

## About MADSS

### Mission:

Providing support to families and individuals with Down syndrome while advancing awareness, respect, and opportunity.

### Vision:

To be a leader in support, education, and advocacy for Wisconsin communities.

### Values:

The Madison Area Down Syndrome Society values:

Respect for the inherent value of every individual.

The Joy of community.

Opportunity for all to achieve their dreams.

The Ability of everyone to make a positive impact.

The Integrity of our relationships

### Who We Are

Our members and Board of Directors are people from Madison and the surrounding areas. Most of us, including 2/3 of the Board, are parents, siblings and relatives of people with Down syndrome. We are an affiliate of the National Down Syndrome Society and the National Down Syndrome Congress. MADSS employs one part-time Director and is governed by our Board of Directors.

### We Offer:

- Parent-To-Parent Support - MADSS connects parents of children with Down syndrome with others who have faced many of the same challenges.

- Special Events - Annual Picnic, Annual Buddy Walk and other opportunities to get together with the local Down syndrome community.

- New Parent Information and support - MADSS has developed a packet of helpful information specifically for families receiving a new diagnosis of Down syndrome.

- Information About Community Resources - Helpful phone numbers, contacts and other information about local

resources for parents, families and people affected by Down syndrome.

- Community Outreach & Education - MADSS provides family centered information and assistance to community members, students, and providers wishing to learn more about Down syndrome and the experience of raising a child/living with exceptional needs.

- Newsletters - MADSS produces a quarterly newsletter with news about upcoming events, area resources, and other helpful information.

- Parent Empowerment Meetings - MADSS holds periodic meetings for open discussion and/or speakers on topics important to our membership.

Becoming a MADSS member: It's easy (& Free)! All you need to do is provide us with some information about yourself so we can reach you with news and information.