



Down Syndrome Association (DSA) of Snohomish County



August 2026 Newsletter

The Down Syndrome Association (DSA) of Snohomish County is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people with Down Syndrome. From early childhood through adulthood, we provide resources, connection, and support to individuals with Down Syndrome and their families.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please subscribe directly at dsasc.org.

DSA of Snohomish County Events



Join or Visit Us at Mukilteo Farmer's Market

- **Come see us throughout August!** DSA of Snohomish County is pairing up with [Gigi's Playhouse](#) to host a booth at the [Mukilteo Farmer's Market](#). The Farmer's Market takes place every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. through the end of August at Mukilteo's Lighthouse Park.



Parade Season Highlights



We spent July out in the community making memories! Our team hit the parade route three times this month—double-header appearances in Everett and Arlington on the 4th of July, followed by the Kila Ha Ya Days festival in Snohomish on July 18th.

Every single parade brought out huge crowds and amazing energy! Our members had a blast dancing, waving, and handing out treats, stickers, and coloring booklets to all the families along the way.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to support us. Be sure to jump in and join the fun with us at our next event!

Member Spotlight: Meet Ryleigh!

From the field to the stage to being an entrepreneur, Ryleigh does it all! She keeps active with horseback riding, swimming, baseball, cheerleading, and basketball. When she is not crushing it in sports, she shines creatively. Ryleigh loves singing karaoke, dancing, reading, and drawing!

Need someone to clean up after your dog? Ryleigh's Lil Pup Cleanup Crew can help! We are incredibly proud to have such a multi-talented member at the Down Syndrome Association of Snohomish County!

Down Syndrome Association of Snohomish County Member Spotlight

Meet Ryleigh!



Known for her outgoing, fearless, and loving personality, Ryleigh refuses to let anything hold her back! From rock climbing and parasailing to flying high on her cheer team, she embraces every adventure with open arms.

At just 12 years old, Ryleigh is already a driven entrepreneur with a big heart for giving back. She has successfully launched her own business and hosts lemonade stands to raise funds for NOAH and the Snohomish County K9 foundation.

Her bright spirit is truly hard to miss! Ryleigh is 1 in 500 out of 2700 entries that will be featured on the big screens in Times Square this October!

Ryleigh lets everyone know how proud she is to have Down syndrome and that she is just like you & I. Her dreams are endless and she is ready to continue to change the world!



Join the Choir!

Our new Adult Choir offers young adults (18+) with Down syndrome a fun, inclusive space to build musical skills, make lifelong friends, and perform for our community. Registration is now open, and non-singing supporters can also step up to help power the program! Registration cost is \$45. This money will go towards the DSA of Snohomish County's funds.

Dates: Sep 17th to Nov 5th, 2026
Thursday, 2:15 to 3:15 p.m.
8 sessions total
\$35

Where:
The Dance School
2821 Rockefeller Ave.
Everett, WA 98203
Winter Concert: TBA

<https://givebutter.com/adultchoir>



Meet the choir director!

Hi everyone, I'm Julie, your choir director! I created this choir for adults with Down syndrome out of a deep passion for music and a desire to give back to our amazing community. While this is my first time directing, I bring years of singing experience and songwriting to the role. My biggest goal is to make this a joyful, uplifting space where all of our music lovers can thrive, sing, and have fun together!

Questions?

Reach out to our Committee at info@dsasc.org

<http://www.DSASC.org>

Community Events

National Night Out Against Crime



Where: Mountlake Terrace, Evergreen Playfields

When: Tue, Aug 4, 2026, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

The City of Mountlake Terrace has its award-winning National Night Out Against Crime event on the first Tuesday evening in August each year at Evergreen Playfield.

This free, family-friendly event combines entertainment, food, and community involvement for a fun-filled evening. This year's entertainment includes DJ music, balloon artist, face painting, photo booth, caricature artist, public safety vehicles, cornhole with the cops and performances by the Mountlake Terrace Dance Academy.

National Night Out features fun events as well as public safety-themed activities. The Mountlake Terrace Dance Program will perform. Police, Fire and Public Works vehicles also are available for guests to experience!

For further information about the event, or if you would like to participate, [email](#) or call 425-744-6287.

Gigi's Playhouse Gala



GiGi's
Playhouse™

Down Syndrome Achievement Centers
educate. inspire. believe.

Everett, WA

i have a voice gala

**EDWARD D. HANSEN
CONFERENCE CENTER
SATURDAY, OCT 24TH 2026 6PM**

***Gala supports bringing GiGi's Playhouse
to the Everett area and launching free,
life-changing educational, therapeutic,
career development, and wellness
programs for individuals with Down
syndrome and their families.***

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

**For more info, visit:
<https://gigisplayhouse.org/everett/gala>
or email Everett@gigisplayhouse.org**



Join [GiGi's Playhouse](https://gigisplayhouse.org) on October 24, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the beautiful [Edward D. Hansen Conference Center](https://gigisplayhouse.org/everett/gala) for GiGi's Playhouse Everett's first-ever [I Have a Voice Gala & Fundraiser](https://gigisplayhouse.org/everett/gala) — an unforgettable evening of elegance, celebration, and inspiration as our community comes together to create lasting impact. [Tickets](https://gigisplayhouse.org/everett/gala) and sponsorship opportunities are now available.

Volunteer opportunities are available, and silent auction items are needed. If you would like to volunteer or have auction items to donate, please contact everett@gigisplayhouse.org.

[Down Syndrome Community of Puget Sound \(DSC\)](https://dscpsound.org)

DSC of Puget Sound has opened registration for their [2026 Buddy Walk](#)!



Mark your calendars for the best day of the year! Start [building your team](#) to celebrate our amazing community.

The [Buddy Walk](#) is our largest celebration and fundraiser of the year.

Thousands of people gather to fill the day with connection and joy for all things DS. You can explore kids' activities, visit resource booths, meet beloved Star Wars characters, and so much more!

10.11.26

Woodland Park Zoo

10am-1pm

[Registration open now!](#)

Did You Know?

Special Education Supports Extended to Age 22 (SB 5253)

Washington State **Substitute Senate Bill 5253 (SSB 5253)** officially went into effect on **July 27, 2025**, applying starting with the **2025–26 school year**.

2025–2026 School Year (Full Implementation & State Funding): Beginning with the 2025–2026 academic year, school districts receive full state funding apportionment to provide continuous special education services through the **end of the school year** in which a student turns 22, rather than cutting services off mid-term on their 21st or 22nd birthday.

Medical and Quality of Life Advances

In 1983, the average life expectancy for a person with Down Syndrome was just 25 years old. Today, thanks to advances in healthcare, early intervention, and social inclusion, it has increased dramatically to **60 years and beyond!**





Let us know what you'd like to see in upcoming newsletters here!

Email us

[Down Syndrome Association \(DSA\)](#)
[of Snohomish County](#)

[View email in browser](#)

[Update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#).

[View this email in your browser.](#)

You are receiving this email because you've previously supported or subscribed to emails from Down Syndrome Association of Snohomish County. [Unsubscribe here.](#)

Powered by **Givebutter**

Down Syndrome Association of Snohomish County
PO Box 1077, Lake Stevens, WA 98258, USA