

2020/21 Annual Report



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Our Vision, Mission and Values



Vision

To support all people with Down syndrome in NSW to achieve their full potential in all life stages.

Mission

Down Syndrome NSW provides social and educational opportunities for people with Down syndrome; provides information and support to families, carers and supporters; and helps advocate for changes to break down barriers and systems that stand in the way.

Our Values

Member Centred

We are champions and advocates for the rights of people with Down syndrome to be valued and engaged in the community.

Inclusive

Our services extend from people with Down syndrome to families, carers and associates. Our whole-of-life approach enables a broader impact on the wider community.

Integrity

We are respectful and transparent in our actions. We work together to achieve our mission and share knowledge and strengths for best outcomes.

Respect

We respect and value personal and professional diversity. We treat the community, colleagues and stakeholders with respect and courtesy, having regard for their dignity.

What We Do

We work to provide the best opportunity for people with Down syndrome and their families to achieve their full potential.

We do this by providing high quality, evidence based information via phone, email, through social media, face-to-face, in the home or place of work.

Our work includes:

- Prenatal support
- New parent support
- Ongoing support and information for families through all life stages
- Peer to peer connection through social and community groups like UP!Club for adults and Up Up & Away for children and young teens
- Workshops and community events
- Professional development, education and training for health, education and employment professionals
- Promoting public awareness and advocacy at local, state and federal levels
- Helping with self-advocacy opportunities for people with Down syndrome

President and CEO Report





Caption: President Hayley Warren and current Chief Executive Officer Sherie Avalos

Dear Members,

It is with great pleasure that we present the 2020/21 Annual Report for Down Syndrome NSW.

There is no doubt it has been a challenging year. One that has tested everyone in our community. Tough times don't last but organisations that adapt go on. Down Syndrome NSW has confronted many challenges this year, but thanks to the strength of its members, board members, staff and volunteers we succeeded.

Throughout the year, we have been swift to pivot to the changing needs of our members as we dealt with various restrictions and lockdowns across New South Wales.

While the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has brought many challenges, it has also taught us some very important lessons, such as the importance of family and community and the need to connect and keep in touch. Our purpose has never been more relevant than over the past year as Down Syndrome NSW supported its members and communities. This purpose has provided Down Syndrome NSW with a strong sense of direction throughout the past year.

Throughout the year, we have been swift to pivot to the changing needs of our members as we dealt with various restrictions and lockdowns across New South Wales. Whilst we were able to

recommence face to face outings towards the end of the year, this came to an end again when large portions of New South Wales went into lockdown in June 2021. We moved back online with UpClub sessions, family and career training, individual skill building sessions, Early Up Information Sessions, and behaviour support and training.

People with Down syndrome continued to be supported to reach their goals and have continued to inspire us with their achievements as we continued to champion the rights of people with Down syndrome to be valued and to take their rightful place in the community.

In August and September 2020 we held our second and very successful Health Conference on the topic of "Staying Healthy – Understanding the challenges of obesity". The conference was delivered online over three sessions with over 80 participants attending each session The conference brought together a number experts in the field of metabolic diseases and obesity. We were thrilled with the high quality of the content provided by the speakers, including our member presenters. The information shared provided both very sound practical guidance and inspiration for what can be achieved.

We would like to express our appreciation to members who replied to the organisational survey conducted over May. We received 104 survey responses from families throughout New South Wales and look forward to incorporating the information into the operational actions to support the implementation of Down Syndrome NSW's Strategic Plan.

We also held a number of President and CEO chats online with our members. Further members who couldn't make the sessions called to discuss their input. We will continue to hold these throughout 2021-22 to gain further insights into how we can improve the services and supports offered to our members and the Down syndrome community more broadly.

We were delighted to launch our new Strategic Plan at Parliament House on 18 March 2021 as part of the recognition of World Down Syndrome Day. Members of our Board, staff and members visited NSW Parliament House to promote the interests and achievements of people with Down syndrome as part of the celebrations of World Down Syndrome Day. We were delighted to have the opportunity to speak with NSW Government MPs and representatives to help advance the interest of people with Down syndrome and their families.

We are pleased to announce that Sydney Swans appointed Down Syndrome NSW as its official Disability Enhancement Partner as part of its new Diversity Action Plan. We will work with members and the Sydney Swans over the next few months to develop ideas to jointly promote opportunities for people with Down Syndrome.

Despite the tough times, progressing the Association and ensuring financial security remained key main objectives for 2021 and it is with pleasure that we advise that both have been achieved. Despite the challenges brought by COVID-19, we continued to deliver professional services to our members, whilst also delivering a small surplus. These fantastic results could not have been achieved without the resilience and leadership shown by our staff, board and volunteers.

This year we farewelled CEO Jennifer Evens and welcomed our new CEO, Sherie Avalos. We would like to thank Jennifer for her contribution to the Association, particularly for her leadership during the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdown periods. We also farewelled Jennifer Weatherstone (Operations Manager) and Ryan Blunden (Events and Fundraising Manager) Kathryn Hammond (Community Events Coordinator) and Kylie Broker (Communications and Fundraising). We welcomed Nikki Hayhurst Director Engagement who oversees our UP!Club and Up, Up and Away programs, Christine Pegram (Administration Officer)

Once again, our people have gone above and beyond to support our members and communities when they have needed it the most, and we thank all our staff, board members and volunteers for the care and commitment you've shown throughout the year.

Together we have managed to overcome the adversities that the year has delivered and as we enter our 41st year we look forward to being with you in the years to come.

Strategic Plan 2021-2023



We are pleased to have launched our Strategic Plan 2021-2023, following consultation with our members and dedicated strategic planning sessions with our Board and staff. The result is our three year strategy, which underpins all that we do.

Our Strategic Plan 2021-23 outlines our high level priority areas, with a clear focus on placing our members firmly at the centre of all we do. We are committed to engaging with our members, authentically working in rural and regional NSW, improving our digital platforms and establishing a NSW Advisory Council.

Our strategic plan Is just the beginning of our exciting new era - building on our strong past and being Innovative Into our future

In addition to our internal work to optimise our processes, systems and culture, we are dedicated to enhancing our external presence and impact across government, corporates and the community. Financial sustainability is a key focus of our strategy also, with work underway to look at how we secure government funding as well as innovative ideas for our future including social enterprise options, investments and fee for service to diversify our income profile.

The launch of our Strategic Plan 2021-23 marks the beginning of our journey. We have shared our plan with our members, community, networks, funders and supporters, giving them confidence in

our future built upon our strong 40 year foundation. What follows now is ongoing consultation with our members to make our vision a reality. In the next financial year, we will be undertaking visits across NSW to discuss our strategy with members and get their input into what will make a difference to their lives. We will be reporting back on progress throughout the term of the plan.



STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2023

STRATEGIC PILLARS

contemporary, representative nembers firmly at the centre and engaged, with its

systemic, individual

DS NSW

develop and implement a

- an Advisory Council comprising of people with Down syndrome framework that includes:
- engaging and meeting the needs optimisation of digital

9

- of rural and remote members diversity of representation
- meaningful internal consultation
 - membership skills, capabilities capture and understand our mechanisms in place social media policy

STRATEGIC

encourage an active and engaged membership and volunteer base and opportunities over time

succession, screening education, NDIS etc) collaborate with the

> education and support that are responsive to need, innovative deliver exceptional services, to build internal capital and evidence based

capture organisational, individual establish an evidence based Centre of Excellence partnerships and resources with a focus on enhancing develop self advocacy

- disseminate information, research opportunity pathways through the Advisory Council and other eadership capability and capacity building and
- best practice to government, allied disseminate information, research health and health care providers, community, partners and others · develop individual advocacy partnerships and resources
 - entities to promote research and proactively engage in research groups, universities and other data on Down syndrome agenda on key topics (housing, representation, partnerships develop systemic advocacy partnerships, submissions, structure an annual policy
- position DS NSW as a thought leader develop an annual strategic

implement robust, transparent

and ethical people practices

attract the best in the field

matched with organisational

invest in outcomes focused professional development,

translate our values into

practice

agenda (focus on pre-natal, early intervention, ageing etc) research and best practice

federation of Down Syndrome

Associations to inform and

contribute to the national

policy and advocacy agenda

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DS NSW is an employer

information, research and DS NSW is a leader in DS

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best practice expertise

connected, leveraging partnerships to further our mission

increase revenue, with a viable, sustainable and growing

review current partnerships proactive partnerships and stakeholder engagement

workforce with the right skills

mobilise a high performing

externally to promote our marketing of DS NSW

processes to support internal

best practice to members

development of a staff

knowledge bank

implement systems and information sharing and

purpose, mission and culture

aligned with organisational

and lived experience of DS, families and carers in NSW

capabilities and capacity

- attracting relevant expertise mission and purpose of the that's in line with the organisation
- evel in collaboration with DSA partnerships at the national actively contribute to

- focus on short to medium term sustainability and organisational security
- decrease costs and enhance maintaining and enhancing efficiencies, balanced with quality and impact
- robust financial management a culture of continuous
 - improvement
- strategy (grants, submissions, proactive and responsive partnerships, corporate, business development fundraising etc)

DSA NSW is part of the federation of Down Syndrome Associations in Australia and seeks to work collaboratively across the federation in the best interest of its members and others with Down syndrome in Australia and globally.

Our Vision - All people with Down syndrome in NSW live meaningful lives as valued and contributing members of their communities.

Our Mission - Down Syndrome NSW:

- (i) advocates for change to achieve social transformation by building systems that promote self-determination;
- creates opportunities for people with Down syndrome that promote connection, capacity and autonomy; and
- provides information and support to families, carers and supporters, informed by best evidence and lived experience.

Organisational Development



Caption: Down Syndrome staff, members at NSW Parliament House at the World Down Syndrome Day celebrations.

Strengthening the voice of our members with Down syndrome

Through the successful application by Down Syndrome Australia for funding for the Federation, through the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) NDIA grant we recruited peer facilitators with Down syndrome to conduct the workshop modules in the Pathways to Independence project. The successful candidates are Ruth Cromer, Kylie Scott and Ellen Hester.

A very successful training day was had as part of the Pathways to Independence project. This project will support people with Down syndrome to be more independent in their life by staying healthy, participating in their community, building relationships, and learning about self-advocacy. Our team of peer-facilitators with Down syndrome came together to complete the Becoming a Leader training.

A very successful training day was had as part of the Pathways to Independence project.

Planning for the Future

We were delighted to launch our new Strategic Plan at Parliament House on the 18th March 2021 as part of the recognition of World Down Syndrome Day and a group of members visited NSW Parliament House to promote the interests and achievements of people with Down syndrome as part of the celebrations of World Down Syndrome Day. We were delighted to have the opportunity to speak with Government MPs and representatives to help advance the interest of people with Down syndrome and their families. Thank you to those members who represented us on the day.

We appreciated the feedback from those members who replied to our survey on key messages

to share with the Government representatives on the day. Key themes discussed included:

- an authentic voice for people with Down syndrome;
- the needs of younger people with Down syndrome in nursing homes;
- the need to improve support for parents at the time of antenatal testing; and
- inclusive education.

In April 2021 we surveyed our members and received 104 responses from members, including families. The strategic planning working group of the Board is working through this very valuable information. Some initial common themes that have been identified are:

- increased reach to rural an regional areas;
- provision of more information and support across the life span and key transitions with a key focus on ageing, and accommodation and prenatal stages;
- develop peer support networks opportunities for parents and siblings;
- more recreational activities across the life span, including for youth and teens;
- Increase our presence with governmentand in the broader the community to raise awareness, promote inclusion and attract sustainable support
- provide training and education of schools, employers, not for profits and health professionals
- develop greater resources and support for carers

The working group will incorporate the information into the operational actions to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan in 2021-22.

Supporting Our Members Across The Life Span

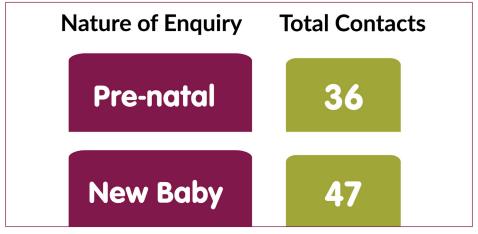


Prenatal and Early Years

Over the year, 83 occasions of service and supports were provided to families in the critical prenatal and early years phase.

Early Years

To support parents and families in the early years, we facilitated sessions on transition to school and NDIS information and held ready for school sessions. These sessions were jointly facilitated with presenters from the Department of Education (Itinerant Support teacher and NDIS team), NDIS representatives (ECEI and LAC) and family members of Down Syndrome NSW which added both expertise and lived experience.



Caption: The nature and number of enquiries received over 2020/21 support.

The sessions were well received with 86% very likely to recommend the session to others and 14% likely to recommend. We gathered this feedback through polls at the end of each workshop.

One of the parents who attended shared with us:

"I found the online session very helpful and insightful having attendees online who were able to answer questions, address concerns and set expectations. People who do want to help rather than provide vague responses.

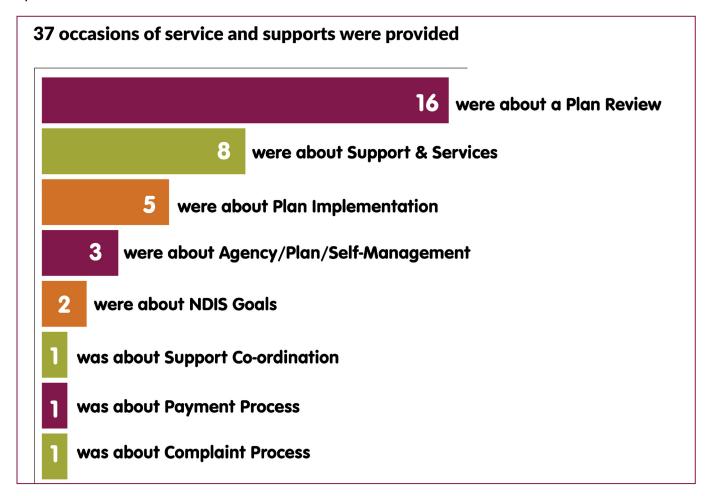
The process of getting children into school is daunting and even more so for our children. Even though we can't plan for everything, it could be helpful to partake in such a session 2 years before starting school to know what your family may need to consider, such as whether your child will attend the local public school, one out of the catchment area etc and to be aware of the services that are being offered.

There are so many available resources out there but it isn't quite consolidated, and it is ever changing, to be able to speak to people who can give you clear, direct answers is just so refreshing!"

Another parent told us:

very helpful and informative in guiding their decision making and knowing what supports are available... she felt empowered to write to the school to(request better support her child) because of the information and support she had received from Down Syndrome NSW"

37 occasions of service and supports were provided to parents of young people with Down syndrome.



Caption: The nature and number of enquiries received over 2020/21 support.

School Years and Teens

Up Up & Away is a program for children and teens with Down syndrome who are aged between 4 and 17 and their siblings. This program allows for not only the child with Down syndrome, but their brothers and sisters and family to interact and build connections and support.

We have two sessions of the project, one for kids 4 -11 and one for those 12-17 and we also run joint events.

Up Up & Away events are held in various locations around Sydney and regional areas. We are looking to expand the program to regional areas, so please contact us if you would like to assist in setting up a program in your area.

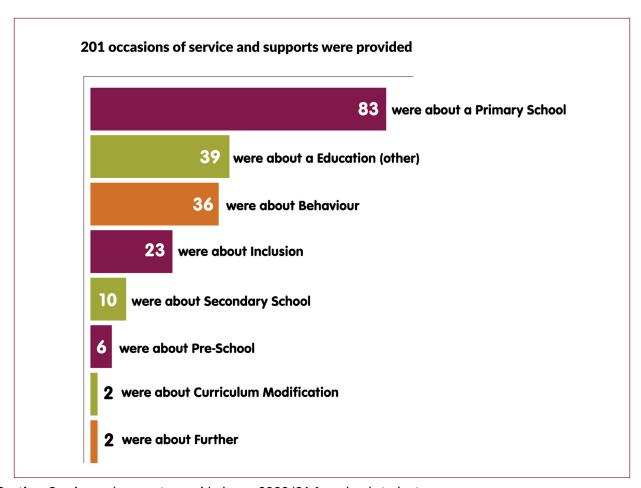
Up Up & Away Kids

This year we held our first sessions for Up Up & Away 'kids' (children aged 4-11) where families also joined in and enjoyed the music and dance. The session time of 1 hour proved to be a little long for the children. This will be taken into account for any future events planned.

Up Up & Away Teens

We also held sessions for teens and their families, including Zumba session.

Taking on the feedback received from parents regarding the social side of the sessions, we added time at the beginning and the end of the session for the teens to have a chat and tell us what they had been doing. The facilitator kept them moving and was great fun.



Caption: Service and supports provided over 2020/21 for school students

Adults and Community

UP!Club

UP!Club is a one of Down Syndrome NSW's flagship programs to provide social connections and capacity building peer support for adults with Down syndrome.

As a result of the NSW Health response to COVID-19 preventing face to face outings, Down Syndrome NSW added a range of online social activities under the "Staying Connected" program. Staying Connected sessions are held via video conferencing (Zoom) and have been an excellent way to reach our Down syndrome community in regional and rural NSW.

The Zoom format has proven to be a useful way to both disseminate key information in a timely manner, i.e. latest updates and government guidance ('what you can and can't do'), reinforce of the COVID-19 safety measures and offer a safe space for discussion on the emotions felt in regards impacts on the freedom and usual routines for our members. The online connectivity also allows outreach to those in regional NSW.

At its peak in 2020 when COVID-19 restrictions meant no face to face outings, the "Staying Connected" program ran 14 activities each week, 7 days a week with over 50 adults with Down syndrome participating in those sessions, delivered via a team of staff members all working from home. At its peak, our online Staying Connected program ran 14 activities each week, 7 days a week with over 50 particpants in these sessions

UPICUb at a glance for 2020/21

Average Events Per Month

Highlight: 30 events in Sep 2020

Average Attendees Per Month

Highlight: 306 in Oct 2020

Average Attendees per Session per Month

Highlight: 14 in Jul 2020

There was a mix of topics themed around our core pillars of Speak up, Healthy Me, Participate, Give Back, Create and Independent Living. Sessions included fitness and cooking classes as well as entertaining quizzes and more focused discussions on topics of importance in "Talk Club".

By the first half of 2021, the UP!Club program remained largely online with sessions on 2 weekdays and weekends alternating between online and face to face events when NSW Health restrictions allowed.



Caption: One of the in-person events for the UP!Club - a get-together at the Oatley Hotel.

Achievements

- A greater range of activities than ever before, from yoga and fitness sessions, mental health resilience and entertaining music and dancing.
- Technological skills have been a real area of growth for many members who have become adept at their regular practice of logging into to their Zoom sessions and habituating to the session ground rules of turn taking and fostering support and team work within the group.
- Leadership opportunities within the Zoom sessions in the "Member Co-host" role commenced in January 2021. This has continued to be popular with most of the regular UP!Clubbers having taken the opportunity of taking the lead role in presenting information to the rest of the group.
- Further leadership opportunities have been capitalised upon with our UP!Club president already collaborating with Inclusion Australia for a Peer led webinar on the COVID 19 vaccine who then was able to reprise this session for the UP!Clubbers in a special "Talk Club" on the vaccine which led to more skill development sessions focused on mental agility and resilience in the face of the new and changing public health orders and other government restrictions to protect the community transmission of the virus.



Caption: Down Syndrome NSW Ambassador Hame Sale with his sister and other players of the Rabbitohs

Highlights

- Special guest spot sessions AFLUA umpire session July and Home and Away actors Luke and Paddy as special guests at Christmas in July dance party event
- The Winterfest camp was held on the weekend of the June 18 at the Milson Island Sport and Recreation Camp site with 32 campers with 17 men and 15 women, 16 volunteers and 2 paid staff. We managed to have some outdoor activities despite the winds and rain. The group dynamic was very positive throughout the camp.

Future Directions - 35UP! Program

Many senior UP!Clubbers chose not to attend camp, saying that they wanted to do something different. A survey and planning session for UP!Clubbers aged 35 and older in March 2021 and a subsequent survey conducted in May 2021 yielded new direction about the frequency, format and type of activities for the direction of the 35UP! Club program.

There was a resounding call for events at a slower pace, such as Tai Chi, yoga and mindfulness and of longer duration such as overnight stays, high tea and spa weekend as well as the opportunity to give back, such as community kitchens.

Also, some members requested to talk at a deeper level with a professional in the field regarding some of their concerns surrounding changing physical and mental health needs.

There are many more people with Down syndrome that the UP!Club can reach in regional areas. We are looking at expansion into the Illawarra region, starting with Wollongong and beyond in 2022.

Advocacy, Policy and Research



Caption: Member and UP!Club President Tara Ellife speaking at the NSW Parliament House for World Down Syndrome Day

Advocacy and Research

We have worked closely with both the Australian and NSW Governments, the NDIA and other agencies to contribute to a number of policy submissions, consultations and workshops. In these, we have advocated for the rights of people with Down syndrome to be upheld, their support needs met and for Down syndrome to be better understood and supported. This is an area we will be growing as a priority in the next year.

Awareness and Inclusion

On 18 March 2021, we launched our Strategic Plan at NSW Parliament House, as part of our World Down Syndrome Day celebrations. This is an event that will now continue every year and attracted much interest from Members of Parliament on both sides. This event was attended by our members, families, staff and board which provided politicians and their staff a multifaceted overview and connection with Down syndrome. Following the event, a range of meetings were held with the NSW Government on a number of strategic projects and continue today.

Fundraising, Partnerships and Ambassadors

Fundraising Campaigns

Throughout the year, we activated a number of successful fundraising campaigns designed to supplement our income derived from government funding, grants, foundations and bequests. Our Tax Appeal, Christmas Appeal, Lots of Socks and #21YourWay campaigns were a success throughout the year. We are so grateful for the ongoing support of our members, their networks and the wider community who see and value our important work.

Swans AFL club diversity partner: Disability Enhancement

We were successful in our proposal to partner with the Sydney Swans AFL team for the next three years. This partnership will officially launch next financial year. We are thrilled to lead the way in the AFL with this progressive team.

We also attended a Swan's game as guest of two member families, the Herberts and the Hardens. This event was attended by actos Luke Jacobz and Patrick O'Connor who agreed at the event to support our work going forward.





Caption: Actors Luke Jacobz and Patrick O'Connor with a member at a Swans game.

Hame Sele - South Sydney player

Hame has a sister with Down syndrome and is of Tongan heritage and has offered to be an Ambassador. We will be meeting over the next month to shape how this will work. We are also in the early stages of a warm introduction to another NRL team.

Annual Appeals: Christmas Appeal and Tax Appeal

Our longstanding fundraising campaigns continue to provide much needed support for our vital work. Thank you to our valued donor for your ongoing support.

Gilbert and Tobin Pro Bono Support

We have been privileged to receive the pro bono support of Gilbert and Tobin across legal affairs for the association. We greatly value such expertise provided in kind.

Sherry Hogan Foundation

We have been fortunate to receive a significant donation from the Sherry Hogan Foundation dedicated to our UP! Club, with a focus on the provision of services and supports for adults with Down syndrome over 35 years of age which we will activate next financial year, meeting the needs of many of our members. The Sherry Hogan Foundation has been a longstanding supporter of Down Syndrome NSW and we appreciate their continued support.

Education, Training and Capacity Building

Behaviour Support and Training

Behaviour support and training transitioned successfully to online delivery. In response to enquiries for support for behaviour management concerns Down Syndrome NSW negotiated with schools to provide training via Zoom for relevant staff. 201 occasions of service and supports were provided.

Health Conference

Due to the challenges of COVID-19 this year Down Syndrome NSW hosted its Health Conference online over three sessions in August and September 2020, with the topic "Staying Healthy - Understanding the challenges of obesity".

The conference brought together a number experts in the field of metabolic diseases and obesity, including Key note speaker Professor Katherine Samaras – Endocrinologist, St Vincent's Hospital and Gavan Medical Research.

The aim of the sessions was to:

- increase knowledge and awareness among family members and professionals of the health issues faced by people with Down syndrome related to obesity and metabolic diseases;
- assist family members and professionals to be more aware and alert for the signs and symptoms of health issues associated with obesity and metabolic diseases;
- assist family members and professionals with practical strategies to manage health conditions associated with obesity;



- increase the confidence of family members to raise issues and concerns with their health care team; and
- assist family members and professionals to advocate and influence change in the health system.

Session	Session Title	Speakers
Session 1	Key note speaker	Professor Katherine Samaras – Endocrinologist, St Vincent's Hospital and Gavan Medical Research
	Member showcase	Ms Ruth Cromer
Session 2	Accredited Exercise Physiologist	Ms Carmel Dimarco - Sydney Uni Sport & Fitness (SUSF)
	Member showcase	Mr Sam Stubbs
	Podiatrist	Mr Stewart Hayes -Orthotic Solutions Podiatry Clinics
	Member showcase	Ms Tara Elliffe
Session 3	Sleep Apnoea	A/Professor Brendon Yee - Staff Specialist in Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
	Member showcase	Ms Tahlee Grant
	Dieticians	Dr Katherine Bathgate - accredited practicing dietician Ms Sue Gebert –dietician
	Member showcase	Master Ben Haddock

After each session, a member with Down syndrome gave examples of the topic in their day to day lives, this was followed with a Q&A session with the presenters. We received very positive feedback, including that it was online, easy to access and possible for people from various locations to attend.

Estate Planning & Wills

Thirty eight separate households (around 45 people) took part in our first online Estate Planning and Will session. There is a waiting list of 18 people for another session which we will try to offer later in the year. Feedback was undertaken via survey monkey and was very positive. Fourteen participants were from regional areas (35%).

Life Member - Paula Rix



Paula has been a member of Down Syndrome NSW since the birth of her son Tom in 1981, and served as a Board member in a range of executive positions including President through the 1980's and 1990's.

A more recent contribution to the work of Down Syndrome NSW was on the steering committee for the successful pilot of the Up, Up and Away project, the forerunner of the ILSI program. Of late Paula has had a special concern to connect elder members' issues to the strategic and operational focus of Down Syndrome NSW and joined the Board in October 2019. She retired from the Board in October 2020.

Paula has held appointed positions for the NSW Disability Council and NSW delegate to the Commonwealth Disability Advisory Council. Her working life spans academic teaching and research as a sociologist at Macquarie University and UTS and subsequently in NSW Government (FACS) where she wrote "living with a Disability and Dying for a Break -A study for respite care in NSW".

She spent 9 years as a manager of the Intellectual Disability Rights Service which demanded a critical focus on advocacy, community education as well as research and action on law reform for people with an intellectual disability and their families, Paula has served on Boards of Redfern Legal Centre, Intellectual Disability Rights Service, The Ella Community Centre, Churches Community Housing, Shelter NSW and Tenants Union NSW.

Our Board

Board Members

Hayley Warren, President

Margot Elliffe, Vice President

Chris Elenor, Secretary

Nick Gotsis, Treasurer

Andrew Hinde

Gemma Namey

Rene Pennock

Sonja Volker

Dr Trishima Mitra-Kahn

Lynn Legg

Lorraine Clark AM

Chris Hebert

Deb Jeffris

Emily Caska

Board Members that resigned during the year

Janey Conception (resigned July 2020)

Paula Rix (resigned August 2020)

Evelyn Scott (retired October 2020)

Chief Executive Officer

Jennifer Evans, CEO

(May 2020 - July 2021)

Staff and Volunteers

Current Staff

Alyssa Green

Amanda Simpson

Christine Pegram

Ellen Hester

Emily Caska

Finoa Place

Kylie Scott

Melissa Cotterill

Miriam Philomena

Nikki Hayhurst

Ruth Cromer

Sherie Avalos

Sophia Cuthbertson

Staff who left during the year

Emma Screaton

Jennifer Evens

Bernadette van Wijnen

Cherie Conway

Claire Pelham

Jessica Veira

Kylie Broker

Kathryn Hammond

Maria Turner

Ryan Blunden

Jennifer Weatherstone

Volunteers

John Molony Laura Sanderson Jen Young Nick Lee **Tierney Seeto** Andrea Olmedo Chris O'Loughlin Crystal Broadfoot Karen Rae Jennifer Weatherstone Ryan Blunden Leanne Matthews

Amanda Simpson

Reflections of a Volunteer

John Molony has been a regular volunteer for Down Syndrome NSW for over 12 years, attending both our weekday and weekend Zooms as well as many of our face to face events and activities.

John reflects on his experience,

"I'm proud to be associated with Down Syndrome NSW. It doesn't feel like volunteering by now as the guys are my friends. I get as much energy and inspiration from them as hopefully they do from us as volunteers.

They are a great bunch and through hanging out with everyone at DSNSW, I've learnt a lot about other people and myself; how to share emotions, how to be vulnerable and how to laugh together and relish life.

It's been a brilliant addition to my life and I hope my children will want to join me in time as being part of DSNSW has been wonderful and I'm very grateful to be part of it."



Caption: Down Syndrome NSW volunteer John with member Nick

Financial Overview

The 2020/21 financial report shows revenue and other income of \$1,105,849, a decrease of \$143,980 when compared to FY 2020. Once expenses are deducted, this results in a surplus \$278,894 compared to a surplus of \$227,734 in FY2020.

A copy of Down Syndrome NSW's complete Financial Statements is available on our website or on request.

	Revenue	How much money we got	\$1,105,849
\$ \$ \$	Expenses	How much money we spent	\$826,955
\$	Surplus	How much money we were had left	\$278,894
	Total Assets	How much money we have now	\$1,308,726
	Liabilities	How much money we owe	\$200,886
<u> </u>	Equity (net assets)	How much money would be left if we sell everything we own and pay all the money we owe	\$1,103,860

Support Our Work



Volunteer

We warmly welcome volunteers of all ages to get involved in our fun programs, as well as lend your expertise in marketing, media, events and more!

Become a Member

Membership to Down Syndrome NSW is free! Join our community. Did you know that people with Down syndrome can become members form birth and at any age? We also welcome family members, individuals and organisations to become our members.

Follow Us on Social Media

Stay updated and join in online when we have special events, share member stories, latest news and more.. We are on Facebook and Instagram.

Workplace Giving

Is your workplace interested in setting up workplace giving? We partner with Good 2 Give. People can give a little or a lot, as many times as they like throughout the year, while they work.

If you'd like to set this up at your work, contact us.



© 2021 Down Syndrome Association of New South Wales Inc.

Reg Charity No. CFN11321 ABN 39 023 586 389

Postal address: PO Box 3173 North Parramatta NSW 1750

Phone: (02) 9841 4444 Toll free: 1800 811 629 Email: admin@dsansw.org.au

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