

February 2017 Fridge Post



DSAOC's **Mission** is to create a place for connection, information and hope for people with Down syndrome and their families throughout greater Orange County, to promote Down syndrome awareness through community outreach, and to offer programs, services and support that aim to empower individuals with Down syndrome to reach their full potential. Our **Vision** is to be a one-stop-shop for all things Down syndrome related, and to be a model organization for community collaboration and Down syndrome awareness, to change perceptions and change lives.

Looking Forward in 2017

Circle of Friends – Thursday, February 2
NDSS ABLE Act Presentation – Saturday, February 18 (see back)
Red Carpet Ball – Saturday, February 25, Embassy Suites Brea
World Down Syndrome Day – Tues, March 21, Downtown Disney
Clothes for the Cause – March 20 – April 5
Golf Tournament & Banquet – Monday, June 12, Los Coyotes
OC Buddy Walk – Sunday, October 29, Angel Stadium

Support/Networking Groups

Circle of Friends Support & Networking Group

Thursday, February 2

from 7–9 p.m. at the DSAOC Center

Circle of Friends: Make friends, and share the challenges, milestones, and triumphs as you raise your child. Expectant parents are also welcome. Child care is not provided, but your little one with Down syndrome is welcome to accompany you.

OPEN FORUM - Bring your child's favorite toys, learning app's, or your fun Pinterest postings to share with the group!

PLEASE NOTE: We will have our OPEN FORUM support group in our Activity Center.

PRESENTATION: In our Board Room there will be a special presentation from Comfort Connection and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities in regards to Diversity and Equality with Regional Center services. This meeting is focusing on our Hispanic families, and the presentation will be provided in both English and Spanish.

Homeschool Friends

Mondays, beginning February 6 – Schedule Varies –
 Please call our center for info.

Starts at noon at the DSAOC Center

The Homeschool children in this group are participating in a special Speech program. Parents are still welcome to join for discussion and networking with the other parents, however, we cannot accommodate additional children in the program at this time.

Questions? Email Admin@dsaoc.org

Teen/Adult Activities

Teen and Adult Bowling League

Saturday, February 11

from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This activity is for teens and adults with Down syndrome ages 12 and up. Join us for this FUN & social activity! Takes place on the 2nd Saturday of each month from September to May.

Location: Irvine Lanes – 3415 Michelson Dr. Irvine, CA

Cost: \$6 per session (includes 2 games and shoe rental)

Please RSVP to admin@dsaoc.org

Red Carpet Ball

Red Carpet Ball

Saturday, February 25 from 5–10 p.m.

at the Embassy Suites Brea

900 E Birch St, Brea, CA 92821

NEW THIS YEAR! Purchase your Red Carpet Ball & Parent Mixer

Tickets **Online:** <http://bit.ly/2cHBuRa>

Website Password: RCB2017

Standard Ticket Cost:

Individual: \$50.00 | **Couple:** \$85.00

Link for discount room rate: <http://bit.ly/1pBFRz3>

If you have questions about the Red Carpet Ball, Parent Mixer, or Payment, please contact DSAOC at 714-540-5794, Monday-Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm or email admin@dsaoc.org.

Sibshops

DSAOC Sibshops

Saturday, February 18

from 1 – 3:30 p.m. at the DSAOC Center

What to Expect: DSAOC's Sibshops, for kid's ages 7-13 years old who have a brother or sister with Down syndrome, is a wonderful blend of making friends, having fun, and sharing experiences. It provides peer support and information within a recreational context. It may be "therapeutic" to attend, but it is not therapy. Friendship is a cornerstone component, as these siblings will likely support one another over the years.

Facilitators: DSAOC volunteers, Autumn Trail and Renae Eichenmuller. Autumn and Renae each have an older sister with Down syndrome.

To register contact DSAOC at kperrez@dsaoc.org

DSAOC Singles Mixer

2nd Annual DSAOC "Singles Mixer" for 18yrs and up

Thursday, February 9

Join us at the Orange Elks Lodge from 6:30-9 p.m.

POTLUCK

(please bring your favorite dish or dessert to share)

Food, friends, and modified speed dating fun! Music, Dancing, Karaoke and more!

RSVP as soon as possible to: admin@dsaoc.org

Orange Elks Lodge (near the Orange Circle)

211 E Chapman Ave, Orange, CA 92866

Special Olympics 'Young Athletes Program' for ages 2-7yrs coming back to DSAOC on Saturdays: March 4 - April 29 – register or questions – Jesus at jcabrera@sosc.org (FREE Program)

Unless otherwise stated, activities are held at the DSAOC Center, 151 Kalmus Drive, M-5, Costa Mesa, 92626.

Please contact the Center to sign up for activities: 714-540-5794 or email admin@dsaoc.org



Sara Hart Weir, MS
President

Saturday, February 18 at the DSAOC Center

9:30 a.m. to noon

PRESENTATION on the status of The ABLE Act in CA

As well as other NDSS initiatives, such as #DSWORKS

Bring your questions!

Join us at the DSAOC Center on Saturday, February 18 for a special visit and presentation from the President of the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS), Sara Hart Weir.

RSVP to Kellie Perez kperez@dsaoc.org

Light snacks and beverages will be served. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect. If you have any questions for Sara that you would like to submit prior to her visit, please send them to me and I will forward to ensure she addresses them during her presentation, if possible. Thank you!



DSAOC is hosting a Clothing Fundraiser!

WHAT TO BRING...

- ALL household textiles* – all kinds/any condition
- Clothes & Paired Shoes – in any condition
- Decorative rugs
- Gloves, Hats, Purses & Belts
- Sheets and towel
- Blankets, quilts and bedspreads
- Drapes
- Purses & Belts
- Stuffed animals



DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION
OF ORANGE COUNTY
CHANGING PERCEPTIONS - CHANGING LIVES

Start collecting today!

- Clean out closets and pack items in tall kitchen bags or large trash bags.
- Ask friends, family & neighbors to donate.
- Collect unsold items at neighborhood garage sales/estate sales.

The more bags and weight we collect the more money we raise!

DROP OFF DATES/TIMES

**Monday, March 20 through
Wednesday, April 5**

Between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Mon-Thurs

To drop off items outside these days/hours, please call the DSAOC Center (714) 540-5794 or email admin@dsaoc.org.

DROP OFF LOCATION

DSAOC Center

**151 Kalmus Drive, Suite M-5
Costa Mesa, CA 92626**

Located in the Coppertree Business Park.

Alternate drop-off locations will be available in North Orange County upon request.

All items must be kept dry, so please put them in tightly tied plastic bags.

*We cannot take glass, breakables, electronics, pet beds, bed pillows, carpeting, uniforms, hotel linens, or items that have been previously for sale at a thrift store.