



 www.DSAmd.org


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DID YOU KNOW?

- ▶ There are more than **250,000 individuals** with Down syndrome in the United States.
- ▶ Down syndrome occurs in approximately **one out of every 700 live births**.
- ▶ Around **80% of babies** with Down syndrome are **born to mothers under the age of 35**.
- ▶ **Early Intervention services** through the school system help children develop to their fullest potential.
- ▶ Children with Down syndrome often participate in regular classrooms, **learn to read and write**, and enjoy being an **active, valued part of their communities!**

Down Syndrome Association of Maryland is formerly know as the "Chesapeake Down Syndrome Parent Group".



DSAmd

DOWN SYNDROME
ASSOCIATION
OF MARYLAND

FIRST CALL PROGRAM FOR EXPECTANT AND NEW PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DOWN SYNDROME

www.dsamd.org



Welcome New Parents...

Congratulations on your new baby! Right now there may be a lot of emphasis on how your baby may be different and possible medical issues he or she may face but the most important thing to remember is that your baby is a baby first. You will begin to learn that children with Down syndrome are more alike than different from other children.

And Expectant Parents

Learning that your baby has Down syndrome is an overwhelming experience for most parents. You may feel confused, frightened, angry, saddened, or isolated. Please know that your feelings are completely normal! We have information and connections available that can help you make important decisions for your family.



Mission

We provide information and support to individuals with Down syndrome and their families.



Vision

We promote a happy, healthy, accepting environment which enables independence for people with Down syndrome so that they may reach their potential at all stages of their lives.



When you are ready, **make DSAmD your First Call:**
410.321.5434



You Are Not Alone

We offer a variety of social events and educational programs for our members, but we believe our most valuable asset is our connection to each other. As part of DSAmD, you will have access to over 400 families who have a member with Down syndrome in the Baltimore metro area. These families have faced many of the same joys and struggles as you will face as you raise your child, and they are always willing to help point you in the right direction, celebrate your child's successes, or just be there to listen.

DSAmD's First Call Program Offers:

- Accurate, up-to-date, and objective information about Down syndrome or expectant and new families
- The opportunity to talk to other parents about your questions and concerns.
- A chance to meet other children with Down syndrome and their families.
- Assistance locating helpful resources for your child's care.
- Access to DSAmD's resources, programs, and events.

