

## About Bringing Up Down Syndrome

**Bringing Up Down Syndrome (BUDS)** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was originally started in 1984 by a small group of parents who, back then, spent much of their time advocating for basic rights such as inclusion in education. We have grown through the years and now offer a variety of social and support programs in addition to advocacy, outreach, athletics, physical fitness, public awareness, education, health and wellness.

BUDS is the Southern New Jersey affiliate parent group of both the *National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC)* and *National Down Syndrome Society*.

The mission of **Bringing Up Down Syndrome** is to:

- ◆ Educate the community, professionals and parents on the abilities of people with Down syndrome through advocacy, outreach and public awareness;
- ◆ facilitate a network of social, athletic, physical fitness, education, health and wellness programs exclusively for individuals who have Down syndrome;
- ◆ promote full participation of individuals with Down syndrome into all aspects of school, athletic, employment and community life;
- ◆ provide inspiration and hope to families who have children with Down syndrome.
- ◆ Encourage our children to be self advocates, follow their dreams and set high standards for themselves.

***"The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to venture past them into the impossible."* (Arthur C. Clark)**

## Contact Information

### Bringing Up Down Syndrome

#### Board of Trustees Direct Access Phone Numbers

Paul Williams	Chairman	(856) 768-3441
Maria Williams	Co-Founder	(856) 768-3441
Joanne McKeown	Co-Founder	(856) 256-9412
Bob McKeown	Co-Founder	(856) 256-9412
Nancy Hennefer	Treasurer	(856) 354-0584
Nancy Scully	Secretary	(609) 634-2019
Kim Brooks	Trustee	(856) 304-3071
Bob Hennefer	Trustee	(856) 354-0584

### Tax Deductible Contributions Are Welcomed

The Down Syndrome Support Group of South Jersey, DBA (doing business as) Bringing Up Down Syndrome (a New Jersey nonprofit corporation) is classified as a public charity and is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your contributions are tax deductible.

#### Federal Identification Number

22-5086010

#### New Jersey Exempt Organization Number

225-086-010/000

### National Down Syndrome Contact Information



NATIONAL  
DOWN SYNDROME  
CONGRESS

[www.ndscenter.org](http://www.ndscenter.org)  
(800) 232-NDSC



[www.ndss.org](http://www.ndss.org)  
(800) 221-4602

Bringing Up Down Syndrome



[www.BringingUpDownSyndrome.org](http://www.BringingUpDownSyndrome.org)

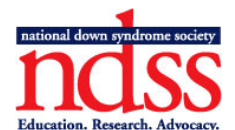
504 Centennial Blvd. #1444  
Voorhees, NJ 08043  
(856) 985-5885



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NATIONAL  
DOWN SYNDROME  
CONGRESS



national down syndrome society  
**ndss**  
Education. Research. Advocacy.

## About Our Programs

### Buddy Walk

**Chairperson, Paul Williams**

The Buddy Walk is a national walk program created by the NDSS to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome and to raise funds for local and national initiatives that support people with Down syndrome. Our annual Buddy



Walk is held on the 1st Sunday of every October. Refer to our website for more information.



### Social Programs & Support

**Chairperson, Nancy Hennefer**

We offer a variety of social and support programs throughout the year for the following age groups:

BUDS "Kids"	Birth to 8
BUDS "Tweeners"	Ages 9 to 15
BUDS "Teens & Young Adults"	Ages 16 and older
BUDS "Over 21"	Ages 21 and older

We encourage all families to take advantage of these opportunities. Refer to our website for the complete calendar of events. For new parents, in particular, when you are ready, we personally invite you to attend our BUDS "Kids" social events and make some new friends. You are now part of a large, caring community whose hallmark is our ability to reach out to each other. We are there to help each other along a journey that, at times, may seem overwhelming, but is mostly wonderfully rewarding. You are not alone on this journey.



Photo taken by Victoria Shaw

## Advocacy, Outreach, Education

### Advocacy & Outreach

**Chairperson, Joanne McKeown**

All of us have a vision for our child's future. For some, that vision may involve your child attending his or her neighborhood school with siblings and local friends. For others, it may not. Regardless of your family's vision, it is important to understand what laws are available to protect your family member with Down syndrome through all phases of their lives. We have a network of experienced parents who can help you navigate wherever you are on your journey with Down syndrome.

### Athletics & Physical Fitness

**Chairperson, Bob Hennefer**

We realize the importance of life-long physical fitness. We sponsor several Special Olympics of New Jersey athletic teams and have partnered with Velocity Sports Performance and the Cherry Hill Health & Racquet Club.



### Education, Health & Wellness

**Chairperson, Nancy Scully**

It is our intent to empower parents with the knowledge they need to get the education they feel is best for their family member. We provide several education, health and wellness programs throughout the year such as tutoring, sponsorship at conferences, nutrition and cooking classes.

### Public Awareness

**Chairperson, Kim Brooks**

We encourage our children to be self advocates, to follow their dreams and set high standards for themselves. We work tirelessly to promote positive public awareness that individuals with disabilities can be valuable, contributing members of society. Be sure to follow us on Facebook "BUDS-Bringing Up Down Syndrome SJ" and on our website at [www.bringingupdownsyndrome.org](http://www.bringingupdownsyndrome.org).

## E:Mail Registration Form

**Please complete the following information about the person with Down syndrome:**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Current educational status:

\_\_\_\_\_ Early Intervention \_\_\_\_\_ High School  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Preschool \_\_\_\_\_ Post Secondary  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School \_\_\_\_\_ Transition to work

### Please check all that apply:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am the parent of a child with Down syndrome  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I am the family member of a person with Down syndrome  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I am a person with Down syndrome  
 \_\_\_\_\_ I am a professional who works with individuals who have Down syndrome  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

The majority of our communications are through e:mail. To be included on our e:mail distribution list, please e:mail the above information to [nhennefer@comcast.net](mailto:nhennefer@comcast.net) or mail the completed registration form to:

**Bringing Up Down Syndrome**  
**504 Centennial Blvd. #1444**  
**Voorhees, NJ 08043**