

Each board member of the NWDSA has firsthand experience with the joys and the hardships of caring for a child with individual needs. We understand the importance of connecting with other families and how much we rely on these relationships when we encounter the inevitable challenges. We also celebrate each others' victories, making the journey so much richer. The Board of Directors of the NWDSA consists of volunteers and is supported by enlightened professionals. For more information on our organization and ways in which you can become involved or make a donation, please visit our website at www.nwdsa.org or call (503) 238-0522.

Para comunicarse en español, llame a Sheyla Hirshon (503) 239-1509 o Isis Sanchez (503) 442-5817





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A PDF of this newsletter and all the past issues are available for download at www.nwdsa.org

## Buddy Walk Festival Saturday Sept 20th, 10 AM - 1 PM

It's our 16th year of celebration and community!

Register and build your team to have fun and win prizes!

Learn more at www.nwdsa.org/buddywalk

Register at http://ds.donordrive.com/nwdsa

## Summer Social

Sunday July 20th, 1 - 4 PM

Camp Angelos: New location on the Sandy river offering great amenities & activities!

32149 SE Stevens Road, Corbett, OR

RSVP (503) 238-0522 or www.nwdsa.org/events

## STEPPING UP

Summer 2014 Issue 21



### PUBLISHED BY THE NORTHWEST DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION CELEBRATING EVERY PERSON WITH A DISABILITY, INCLUDING DOWN SYNDROME



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## Save the date for the Official SW Washington & Metro Portland Buddy Walk® Festival!

By Angela Frome

The 16th Annual Portland Metro and Southwest Washington Buddy Walk® Festival is Saturday, September 20th at the Rose Quarter Main Amphitheater & Center Court, directly outside the Coliseum. We're working hard to make this the best Buddy Walk® yet! So many of our families look forward to this event every year; it is a time of coming together, celebrating our community, and expressing the love and pride that we feel for one other. NWDSA is so thankful for our huge web of volunteers, donors, walkers and sponsors who contribute to the amazing spirit of the Buddy Walk®.

This year, we are debuting a new online registration platform that NDSS has contracted for its affiliates. We hope you find the platform to be user-friendly and a good resource to register, help to recruit your team, interface with social media, motivate your walkers and donors, and network with loved ones.

The Buddy Walk® is our largest fundraiser of the year, and funds raised support a wide range of services and programs for our community of families experiencing Down syndrome. Thanks to your tremendous efforts in 2013, we were able to meet our stated goal of supporting existing programs and adding staff time for new parent/community outreach.

Please see Buddy Walk on page 9

#### Celebration: Investing in our families & dreams

By Amy Geoffroy

As the summer sun emerges from behind the clouds, we feel the warmth of being embraced and supported by the community. The work we do to empower families and build inclusive communities is only possible because of generous donations from foundations, corporations, individual donors, and of course from our families and friends. In the first half of 2014, NWDSA is proud and honored to have received awards from several local grantmakers in support of our efforts.

In January, The Juan Young Trust supported a portion of the 2014-15 Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort. We are currently recruiting families for the upcoming session; more details follow in this newsletter.

In March, Campbell Global's Grow the Good offered a second year of capacity-building support to fund our part-time development/asset director position. Grow the Good's support for this project since 2013 has been instrumental in leveraging capacity to write grants, meet with funders, seek corporate sponsorships, and oversee volunteer management.

Please see *Celebration* on page 10

#### NWDSA northwest down syndrome association

Resourcefulness Center 11611 NE Ainsworth Circle, Ste 321 Portland, OR 97220

> Mailing Address PO Box 9127 Portland, OR 97207 www.nwdsa.org www.allbornin.org 503-238-0522

Stepping Up is published quarterly by the Northwest Down Syndrome Association (NWDSA), a non-profit organization managed by a board of volunteers.

To be added to our mailing list visit www.nwdsa.org or send your mailing info to the address above. There is no subscription fee, but if you would like to make a donation, you may send a tax deductible contribution to the NWDSA at the address listed above or use PayPal on our website.

Readers are welcome to submit letters and articles to the address above or e-mail abraithwaite@nwdsa.org. Please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail. All submissions will be reviewed and edited for content and style.

#### The NWDSA Mission:

Create and nurture a loving and inclusive community celebrating every person with a disability, including Down syndrome.

The NWDSA will accomplish this mission by empowering and supporting families and individuals who have been touched by Down syndrome. We will work to increase education, promote public understanding and acceptance, and toward full inclusion of individuals with Down syndrome in our community.

Opinions published in Stepping Up are not necessarily those of the NWDSA

#### Dear families and friends of the NWDSA

By Steve Holland, NWDSA President

As we continue another year of advocacy, growth, and progress for our community and NWDSA, on behalf of the Board I would like to thank our staff, volunteers, families, friends, supporters, sponsors, our children of course, and everybody who has helped make NWDSA such a powerful force for helping people with a disability!

I hope you know that we work within a very tight budget in support of the work NWDSA accomplishes. We have a very low administrative overhead, and we take seriously the mandate of using our funds wisely. Last year we received hundreds of donations from individuals, we had a number of corporate donations, we were awarded a few important grants, and we strive to put every dollar to good use. We also had thousands of hours of volunteer support throughout 2013, and we leverage this support in very meaningful ways.

2013 was another exciting year of growth, and we achieved amazing things together through the full range of our ongoing projects, support activities, advocacy work, education events, trainings, and socials. It is truly a blessing to be involved with, and to have made such deep and powerful connections with, so many people who share the vision and passion for helping our family members and friends with a disability build their dreams for the future, and give them some of the tools and support they need to realize those dreams.

So far, 2014 has been all about moving in new and exciting directions. We continuously strive to do things just a little better each year. But the most important thing is building relationships, as it's through these connections that we help support each other, and walk together toward a bright future for our families, friends, and children.



In the spirit of building connections, we would like to invite our dads out there to connect with other dads and build some tighter bonds. Over the years, we have gone to ball games, played pool, hit the bowling alley, attended socials, and had some fun nights out. We want to strengthen this tradition and offer more frequent and a greater variety of get-togethers - so stay tuned!

All the best to you, and we hope the summer is good for you and your family. Sincerely,

Steven Holland

#### Et Cetera

... Maria Quiñones, a student enrolled in the Child & Family Studies program at Portland State University, is fulfilling her practicum requirements by working at the NWDSA Resourcefulness Center. She's been a great help around the office and we look forward to seeing where her career takes her!

... SWIFT Schools are transforming education by creating truly inclusive school communities from the inside out. The state of Oregon received a SWIFT grant allowing twenty schools to implement inclusive and diverse learning communities that celebrate every student's unique contribution. Learn more about SWIFT at www.swiftschools.org.

... Karrie Brown, a 17 year-old fashionista and Justin Bieber fanatic from Illinois, recently became Wet Seal brand clothing's first model who experiences Down syndrome, after she was "discovered" on Facebook. Go Karrie!

... Because She Cares is an art exhibit by Theresa Weil featuring portraits of women who lead nonprofits across Oregon, including NWDSA Executive Director Angela Jarvis-Holland. Learn more at www.becauseshecares.org.









Events • Full calendar & details at www.nwdsa.org/events

Weekly Drop-In Hours: Get answers to your questions about IEPs, school, home, development, and more • NWDSA Resourcefulness Center • 11611 NE Ainsworth Circle, Suite 321 • Portland, OR Drop-In Hours are by appointment only July through September — Please call (503) 238-0522.

Open Arms Playgroups: Join other parents and their children with Down syndrome age 0 - 5 to ask questions, share ideas, learn, and have fun!

Portland: On haitus pending new location

Vancouver: 1st Sunday of every month • 3:30 - 5:30 PM • NEW LOCATION! Central Park Childcare, 2115 East Mcloughlin Blvd, Vancouver WA

Club Upside Vancouver: A place where parents can share and children of all ages and abilities can play • 2nd Saturday of every month • 2:00 - 4:00 PM • St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 5607 NE Gher Road, Vancouver WA

**Piston's Wild 4x4 Poker Run**: June 21st • Off-road rally event at Tillamook State Forest • Learn more www.nwdsa.org/events or (503) 238-0522

Bike Week: June 23rd - June 27th • Teaching children with disabilities to ride typical bicycles • Learn more www.nwdsa.org/bikefirst or (503) 238-0522

Summer Social: July 20th • 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM • Camp Angelos • 32149 SE Stevens Road, Corbett, OR • RSVP (503) 238-0522

**Buddy Walk:** Sept 20th • 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM • Rose Quarter Commons: Main Ampitheater & Center Court, Portland, OR • www.nwdsa.org/buddywalk



Angela Jarvis-Holland Executive Director

NWDSA Board of Directors:
Steven Holland
Abigail Braithwaite
Angela Jarvis-Holland
Angela Frome
Becky Adelman
Guiseppe Lipari
Michelle Wallace
Ruth Falco
Isis Sanchez

For more info please visit www.nwdsa.org or www.allbornin.org

The NWDSA is organized for charitable, scientific & educational purposes to provide families and individuals with Down syndrome social opportunities, support, education and information.

The NWDSA is a registered non-profit corporation in Oregon and has 501(c)3 tax-exempt status with the federal government.

Down syndrome is a genetic condition that occurs in approximately one of every 691 live births. The chance of having a baby with Down syndrome is not affected by where you live, social class or race. Having a baby with Down syndrome does not mean you did anything wrong: nothing done before or during pregnancy causes Down syndrome. In recent years, our community has seen incredible success in school community and employment that would have been hard to imagine a generation ago. High expectations, coupled with appropriate supports, allow our children to live full, rich lives as contributing community members.







Volunteers provide invaluable support at the office! If you'd like to volunteer with us, please visit www.nwdsa.org or call (503) 238-0522



#### Celebration

Continued from page 1

In May, we received a grant from The Jaggar Blount Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation. This grant builds additional capacity around volunteer recruitment and training, community partner outreach, revenue stream development, and the creation of web-based resources, including more Spanish language materials. Kathleen Cornett, OCF Vice President of Grants and Programs writes: "OCF is proud to support [NWDSA]... Empowering families and individuals with disabilities helps to create an inclusive community in which all people can lead engaged, productive lives."

#### Welcome new board members & staff

We are excited and grateful to welcome two new members to the NWDSA Board of Directors. Isis Sanchez and Dr. Ruth Falco, PhD are both long-time members of the NWDSA community.

Ruth is Director at the Research Center on Inclusive and Effective Educational Practices at PSU, and has been an NWDSA advisor and supporter since the earliest days of the RLC and the All Born (In) conference.

Isis has a BA in Healthcare Administration from Warner Pacific, and is Administrative Assistant & Graduate Support Coordinator at St. Andrew Nativity School. She is also mom to 7-year-old Diego. Isis has been an active NWDSA volunteer for several years, helping with events and outreach to the Hispanic community, including translation, phone support and the Promotores leadership program.

Pamela Dye, a recent graduate of PSU's Child and Family Studies program and mom to Jasmine, completed her PSU practicum this spring with the NWDSA. We are thrilled to add her energy to new parent/community outreach. She will also be engaged in many of our birth thru 5 programs, such as directing the RLC.



Dr. Shaffer, department of Obstetrics and Ob-gyn; Angela Jarvis-Holland, Executive Director of NWDSA; Michael Bailey, President of National Disability Rights Network; and Cori Feist, Genetic Counselor, presenting at the Maternal Health Conference at OHSU in November, 2013. Community and parent perspectives, partnerships, and ethical issues related to genetic testing were presented at this important event.

#### Mothers Telling Stories: Creating plays soothes mothers' souls By Katy Liljeholm

Katy Liljeholm is the Artistic Director at Well Arts, and a freelance director, puppeteer, teacher, and new mother living in Portland, Oregon. She was approached to teach a two-month playwriting workshop for the NWDSA, and then cast professional actors and direct the performance of the stories written by the mothers.

Six mothers present themselves dutifully on the first day in class. Four care for children with Down syndrome, two for children with other developmental disabilities. They're nervous, unsure if they want their stories out in the world. At the same time, they deeply need a way to connect their experiences as mothers into a larger whole. That's a perfect storm for good writing. Once a week for eight weeks, we load our plates with bread and cheese, pour red wine into mugs, and crowd around the table. I do a little instruction on different writing tools and techniques and then we write for an hour. At the end we share what we wrote with each other.

Their children come alive for me. Daniel, who creates music and animations. Adara, who loves to read, and swims like a fish. Chrystal, who drives her mother nuts because she doesn't call often enough to check in. Margaret, who at the tender age of four loves playing Boggle and rarely likes to be bossed. Their lives are productive, they have every ability to positively impact the people around them. Alicia writes about her daughter, "She belongs in this world, our world. She belongs in every room her feet take her into."

We're sitting at a table scattered with scribbled stories. They share some of their choicest quotes told to them at IEP meetings. Abby thinks back for a moment, takes a breath in, and shares hers: "One of the teachers came up to me and said, 'It's not like we blacklisted your daughter,' and I said, 'Well, I wasn't thinking about that but that's good to know.'"

At the heart of this story is a very simple question. Does our community hold a place for people with developmental disabilities?



Just Like You, A Theatrical Collage That Takes A Break From Normal ran for four performances in January, featuring the stories of Angela Jarvis-Holland, Abby Braithwaite, Alicia Delashmutt, Gabrielle Bolívar, Sheyla Hirshon, Susan Fleming.



Actors at Well Arts bring to life the stories shared by mothers



"So, I speak some more, fueled by anger. I tell them that I, too, am an expert. I am an expert on my two diverse and beautiful sons. I am an expert on the fact that Down syndrome does not preclude joy, love, frustration and the gamut of family experiences. I thank them for the surgeries that can heal our babies' hearts. I curse them for signing so many into institutions in our so recent past. I thank them for the hearing aids and the glasses that we often need. I curse them for calling our children uneducable."





Some of the community artists featured at the 2014 All Born (In) Conference pose proudly with their handmade wares.

Top to bottom: Maria
Blanchard, Arlene Huggett,
Clara Link, Lupita Cano.
Thank you to Susan Cushman
from United Cerebral Palsy
for organizing the sale.





## Over 400 parents, educators, artists and inclusion advocates make 8th annual All Born (In) Conference a success

As the All Born (In) Conference approaches its 10th birthday, we take a moment to reflect upon a movement that has grown up along with our children. Daniel Jarvis-Holland and Emma Frome began their advocacy journey together as little ones at the Teddy Bear Rally in Salem in 2002 (below left), and they continue their journey today as empowered youth with the NWDSA/Community Vision Dream Builders program (below right). Both attended this year's conference as volunteers, and represent an upswell of youth energy that is an increasing part of ABI.





The 2014 conference drew over 450 people, ranging from parents of a 4 month old baby with Down syndrome to the head of Special Ed for Portland Public Schools, from self-advocates to grandparents, all enjoying an inspiring and educational day. In addition to 30 informative and broad-ranging sessions, this year's keynote speakers included Sharon Lewis, Senior Advisor to the Secretary on Disability Policy; Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite, Assistive Technology/Literacy Consultant; and Michael Callahan, President at Marc Gold & Associates.

#### Feedback from the Conference

"More emotions than I can count or process today. But let's start with gratitude and a big dose of validation. This has been a hard year of school. And sometimes I was wondering if I was just an inclusion Pollyanna, making this stuff up to make myself feel better. Hearing All Born (In) speakers lay out all the arguments [we] have used this year, seeing the research to support those arguments in plain pixels on the screen, being reminded that life is so much more the PTOTSPEECH, that this is real, vital, true HARD WORK every step of the way, that there are teachers and administrators and employers who get it. I laughed, I cried, I raged ... and at the end, I am just so grateful that I have this movement, these people as my home base. I am not crazy. My kids -- all kids -- deserve more and better. And we will move forever forward."

"Amazing day, inspiring, educational and emotional...every step we take to remind people of the importance of our children in school and this world included is most important! Finding a voice even when it is hard is our goal. I felt the heart and soul of so many people there hoping to change the world one person at a time. Thank you NWDSA for the work and support you give our community."

#### **Buddy Walk**

Continued from page 1

This year, we hope to maintain and grow our work on new parent/community outreach and publish and distribute a brand-new heart booklet of family stories. In addition, 2014 Buddy Walk® funds will go to support playgroups, family socials, the Reciprocal Learning Community, Spanish language direct support, interpretation and translation, youth advocacy and empowerment programs, phone and drop-in support, Stepping Up newsletter, ongoing communication with families, medical and genetic community outreach, advocacy and much more! Here's how you can help:

Join the Buddy Walk® Committee! Want to roll up your sleeves and get a little more involved this year? Please consider joining the 2014 Buddy Walk® Committee and help us with procurement, sponsorships, team captain communication, and event preparation. We are a fun group, so join us! Email Amy at ageoffroy@nwdsa.org for details.

Register Today! Buddy Walk® registration is live online. Visit NWDSA website at www.nwdsa.org and click on the Register Now link.

**Build Your Team!** We are offering fabulous prizes for the top fundraising teams. Teams who raise \$3,500 or more by Wed, Sept 17th at noon win an Apple iPad; teams who raise \$1,500 or more win a Kindle. Stay tuned at www.nwdsa.org for more prize opportunities!

Be A Sponsor! Do you work for a company or organization with a corporate sponsorship program? Sponsorships start at \$500. Contact Amy at ageoffroy@nwdsa.org for a copy of our sponsorship packet. Thanks to our growing list of corporate sponsors, which currently includes Regence BCBS, Grow the Good, Sheldon Manufacturing, Suzanne Goddyn Windermere Realty and Summit Orthopaedics.

Build a basket or solicit prizes for our Silent Auction and Raffle! We already have some great raffle and auction prizes arriving at the Resourcefulness Center, and we'd love your help in procuring services, goods, vacation rentals and more.

As usual, Buddy Walk® is shaping up to be a great family festival with fabulous entertainers. Our line-up includes Tony Starlight, who is emceeing the event, Cloud City Garrison, Olive Rootbeer, Portland Fire Department, and more. JJ Jump & Parties Inc. are

providing bounce houses, kids' carnival games and prizes. Lee Farms, Mikki Keller with Kidz with Ice, Erice Bender (Isaac's dad) and Laurelwood Public House & Brewery, and Dreyer's are serving up yummy treats for lunch and snacks.

To learn more, call Angela Frome at 503-238-0522 or email at afrome@nwdsa.org





We All Belong

Northwest Down Syndrome Association - 8 vi

We All Belong — a short documentary that shines the light on segregation in kindergarten and the importance of diversity and belonging in classrooms, produced for NWDSA with the assistance of the Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort — is now available as a free online resource. Since its release, it has been viewed and shared online by thousands of parents, educators, and advocates, including the National Down Syndrome Society.

#### Watch it at youtube.com/nwdsa

"...beautiful, groundbreaking video ... a wonderful teaching and learning tool." "Powerful!!! Please watch this, it says so much for those who have trouble saying it for themselves."



The fabulous folks at Dizzy Castle organized an impromptu playdate to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day on 3/21/14, offering free entry for children with Down syndrome and discounted admission for their siblings.

World Down Syndrome Day is observed around the world every year on March 21 (3/21), in recognition of the 3 copies of chromosome 21 that is present in most people living with Down syndrome.







Families celebrate the holidays at the 2013 NWDSA Winter Social at JJ Jump



## 2014 Bike Week: An inclusive, cross-disability, week-long bike camp for children 8 & up

NWDSA's Bike First! is proud to promote inclusion by teaching individuals with disabilities the skills needed to ride typical bicycles.

Bike Week is a magical experience for everyone. Kids beam with pride over their new-found skill, volunteers cheer, and parents tear up to see their child take flight, alone, for the first time. Bike First! is open to children 8 years and up who experience a variety of disabilities. Learn more at www.nwdsa.org/bikefirst

#### Building dreams with a new transition cohort

The Dream Builders Program, a long-time vision of the NWDSA/ABI community, got off the ground this year. Hosted by the NWDSA, in partnership with Community Vision, Inc. (CVI), the Dream Builders program provides a chance for families and youth to begin thinking about real lives in community.

Dream Builders was created when the NWDSA reached out to CVI to form a partnership based on respective skills and shared, person-centered values. The collaboration grew with a grant from Meyer Memorial Trust.

An incredible group of parents and youths with and without disabilities explored dreams and shared skills, knowledge, connections, and joy in a cohort based on the Kindergarten Inclusion model.

The dreams of youths are going to need work, advocacy and leadership of families. For example, some of the youth in the program want to go to college, but there are few options in the area for students with DD. To address this issue, cohort members are planning an event with Portland Community College this fall. Nancy Golden, Chief Education Officer of the Oregon Education Investment Board, will be a guest speaker. Daniel Jarvis-Holland, a youth from the Dream Builders program, will speak about his dreams of attending college, and we'll debut the latest set of ABI inclusion awareness banners. Details will follow, and we hope you can join us!







#### What's on your list today? Helping NWDSA!

You can help earn donations for the NWDSA by shopping with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card! Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

- 1. Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the NWDSA at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and search for us by our name or by our non-profit number 91585.
- 2. Every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, the NWDSA earns a donation!
- 3. You still earn Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.
- 4. If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

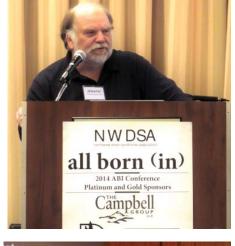
























The 2nd annual Toast to an Inclusive and Civil Society fundraiser, to benefit the Cross-Disability Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort, Bad Habit Room, December, 2013.





Thanks to party attendees, Bad Habit Room, Double Mountain, Pfreim, Rev. Nat's, Portland Pairing's Wine Shop, Fort George Brewery, and the local business that contributed raffle and silent auction prizes.



#### Kindergarten Transition and Beyond

Alicia DeLashmutt

This year marked the completion our 4th Cross-Disability Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort, increasing the knowledge, connections and advocacy skills of nearly 50 families that span two states and multiple school districts. KIC families believe that an inclusive education, community, and life are worth working hard for and we thank them for helping to forge the path for all students. Change for our kids is joyful, hard work and it's good know that we can all reach out to each other and to NWDSA to celebrate, recharge, and regroup along the way.

As my daughter, Neva, gets older (she's 12 now!) I've learned that working for inclusion and needed supports doesn't end at kindergarten transition (or first or second or third grade...). My interests are now turning towards high school transition, continued education, home ownership, employment, and a full life in the community for my child and others that experience disability. I'm very grateful for the opportunities that have come from being the KIC Director/ Organizer over the last four years. The friendships and connections that I've made along the way, and the inspiration they provide, will help to light our path as Neva matures into an adult with her own dreams, goals, and ideas of what her life can be.

It's with great pleasure that I hand off the amazing opportunity to help lead the KIC to a very inspired and capable mother and educator, Jamie Burch. Along with Angela Jarvis-Holland, Angela Frome, and the rest of the KIC gang, Jamie will reach out to the next group of parents that want to move the All Born (In) movement forward in their schools and communities by starting at the front lines of inclusive lives; Kindergarten.

And for those families with older children, look for some exciting things to come from NWDSA and All Born (In) regarding supporting our children as they graduate from school and move into their adult lives!

## Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort entering its fifth year of interactive & collaborative workshops

The Cohort is designed for parents whose child will be starting kindergarten the following September. Six interactive training sessions over the school year help parents prepare and advocate for inclusive kindergarten placements. On average, 9 out of 10 families get the kindergarten placements that they want for their children with the help and encouragement of the Cohort.

Families receive in-depth, best practices-driven trainings from educational and legal professionals. Session topics include Special Education law and a child's rights, tools and supports to use in the classroom, Assistive Technology, Universal Design for Learning, Positive Behavior Supports, Individualized Education Program (IEP) goal-writing to support inclusion, communication strategies, person-centered thinking, tips from parents and teachers and more. Enrollment for the 2014/2015 Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort opens soon.

Enrollment for the 2014/2015 Kindergarten Inclusion Cohort opens soon. To learn more, please visit www.allborin.org or contact Angela Frome at (503) 238-0522 or afrome@nwdsa.org.

The 2014/2015 Kindergarten Cohort is made possible thanks in part to a generous gift from the Juan Young Trust.





## Reciprocal Learning Community cross-disability workshops for families

Inspiration. Learning. Inclusion. These are words that have consistently been used by RLC attendees to summarize recent sessions. In the past year, we've explored sensory issues, gross motor development and positive behavior support, each time hearing from professionals and families from the Down syndrome community who share their expertise, ideas and experience. It's been exciting to watch families walk away with renewed enthusiasm and practical ideas for supporting their children. We have an exciting program taking shape for 2014-2014. Stay tunes!

#### Summer Social has a new location!

This year, our traditional summer get-together for familes within the Down syndrome community will be held at a new location: Camp Angelos in Corbett. This beautiful, fully-accessible retreat is nestled in the Sandy River Valley. Take a peek at www.campangelos.org.

Some of the amenities & activities this year are: Bounce house, live music, fishing, games, food, and lots more. Best of all, this location features numerous *shaded areas!!* 

Sunday, July 20th at Camp Angelos • 1:00 to 4:00 PM 32149 SE Stevens Road • Corbett OR RSVP at www.nwdsa.org or (503) 238-0522



Thanks to everyone who helped out at the Burgerville Fundraiser for the Reciprocal Learning Community. We had a great time serving food and tidying up tables, while letting folks know about the great work of NWDSA. In just a few fun hours we were able to raise around \$400.

If you have a business that would be interested in supporting our fundraising efforts please give us a call at (503) 238-0522.



