



ALL INCLUDED

2023 Annual Report

A Message From Our President & CEO

ALL INcluded. Always. Everywhere.

It's behind our passion and drive to uplift people with Down syndrome, their families, and our community. Our work is, and always will be, about the people whom we serve.

People with Down syndrome have the right to every opportunity. We commit to listening and advocating for them, so they have the opportunities that everyone deserves...

IN education,

IN the workplace, and

IN the community.

Increased inclusion and opportunity are the reasons that we are bold in our approach to advocacy. And why we are dynamic, action oriented, and ambitious in our approach. As we learn what our community needs, we don't wait for opportunity, we make it happen. We provide data and solutions for real change.

And for 40 years, it has been our privilege to support, celebrate, and advocate for our community. Your voices have been guiding our impact and growth since the beginning.



Kari Jones
President & CEO

ALL IN FOR EDUCATION

2023 was a significant year for education advocacy. We provided effective educational resources and support for people with Down syndrome who are school age and beyond. And we secured additional state funding for our programs to continue and expand, so we can reach even more learners across Ohio. Education is key when it comes to inclusion, and we fiercely advocated for the support our families need and deserve.

ALL IN FOR HEALTH

This year, we brought our advocacy to a new level by adding programs tailored to a healthy life, both physically and mentally. We had a tremendous response to our new health and wellness program developed for adults with Down syndrome, which promotes a healthy lifestyle through physical activity, emotional wellness, and balanced nutrition. We also began a caregiver support program aimed at building deeper connection within our community. Connecting caregivers and providing a supportive community are key in supporting mental health, a focus of ours in 2023.

We celebrate a remarkable year and we are ceaseless in our pursuit for more. It's our honor to serve our community—making the impossible... possible. **And we are ALL IN.**



Advocacy Through ElevateDD

For 40 years, the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) has advocated for families, which has inspired programs like Learning Aid Ohio and Adult Literacy Ohio. And over the years, DSACO has become the parent organization over these two programs, which benefit both the Down syndrome community and the developmental disability community throughout Ohio.

And while we wanted to elevate the voices and needs of families and people with developmental disabilities, we also wanted DSACO to remain focused on the Down syndrome community. That is why, in 2023, we began to develop ElevateDD as the advocacy, education, and innovation platform that supports all three communities—DSACO, Learning Aid Ohio, and Adult Literacy Ohio—as well as the entire developmental disability community in Ohio.

The ElevateDD name represents what drives our advocacy, education, and innovation: elevating the voices of people with developmental disabilities, elevating the needs of families, and elevating advocacy issues to leaders and decision makers.



ALL Together

What makes the Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio (DSACO) both powerful and personal is our amazing community of people with Down syndrome and their families. They drive the important work and the deep connections made throughout Central Ohio.

For 40 years, the voices and involvement of our community have directly guided our advocacy and programming.

We are committed to our mission:
To support families, promote community involvement, and encourage a lifetime of opportunities for people with Down syndrome.



IN 2023:

- We promoted community involvement by expanding our support groups for Somali, Latino, Black & African American, and rural families.
- We supported the physical and mental health of adults with Down syndrome by launching a health and wellness program.
- We encouraged inclusion through our new Community Access Funds program, which reimburses families for funds spent on inclusive activities in the community.

92 families were supported by the Adopt-A-Family Program

50 Hospital Care Packages were sent to families experiencing an extended hospital stay

10 families were supported through our Gifts of Kindness partnership with the Columbus Foundation, **providing \$21,000 in support** to families at risk of being evicted or becoming unhoused

107 families utilized Community Access funds for inclusive activities



Learning Aid Ohio and Adult Literacy Ohio are accessible statewide

ALL Access

While Learning Aid Ohio began as a response to the learning challenges of distance learning in 2020, the immense growth and positive response from families have proven its ongoing, critical role for students with developmental disabilities.

Learning Aid Ohio provides students (learning on IEPs and 504 Plans) grants for in-person, supplemental learning support. We connect families with Learning Providers to help students stay on track toward their academic goals, specific to their individual needs, and based on the curriculum their traditional teachers set. This resource gives learners and families individual time with a tutor or therapists for their specialized needs.

And while this space was found during the pandemic, it became a vital program in the state of Ohio. In 2023, we secured state funding, grants, and donors to continue the program (which had been federally funded for Covid relief) to meet more learners' needs.



Learning Aid Ohio

2,314 school-age children in 79 Ohio counties received **39,900 hours** of individualized tutoring in 2023

ALL Invested

*More responsibility at my job.
Filling out a form.
Reading to my niece.*

Whatever the reason, adults with developmental disabilities are expressing the desire to do more in life that requires the ability to read. Adult Literacy Ohio empowers adults with developmental disabilities through literacy. This program exists because there is urgency and a right for them to know how to develop in their literacy.

Our goal is to provide funding and one-on one-tutoring so that adults with developmental disabilities are pursuing more of what they want in life. Adult Literacy Ohio is driven by its learners and what they want to achieve. This program is centered on the person with a developmental disability and supporting their learning goals.

To continue our understanding of how we best serve our community, we recently partnered with OCALI to conduct a reading general interest survey–beyond high school for adults with developmental disabilities. Its results have already provided more than 600 responses, which is used as both quantifiable data and input to best to serve them in this space.



Adult Literacy Ohio

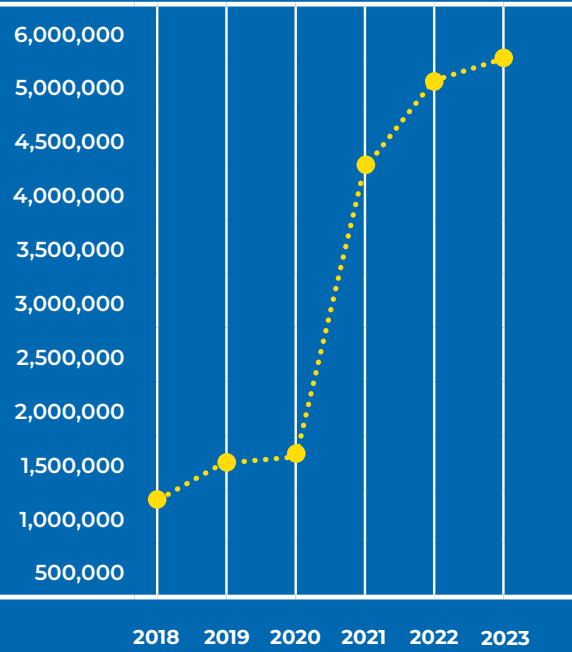
44 adults received **1,004 hours** of literacy-based tutoring in 2023

Financial Health

In 2023, DSACO outperformed budget expectations by more than \$500,000. The DSACO team worked hard to secure new contracts and major gifts as well as manage expenses by leveraging in-kind donations and volunteers. The resulting surplus will be invested in the development of innovative programs and platforms, greatly accelerating the timeline to launch. We're thrilled to expand services and support to families in Ohio.

This year DSACO also spent significant energy in creating a comprehensive advancement strategy that will engage more supporters and partners to activate new opportunities for ElevatedDD, ultimately benefitting thousands of people with developmental disabilities—and their families—throughout Ohio.

YEARLY REVENUE GROWTH



ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$820,333
Certificates of Deposit	\$502,457
Investments, at Fair Value	\$744,544
Accounts Receivable	\$532,524
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	\$234,411
Property and Equipment, Net	\$2,748
Beneficial Interest In Assets Held by the Columbus Foundation	\$133,098
Right of Use Asset–Operating Lease	\$144,716
Total Assets	\$3,114,831

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	\$425,667
Net Assets	\$2,689,164
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$3,114,831

REVENUE

Contributions	\$437,243
Grants	\$197,862
Fundraising Activities	\$843,077
Programming Income	\$3,710,221
Investment Income	\$91,890
Other Income	\$18,258
Total Public Support & Revenues	\$5,298,551

EXPENSES

Programs	\$4,455,778
Administration	\$70,018
Fundraising	\$265,561
Total Expenses	\$4,791,357

Thank you, Donors, for being ALL IN in 2023!



\$75,000

David & Susan Dudas

\$50,000+

Deann & Bill Cromling
The GLOW Foundation

\$30,000+

Advanced Drainage Systems
Fred Brumbaugh
2FGR
IGS Energy

\$20,000+

The Columbus Foundation
Henry E Coyle Fund

\$10,000+

AEP Ohio
BMW Financial Services
Kim & Jim Baich
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Caesar's Foundation
The Country Club at Muirfield Village
Harry C Moores Foundation
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Mary & Eric Stucke

\$5,000+

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\$3,000+

all R friends
Rick Bryan
Cardinal Health Foundation
Dollar General Literacy Fund
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Stanley Steemer
Summit Financial Strategies
TS Tech
Worthington Industries

\$1,000+

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Ryan Arbogast and Angela Cook Fund
Atlas Butler
Auto Emporium
Bellefontaine Eagles
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Karen Boyd
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CARE Fund at USLI
John & Amie Chiarucci
Circleville Eagles
Robert Corwin
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Amanda Reichel
Lindsay & Michael Rerko
Randall Rhodes
Cheryl & Dean Rinicella
Derek Rinicella
Daniel Sa
Joan & Robert Skully
Melissa & Brandon Smith
J.C. & Helen Speiser
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University of Findlay
Kimberly & Nathan Vega
John Ward
Lauren Weber

In Memory of:

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Erin Falasco
Sheryll Green
Wanda Kozicki
Beth Phillips
Patricia Billingsley
Morgan Wallace*
Patty Priest
Tom Downerd
Frederick Malone
Christina Schroeder
Patricia Farrell

* Denotes person with Down syndrome

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