



October 2017 Newsletter

\* Happy Down Syndrome Awareness Month \*

## In This Issue

[Spotlight On](#)

[October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month](#)

[Watch Our New PSA "This Is Me"](#)

[21st Annual Puget Sound Buddy Walk - Success!](#)

[Support the DSC While Shopping at glassybaby!](#)

[Special Olympics Washington Presentation to the Down Syndrome Community](#)

[DSC Friends Meet-Ups](#)

[2017 WA State Fathers Network Conference](#)

## Spotlight On



For Down Syndrome Awareness Month, the DSC and Raise Expectations are releasing a PSA highlighting the importance of inclusion. [Missed Postings](#)

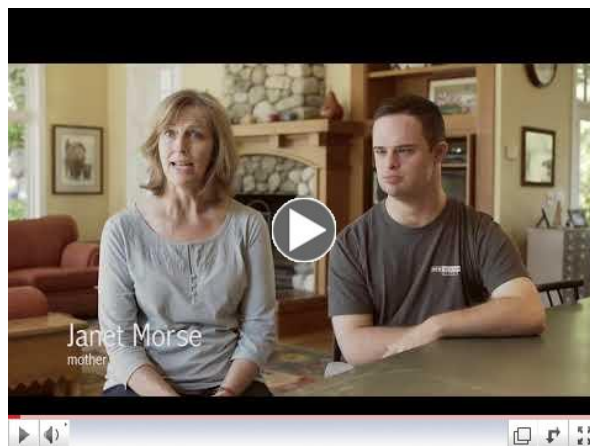
## October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month

It's official. Gov. Jay Inslee has proclaimed October 2017 as Down Syndrome Awareness Month. He encourages all people in our state to *"work together to promote the acceptance, inclusion, and respect of individuals with Down syndrome."* Either click on the image or click [HERE](#) to see the full proclamation.



## Watch Our New PSA "This Is Me"

Melding art and a message to create momentum towards a common goal was the intent of our new PSA. We wanted to represent our loved ones in a way that we could all be proud. What makes each of us special is unique regardless of our chromosomes, gender, or color. The more we make this message clear, the more all of us can enjoy the true potential our lives afford us, including inclusion, acceptance, employment and independence for our loved ones.



This Is Me

Let us know what you think. And if you want to read more about the making of it, check out our [blog](#).

**Melinda Raebyne** is the director of the PSA. We spoke with Melinda to gain a better insight into how she was able to pull the video together.

*How did you come about directing the PSA?* I met Sean and Devon Adelman on a music video shoot I did highlighting all the different types of people in America. Sean approached me with the idea for the PSA. He gave me the freedom to use my storytelling skills in laying out the script.

*Prior to that, had you had the opportunity to know anyone with Down syndrome?* Not extensively. I have a co-worker and a friend who both have a child with Down syndrome. It was very important for me to meet each individual that we'd be highlighting in the PSA, so I sat down with each of them for an hour prior to filming. When trusting me to tell your story, it's crucial that I have an idea who each person is and what they're about so I can properly tell it.

To learn more about Melinda, check out the entire [post](#) on the DSC website.

### Stay Connected



## 21st Annual Puget Sound Buddy Walk - Success!

The 21st Annual Puget Sound Buddy Walk was held on Sunday, October 1st at the Seattle Center Next 50 Plaza and was a huge success! Over 1,400 attendees enjoyed the kids' activities, visited the resource booths and vendors, grabbed a bite to eat at the food trucks, and were captivated by our guest speakers **Mark Hublar** and **Helen Nash**. The Walk, led by our very own bagpiper, **Philip Thelin**, wound around the Seattle Center grounds, and ended with our first-ever T21 Dance Party, led by **DJ Anthony**. The party definitely could have gone on longer!



We want to acknowledge all those who made the Walk possible starting with the 2017 Puget Sound Buddy Walk Committee of **Rita Cruz, Maura Dunn, Mayumi Frame, Wendy Hawley, Leanne Lengle, Brian Michael, Lynne Palmisano, Linda Sauve, Jennifer Small** and co-chairs **Linda Michael** and **Becky Ronan**. And to our sponsors: **Seattle Center, HMG, Embassy Suites by Hilton - Seattle Tacoma International Airport, Virginia Mason, RITCS Holdings LLC, QFC, Voya Financial Advisors, ParentMap, Eastside Pediatric Dental Group, BHD Law, Lamar, Orion Entertainment, and Baker Hostetler**.

Thanks also to **Amity Adrissi** of KING 5 News for being our emcee and to the small army of volunteers that come together every year to help the Walk run smoothly - we are so appreciative of all of you!

Team Photos are in! Huge thanks to **Heather Quintans Photography** for being one of our official event photographers this year. Photos can easily be shared to social media, or downloaded using PIN: buddy1. Click [HERE](#) to view them.

Thank you to everyone who came and we are especially grateful to the team captains and all those who donated or raised funds. **Noah's Super Team** took the 1st place fundraising honor raising \$6,942 and **Sammy's Squad** came in 2nd raising \$5,218. In total, our teams raised more than \$50,000 for the DSC - the most ever!

If you want to read more about the Puget Sound Buddy Walk, click [HERE](#).

## Support the DSC While Shopping at glassybaby!

In honor of Down Syndrome Awareness Month, the DSC is partnering with [glassybaby](#), the company that makes one-of-a-kind hand-blown glass votives and drinkers that come in over 400 rich colors each with unique names.



glassybaby 

The University Village Store in Seattle has set aside **Saturday, October 21**, when 10% of all sales will go to the DSC. Sales can be made either in person or over the phone.

**When:** Saturday, October 21, 9:30 AM - 9:00 PM

**Where:** University Village, 2627 NE Village Lane, Seattle, WA 98105

**Phone Number To Order:** 206-274-4683

Purchase a new glassybaby and support the DSC at the same time!

Support the DSC  
While Shopping!

Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

Please check the DSC  
online  
[Events Calendar](#)  
regularly!

## Special Olympics Washington Presentation to the Down Syndrome Community

Come hear Special Olympics Washington President & CEO, Dave Lenox, share information on how to get involved with Special Olympics. Dave will share information on sports available, how to sign up as an athlete, how to volunteer, and much more!

**When:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017, 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
**Where:** Northeast Seattle Public Library, 6801 35th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98115

Please RSVP to Alison Winfield at [alison@downsyndromecommunity.org](mailto:alison@downsyndromecommunity.org).



**Special  
Olympics**  
Washington

## DSC Friends Meet-Ups

*DSC Friends Meet-Ups are hosted by the DSC at no cost to you!  
Please join us and have fun!*

### Babies/Toddlers (ages 0-3)

Contact: Jessieca Graff at [jessiecaj@gmail.com](mailto:jessiecaj@gmail.com)

### Remlinger Farm

Come join your friends for some play time at the Remlinger Farm, home of the Fall Harvest Pumpkin Festival! There are rides, a pumpkin patch and lots of fun. Have your kiddos come in costume so we can get a picture of them all dressed up!

**When:** Saturday, October 28th, 10:30 AM - 1 PM

**Where:** [Remlinger Farms](#), S32610 NE 32nd St., Carnation, WA 98014

**RSVP:** [Jessieca Graff](#) or RSVP on our [DSC Friends 0-3](#) Facebook page.

## All Friends Groups (Babies/Toddlers, Kids, Tweens, Teens and Transitions)

### Trunk-or-Treat

Come celebrate Halloween with the DSC at our very own Trunk-or-Treat. We have a gym with a big parking lot for the event. If you would like to host a decorated car for trunk-or-treating, please contact Jessica Evertt at [jessicaevertt@hotmail.com](mailto:jessicaevertt@hotmail.com). We will go from trunk-to-trunk collecting candy in a safe and fun environment. We'll also have snacks and more so there will be lots of fun entertainment for everyone.

**When:** Saturday, October 28, 4 - 6 PM

**Where:** Happy Hour by Marisa, 13615 NE 126th Pl, Kirkland, WA 98034

**RSVP or questions:** [jessicaevertt@hotmail.com](mailto:jessicaevertt@hotmail.com) or look for the event on the DSC Facebook Page.



## 2017 WA State Fathers Network Conference

**Do you have a child with special health care needs in your life? If so, this conference is for you!**

**When:** November 4, 2017 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Where:** Bellevue School District Wilburton Instructional Service Center, Bellevue, WA



**Cost:** \$60 Scholarships available

Register [HERE](#).

For questions contact Louis Mendoza at [louis.mendoza@kinding.org](mailto:louis.mendoza@kinding.org)

Down Syndrome Community of Puget Sound | 206-257-7191  
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