mission Statement

To promote a greater acceptance and understanding of Down syndrome, by enlightening the broader community to recognize the individuality, uniqueness and capabilities.

## UPCOMING DDC EVENTS:

**NO DEC. monthly meeting**

**12/7 "Tastefully Simple" party, 1-4pm**

**12/14 DDC Christmas Party 1:30-4:40pm**

**12/18 Playgroup 5:30-7:30pm**

**1/8 Jan. meeting/Ped. PT, 7-9pm**

**2/12 Feb. meeting/Estate Planning, 7-9pm**

Our Meeting Place:  
Community  
Protestant  
Church  
418N. Prairie  
Mundelein,  
Second  
Thursday of the  
month.



## **DDC CHRISTMAS PARTY**

***Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>,***

***1:30 – 4:30 PM***

**At: Community Protestant Church**



**(418 N. Prairie, Mundelein)**

Pack up the family and come join DDC families and friends at our Christmas Party! There will be plenty of food, holiday music, crafts, and of course, **SANTA!!**

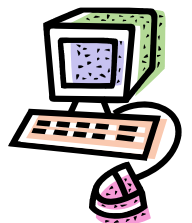
Santa will be arriving about **3:00 pm** and He will be bringing gifts for everyone that RSVP's **by DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>** please email and let us know: **how many children, their ages and names**, so he can start promptly making his list for the kids. **Please RSVP at [BEAUVP@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:BEAUVP@SBCGLOBAL.NET) by December 10th.**

Please do not arrive before 1:30 pm due to the masses still going on per the Church's request.

If anyone would like to help set up, clean up, help the kids with crafts & coloring or can make some sweet treats for dessert or appetizers, please feel free to call me. Can't wait to see everyone!

**DEBBIE POGOSE, Santa's helper**

**GO TO THE DDC WEB SITE : [www.TheDDC.org](http://www.TheDDC.org)**





## FOOD, FRIENDS AND FUND-RAISING

PennySue McKenzie(Tempest's mom) is hosting a "Tastefully Simple" party 1:00pm till 4:00pm. "Tastefully Simple" is a source of delicious gourmet foods and gifts. The DDC will receive 15% of purchases across the board and you get to enjoy some yummy treats. Tastefully Simple is offering gift baskets for purchase just in time for the holidays so you can give two ways! Please RSVP to PennySue McKenzie, 224-643-7923 or my email, [pennyontheverge@gmail.com](mailto:pennyontheverge@gmail.com). Adults only, please.

Plan ahead for Jan. monthly meeting; we welcome Sheri Golebiowski the clinical director of "Little Heroes" Pediatric Physical Therapy clinic in Grays Lake. She will provide up to date information about PT for children at early intervention age and and older.



During our Feb. monthly meeting we will be provided with information about estate planning from a local estate attorney. This may not be something we want to think about now, but this is critical for the wellbeing of your family's future.

Free babysitting is provided at our monthly meetings. NO excuses now! HA



### ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!

## GRAND OPENING- ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Ph 847-749-5005

Fax 847-566-4431

Email: [pstar280@gmail.com](mailto:pstar280@gmail.com)

**ADVOCACY IN ACTION**, is a parent advocacy group.

The focus of **ADVOCACY IN ACTION** is:

- To educate parents about their child's educational rights in order to receive services
- To teach parents how to be effective mentors for their child
- To assist parents to model successful strategies to meet the needs of their child in the educational process, i.e., eligibility, IEP, 504, etc.

I have been a parent advocate providing advocacy to individuals with disabilities and their families in Lake and Cook Counties for the past 10 years. Qualifications and experience include:

- Educating and counseling parents as well as attending their child's Special Education meetings
- Actively participating in an intensive Parent Advocacy Training provided by Family T.I.E.S.
- Successfully completing Wrightslaw Special Education Seminar, conducted by Peter Wright, nationally renowned Special Education Attorney
- Providing Disability Awareness presentations to schools, hospitals, physicians offices, corporations, community groups and medical schools
- Instructing youth with disabilities, in self advocacy and employment readiness skills

I encourage you to contact my office for further information.

**Pam Labellarte, Parent Advocate**



SHOP AND FUND OUR PROGRAMS

DDC "eScrip" Program Update!
Dominicks "eScrip" Fundraising

DDC has earned a total of \$366 from the eScrip program through August, 2008. Our monthly earnings continue to grow! This is an easy way for DDC to fundraise, and all you have to do is register your Dominick's Fresh Values Card!

Dominick's ongoing fund raising program is called eScrip. Once an individual enrolls, up to 4% of your qualifying purchases are credited to our group every time you shop with your Dominick's Fresh Values Card. The advantage of this program over some of the previous "grocery store" type fundraisers is that once you enroll, you do not have to do anything different or special when you shop and use your Fresh Values Card. It does not involve a credit card, or remembering any coupons or receipts. Once enrolled with DDC as your recipient organization, you just shop! The eScrip program automatically tallies all benefits and forwards the funds to DDC. Just think how much income this program could generate for DDC if all of our DDC members signed up!

For those of you who are willing to register your credit card numbers with eScrip (I have), your purchases at other participating merchants will automatically result in a percentage of your purchase being donated by the merchant to DDC. I have had three different restaurants contribute a portion of my purchase back to DDC. At the time we ate there, we didn't even realize they participated!

To register, go to escrip.com . It takes less than 5 minutes. All you will need is your Dominicks' Fresh Values card (and/or credit card if you wish to register those). When asked to select the organization that you will donate to, you can search by zip code, or by name. We are listed as Down Syndrome Development Council, Mundelein, IL, 60060. Thank you for your participation. If you have any questions, please contact Janis Kern, DDC Treasurer, at (847) 548-4417.

Donate to DDC!

The Down Syndrome Development Council (DDC) provides support, educational programs, social events and monthly newsletters to families of individuals with Down syndrome as well as Down syndrome awareness in our communities. The DDC no longer charges membership dues, or fees for most of our programs. Our costs are covered entirely by donations and various fund raising events. If you would like to contribute to DDC to help us cover the costs of our programs and newsletters, please complete the following form and mail it, along with your check (payable to Down Syndrome Development Council) to: DDC, P.O. Box 906, Mundelein, IL 60060

Name \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_
Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to be acknowledged in the next newsletter (no amounts will be published)
\_\_\_\_\_yes \_\_\_\_\_no

My donation is in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_
or in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please contact any of the board members by phone or e-mail.

## Sally Wanda Katarina Dunklau

January 23, 2006 - November 23, 2008



It is with a heavy heart that I share with you that Sally Dunklau, who had been valiantly battling leukemia since last December, passed away in her mother's arms recently at UW Children's Hospital in Milwaukee.

Sally, along with her siblings Bella and Sam, and parents Mark and Janis, have long been an integral part of the UPS for DownS family for many years. Her older sister Bella also has Down syndrome.

Her funeral mass was at St. Teresa of Avila, 221 W. Union Street, Earlville, IL 60518



*January can be a quiet moment in our year which we can use for redirecting our energies and our priorities. Many of us do not give ourselves the time to be in charge of our lives and our family's direction. Watching TV, talking on the phone or other time guzzlers can protect us from facing what may be painful or difficult to address. A snowy quiet can be so instrumental in providing the opportunity for self-healing and self-care. You may find what will help provide peace in your household, what small step you can make to bring about positive changes in your family. Do you need a break, or a friend to hold your hand thru a difficult situation? You can't get what you need unless you can define what it is that you need or want.*

*When was the last time you did something just for yourself, a time you can reminisce about things you love to do, re-connect with friends who you have lost, or just disconnect from the family situation for a short time? When you come back from your break, problems can look so different and solutions may seem clear and within reach. There are always people around you that can provide care and concern, being alone on a planet as big as ours is just not possible. You just have to get out and take a look and you will be so surprised to find everything you need to create a better life for you and your family. We should not go thru life avoiding ourselves and our personal needs. Be aware of how you feel, anger is an easier emotion to outwardly express than disappointment and resentment. Anger is how we protect our hearts from over-whelming sadness and hopelessness. By turning off the distractions of the day, TV, cell phone, or the world-wide web, there is plenty of time each day to give to you. Self-care and healing may just be the thing to turn things around. Being balanced and refreshed is a great gift to yourself and your family.*

Let's share some ideas for 2009: Send me your ideas and suggestions [christoliniben@comcast.net](mailto:christoliniben@comcast.net).

**Parents:** Plan a week ahead for "Date-night", a movie, a quiet dinner, a walk around a museum or a mall.

Plan a month ahead for "Adult gathering", bunco, wine tasting, potluck or craft party.

Plan a month ahead for "Ladies afternoon get together", cards, book club, cooking demo.

Plan a few months ahead for "Adult outing", group trip to theatre, dancing, or bowling.

Plan many months ahead for "Mom and Dad go on a trip", short vacation, night in hotel, or spa.

Find a person that can teach you how to do something that you have always wanted to do.

**Kids:** Connect with Special recreation for programs, Special Olympics, social events.

Look for summer camp opportunities, respite weekends or friends that will take your kids overnight

Call city for scouting and volunteer opportunities.

Tell everyone that you are looking for a tutor, a sitter, or a mother's helper

Start a sitting co-op to give you access to free baby sitting.

### **DDC Board Members 2008-2009**

<b>President</b>	<b>Patrick Collins</b>	<b>847-265-8482</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:rjohncol@comcast.net">rjohncol@comcast.net</a></u></b>
<b>Vice Pres</b>	<b>Mary Lou Paff</b>	<b>847-548-4852</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:mlpaff@aol.com">mlpaff@aol.com</a></u></b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jennifer Jenkins</b>	<b>847-970-6797</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:only_connect@msn.com">only_connect@msn.com</a></u></b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Janis Kern</b>	<b>847-548-4417</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:Janiskern@comcast.net">Janiskern@comcast.net</a></u></b>
<b>Board</b>	<b>RaeAnn Collins</b>	<b>847-265-8482</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:rjohncol@comcast.net">rjohncol@comcast.net</a></u></b>
<b>Playgroups</b>	<b>Belinda Hidalgo</b>	<b>847-838-4398</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:belinda.hidalgo@alere.com">belinda.hidalgo@alere.com</a></u></b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Terri Christolini</b>	<b>847-267-1169</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:Christolin@aol.com">Christolin@aol.com</a></u></b>
<b>Foro (Spanish Issue)</b>	<b>Anna Roeser</b>	<b>847-362-0980</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:roeser1984@yahoo.com">roeser1984@yahoo.com</a></u></b>
<b>Dir. of Fundraising</b>	<b>Deb Pogose</b>	<b>847-973-1622</b>	<b><u><a href="mailto:beauvp@sbcglobal.net">beauvp@sbcglobal.net</a></u></b>

### **Playgroup**

Our monthly playgroup meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday evening of the month. Families are encouraged to bring all of their children for an interactive group play therapy session, led by our developmental therapist Kris Murray and hosted by various DDC parents. The Thursday evening playgroup includes a light dinner. Spanish language interpreters are available with advance notice. These playgroups are completely free of charge and open to all DDC member families! For more information about the upcoming playgroup schedule and locations, please contact Kris Murray (847-630-4991) or Belinda Hidalgo ([belinda.hidalgo@alere.com](mailto:belinda.hidalgo@alere.com)). **If you would be interested in attending a Saturday morning playgroup, please contact Belinda.**



### **December Birthdays!!!**

Nicholas Austin	1999
Samuel Collins	2002
Tara Diedrich	1988
Brogan Hora	2004
Zachary Jewitt	2002
Peter Ryback	1977
Michelle Labellarte	1993
Sarah Lockhart	2003
Kimberly Ann Niskanen	1993
Lupita Orduno	2004
Giada Rasmussen	2006
Madisyn Ross	1999
Haley Scott	2000
Matthew Teitz	1999
Zachary Williams	1996