



2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



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Purpose

Empower and support individuals with Down syndrome and their families to access resources, engage with their community, and progress toward self-actualization.

Mission

Provide lifelong services and support to individuals with Down syndrome and their families to optimize well-being, develop rewarding relationships, and foster inclusion in the community.

Vision

Every person with Down syndrome will achieve their fullest potential and live their best life.

Values

Hope, Respect, Empowerment, Inclusion & Joy



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR Executive Director

As we close the chapter on 2024, we reflect on a year of remarkable milestones, growth, and the continuation of our mission to improve the lives of individuals with Down syndrome. This year marked a special milestone in our organization's history – our 30th Anniversary. Over the past three decades, we have witnessed extraordinary progress, and this year was a testament to the resilience and unity of our community.

I am proud to share the progress we've made, as well as the future direction of our organization as **we continue our work in advocacy, education, and inclusion**. The successful 30th Anniversary campaign, along with generous corporate and individual donations, has strengthened our financial position. We are grateful for the continued support from our donors and look forward to sustaining this momentum in the coming years.



This year we successfully celebrated World Down Syndrome Day with over 1,000 of our families, participated in community nights with the San Antonio Spurs, Missions, Brahmas and Football Club, and raised awareness at our annual Collective Palette and Walk & Stroll. Along with that, we held countless programs, education sessions, new/expectant parent meetings, and social events for everyone. This report will show how our community benefited from you and your generous support.

As we enter our 31st year, we are filled with optimism and excitement about what lies ahead. We will continue to build on the momentum of this past year, pushing forward our mission to empower and advocate for individuals with Down syndrome. We remain committed to creating a world where individuals with Down syndrome are valued and included.

Together, we have made a tremendous impact on the lives of individuals with Down syndrome and their families. As we look toward the future, we are excited to continue this important work, making even greater strides in creating a more inclusive society. I am grateful for the dedication and passion of our staff, volunteers, families, and supporters. I look forward to working with all of you as we build on our legacy and continue to transform lives.

— Brian Lopez, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Lopez". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey background.



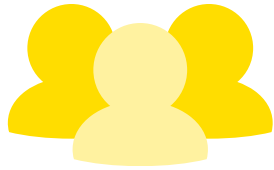
“I could go on and on about how much the DSASTX does for us, but the biggest thing is that my son will always know that he is not alone in this world.”

-Elizabeth Flores, DSASTX Parent

Highlights

9,800+

Attendance in 2024 for all programs and events



In the year 2024, the DSASTX has 1,426 records of amazing and inspiring people with Down syndrome in South Texas.

460+

Incredible and wonderful volunteers



This year we had a total of 3,005 volunteer hours recorded that contributed to helping the DSASTX organize programs and events.



Program Numbers

PROGRAM/ SUPPORT GROUPS	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
Club Night	1,813
Teen Social	75
Kids Connection	83
Music & Movement	116
Open Play	96
New & Expectant Parents Breakfast	19
Family Fun Day	430
Grupo de Apoyo	174
M.O.M.S.	63
D.A.D.S.	66
SibShop	42
Racquets Up!	331
Drum Circle	382
Community Volunteers	102
A.B.L.E.	55
Zumba	539



Fundraising

2024 Collective Palette

We were so excited to continue the celebrations in March with an evening of inclusion at our Collective Palette, a one-of-a-kind culinary event influenced by fine food and tantalizing art, at the Dawson Family Hall at the Witte Museum. Our supporters and community helped us celebrate our 6th Annual Collective Palette by raising \$90,770! Thank you to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, staff, vendors and attendees! Join us at our next Collective Palette on Tuesday, March 25th!



PRESENTING SPONSOR

Gordon Hartman Family Foundation

SILVER SPONSOR

Chenega Corporation
Mary Flores Family
Rudy Flooring & Remodeling
Community First Health Plans

BRONZE SPONSOR

Valero Energy
A.B. Cruz III Family Foundation
Christus Children's
Frost Bank
H-E-B

NON-PROFIT SPONSOR

Children's Association of Maximum Potential
Steve Enders
Broadway Bank
Dynamic Systems
Methodist Healthcare Ministries
Craig & Tracy Fletcher





2024 Tee it Up for Down Syndrome

A field of 46 golfers joined us in April at The Quarry Golf Course for golf, food and fun at our second annual golf tournament. This is our third major fundraising event that we are excited to see grow each year to help support the DSASTX in providing programs and services to the Down syndrome community. Congratulations to our winning team: Broadway Bank!

GOLD EAGLE SPONSOR

A.B. Cruz III Family Foundation

SILVER BIRDIE SPONSOR

Chenega Corporation

LUNCH SPONSOR

Rudy's Flooring & Remodeling
CGC Contractors



2024 Walk & Stroll

We were so excited to end the month of October with over 3,100 of our families, supporters, community partners, and volunteers celebrating Down Syndrome Awareness Month at our 24th Annual Walk & Stroll. Our largest crowd since 2019 (pre-COVID) celebrated at River City Community Church with us by raising \$229,270 this year! We had over 150 teams walk with us this year!

PRESENTING SPONSOR

Kym's Angels Foundation

GOLD SPONSOR

Community First Health Plans
Fred & Armour Shin Foundation
Helmerich & Payne

SILVER SPONSOR

Gordon Hartman Family Foundation
Rudy's Floor and Remodeling
Chenega Corporation
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A.B. Cuz III Family Foundation

FRIEND SPONSOR

Tindol Home Care
Wellpoint
Jordan Ford
Little Spurs Autism Center
Broadway Bank
UT Health
Aguillon Irrigation
Southwestern Motor Transportation
National Christian Foundation
Excel Montessori



Special Events

Throughout the year, we were excited to partner up with businesses and organizations in the community and host special events for our families to enjoy and spread Down Syndrome Awareness across San Antonio and surrounding areas. Every year, we head out to San Antonio's Incredible Pizza Company on March 21st to celebrate our favorite day of the year, World Down Syndrome Day! We are grateful for our partnership with Chicken N Pickle San Antonio, who kicked off our Easter Celebration for our younger kiddos for the second year in a row. The DSASTX and families were part of special nights and represented at multiple San Antonio sporting events in 2024. Thank you to all our community partners who support our mission and help us foster inclusion in our community.

EVENT	ATTENDANCE
World Down Syndrome Day	998
Easter Egg Hunt	202
Spring Formal	109
Audrey's Day at the Beach	152
Pack the Park	332
Holiday Party	831





“The DSASTX helped me understand ECI, navigate public school and advocate for inclusion on every aspect of my son's life. They have been my greatest resource when dealing with all the unknowns of being a parent of a child with different needs...”

- Lizzeth Saldana, DSASTX Parent

Education

DSASTX Annual Education Conference

Education is an important service the DSASTX provides for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. Throughout this year, we offered **9** Parent Education classes for parents/caregivers, educators, and professionals to learn, connect, and gain the information and resources they need. Our ACE Program provided weekly tutoring sessions for adults with Down syndrome throughout the fall and spring semester. Thank you to our partnership with **Lady of the Lake University** for giving their time and support to this program with their wonderful tutors. And lastly, we were excited to host our Annual Education Conference at a new venue this year, the Multi Assistance Center! We had 55 attendees, 16 presenters, and exhibitors to provide even more resources and information to our families.

World Down Syndrome Day Classroom Kits

This year we looked to continue to spread Down Syndrome Awareness throughout San Antonio, and especially within our schools. We launched our first World Down Syndrome Day Classroom Kits project earlier this year! We gave out **80 classroom kits** to educators, parents, and community partners in support of spreading Down Syndrome Awareness and making our schools and the the rest of the world a more inclusive place for all!

PROGRAM/ SUPPORT GROUPS	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
Parent Education	103



Welcoming New Partners



Through a partnership with UT Health's Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, this year the DSASTX Summer Camp program officially became a clinical rotation site for their Speech Pathology students. The students and clinical advisors planned daily activities for the campers with a fun theme for each day of the week which included speech activities and arts/crafts that they could take home. UT Health provided 2 students per camper, plus 4 activity leads and clinical advisors to assist with language enrichment activities that were so important for our participants. Planning sessions and training prior to and during the camp weeks were crucial to the success of the 2024 Summer Camp and we look forward to 2025!

This partnership has been mutually beneficial as the DSASTX gets quality speech programs provided for our campers, and the program students get hands-on experience working with children and teens with disabilities. This year's Summer Camp was huge success with help of this new partnership that we were able to serve 28 campers (children ages 6-15) in 2024!



PROGRAM/ SUPPORT GROUPS	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
Summer Camp	28

Community Outreach

2024 Community Partners

- Maxim Healthcare Services: Business Development
- Community First Health Plans: Marketing & Corporate
- Methodist Hospitals (4 locations + one new: Westover Hills): Case Management, Social Services, NICU, Women's Health, Nurse Navigation
- Pediatrix: Pediatric Cardiology
- UT Health San Antonio: Genetics, OBGYN
- University Health (2 locations + one new: Robert B.Green): Social Services, NICU, Nurse Management, Continuity Care Coordination
- Southwest Children's Center: Office Management
- Brighton: Referral Coordinator
- SA Life Academy: Chief Operating Officer, Chief Development Officer

2024 Community Events

- Brighton Community Resource Fair
- Rise School Grand Opening
- San Antonio Volunteer Administration (SAVA) Meetings (7 meetings total)
- Kinetic Kids Expo
- Pediatric Advocates of San Antonio (PASA) Networking Meetings (3 meetings total)
- JPMorgan Chase Health Services Caregiver Support Event - (2 locations: Wiseman & Stone Oak)
- UT Dentistry Open House
- NISD Community Awareness Night
- H-E-B Feast of Sharing

Media Outreach



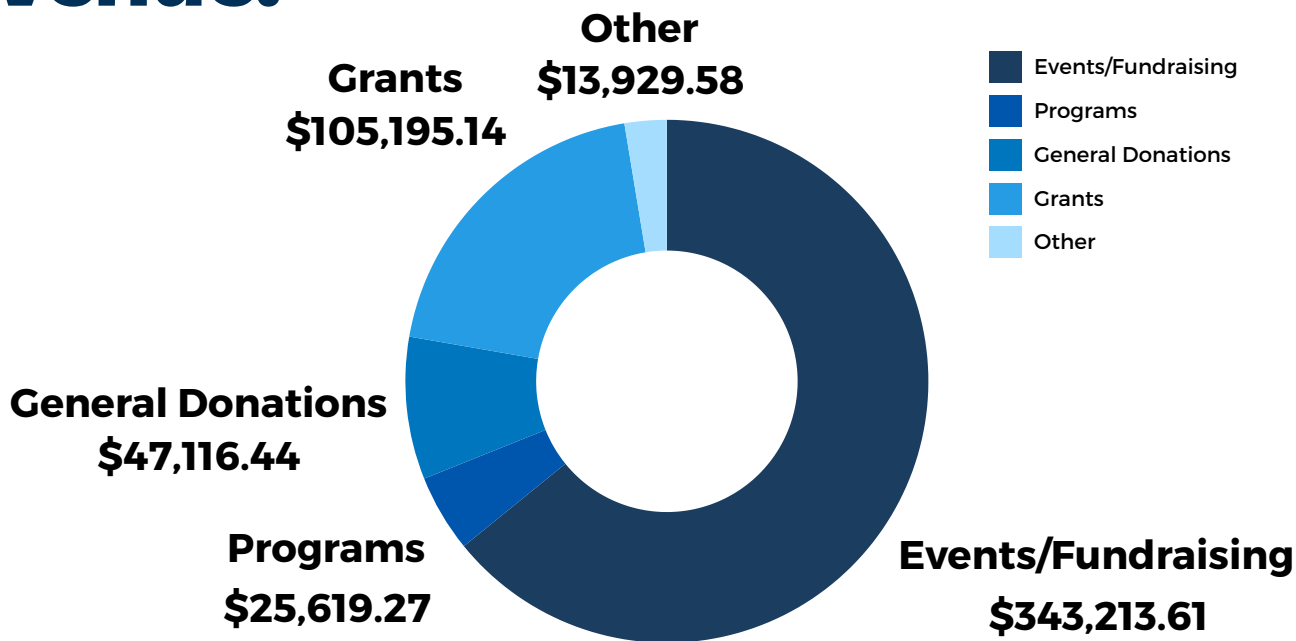
We had an exciting media partnership with KSAT 12 and their Community Spotlight feature. We were featured throughout the month of October to celebrate our 30th Anniversary and Down Syndrome Awareness Month. A few of our families and friends with Down syndrome were interviewed, featured on articles, television, and promotional ads that KSAT 12 aired during this month.



Another media partnership this year was with iHeart Media where we had the opportunity to be featured on podcast, radio interviews, and had guests like radio host, Randy Carroll promote and support events like at our 2024 Walk & Stroll. We can't thank both these businesses enough for supporting and promoting the work that we do and the families we serve.

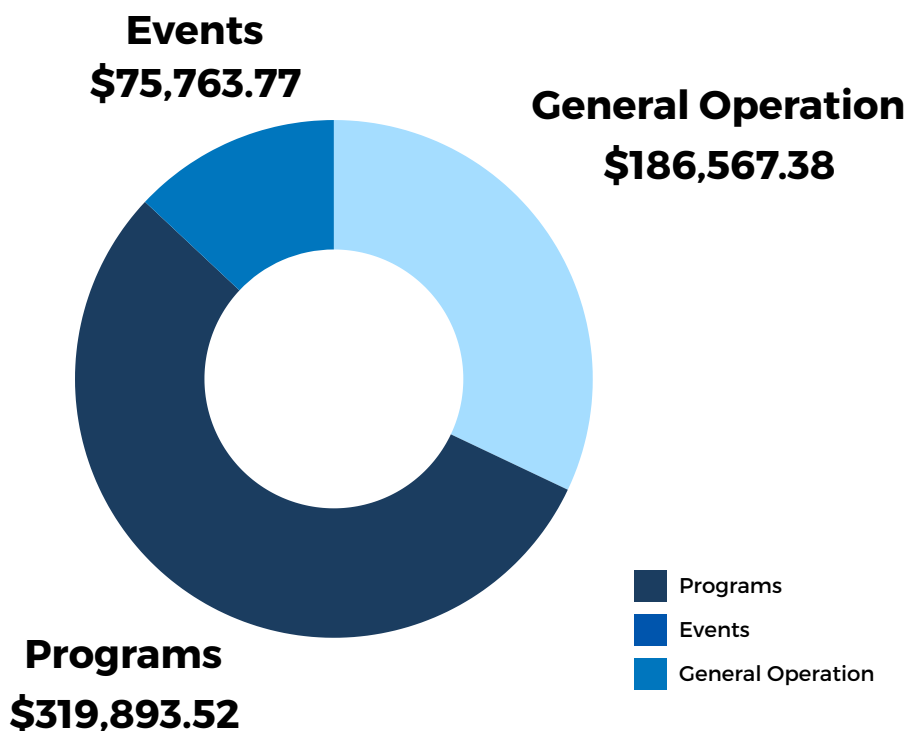
Financial Statement

Revenue:



Total Revenue: \$535,074.04

Expenses:



Total Expenses: \$582,224.67

We'd like to thank some our donors and volunteers for their generous support!

Acknowledgements:

We can't end without acknowledging the contributions of those who worked tirelessly on the projects mentioned within.

Kym Rapiet Verette/ Glenn Verette
 Kym's Angels Foundation
 Gordon Hartman
 Gordon Hartman Family Foundation
 H-E-B
 Rudy's Flooring & Remodeling, LLC
 Community First Health Plans
 Howard Energy Partners, LLC
 Mary Helen, Michael, and Tommy Flores
 Greehey Family Foundation
 Terrisa Ducate
 William Cade
 Jill and A.B. Cruz, III
 Valero Energy Foundation
 LBJR Investments LLC
 Methodist Healthcare Ministries
 Fred and Armour Shin
 San Antonio Missions Baseball Club, Inc.
 Maria Hey
 Tracy Fletcher
 Christi Palmer
 Schwab Charitable
 P.E.C. United Charities, Inc.
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 WellPoint Corporation
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 Panna Jones
 Dynamic systems
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 Kelli Gieniec

