

What F.R.I.E.N.D.S Stands for . . .



Family Resource, Information & Education Network for Down Syndrome and was formed by a group of parents in June, 1999 in Frederick County, Maryland.

In July 2007, F.R.I.E.N.D.S. became a federally identified 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization and listed in the Guide Star and the federal CFC publications.



F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

Affiliated Organization

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS)



F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

Family Resource, Information & Education Network
for Down Syndrome • Frederick County, Maryland

F.R.I.E.N.D.S. 11th Annual Buddy Walk Sponsorship Program



Our Mission...

The mission of F.R.I.E.N.D.S. is to promote and enhance the quality of life for persons living with Down syndrome and their families. We open our arms and our hearts to these individuals by providing a wide range of support services; increasing community awareness and acceptance; and acting as a resource of information and education.

How We Help the Community...

F.R.I.E.N.D.S. is committed to raising awareness and giving back to our local community in many ways! We co-host, "Techniques for Success", a free conference for educators each year. We also award annual scholarships to students pursuing a degree in a field that will benefit individuals with Down syndrome or a student with Down syndrome who is continuing their education. We provide family grants to offset the cost of therapeutic, academic, and medical expenses.

When & Where

The **F.R.I.E.N.D.S. 11th Annual Buddy Walk** will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2012 at Baker Park in Frederick, MD. Approximately 1,000 walkers of all ages are expected to join us for a fun filled day of activities, entertainment, food, and community resources!



Small Steps...
Giant Strides



Platinum Partner.....\$4,000

Top center placement of company logo on walkers t-shirt, prominent logo on F.R.I.E.N.D.S. website, logo on sponsor banner, name listed on ALL event signage, company brochure or informational materials will be included in each walkers' participation bag, and a 12 foot banner displaying company name and logo will be posted in the main event area.

Diamond Sponsor.....\$2,500

Premium placement of company logo on walkers t-shirt, prominent logo on F.R.I.E.N.D.S. website, logo on sponsor banner, name listed on ALL event signage, company brochure or informational materials will be included in each walkers' participation bag, and a 4 foot banner displaying company name and logo will be posted in the main event area.

Gold Sponsor.....\$1,500

Company logo on walkers t-shirt, prominent logo on F.R.I.E.N.D.S. website, logo on sponsor banner, name listed on ALL event signage, and company brochure or informational materials will be included in each walkers' participation bag.

Silver Sponsor.....\$1,000

Company logo on walkers t-shirt, prominent logo on F.R.I.E.N.D.S. website, logo on sponsor banner, and name listed on ALL event signage.

Bronze Sponsor.....\$500

Company logo on walkers t-shirt and name listed on F.R.I.E.N.D.S. website.

Friends of F.R.I.E.N.D.S.\$250

Company logo on walkers t-shirt.

*** All corporate sponsors of the 11th Annual F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Buddy Walk are invited to set up an information booth in our vendor/community resource area ***

Background:

As stated on the official Buddy Walk website: "The Buddy Walk® was established in 1995 by the National Down Syndrome Society to celebrate Down Syndrome Awareness Month in October and to promote acceptance and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. Today, the Buddy Walk program is supported nationally by NDSS and organized at the local level by parent support groups, schools and other organizations and individuals".

"The Buddy Walk is now in its eighteenth year. What started in 1995 as 17 walks has grown to more than 250 walk across the country and around the world. Last year alone, 285,000 people participated in a Buddy Walk and collectively they raised over \$11 million to benefit local programs and services, and NDSS national advocacy initiatives".

What is the Buddy Walk?

The Buddy Walk is a one-mile walk in which anyone can participate without special training. It is an inspirational and educational event that celebrates the many abilities and accomplishments of people with Down syndrome. Whether you have Down syndrome, know someone who does, or just want to show your support, come and join our Buddy Walk!



The 11th Annual Buddy Walk will be a full day event in Baker Park featuring music, entertainment, games, a petting zoo, face painting, a large variety of food, local community resources, and vendors who support F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

How are Funds Raised?

The Buddy Walk is F.R.I.E.N.D.S. largest annual fundraising event. Our funds are raised through corporate partner sponsorships, donations collected by participating teams and walkers, and by participant registration fees.

Your Part in Helping Us to Succeed:

Please cut out form below on the dashed line and mail back to us with your generous donation.



F.R.I.E.N.D.S. 11th Annual Buddy Walk Sponsorship Form

Sponsor/Business Name _____

Contact Name _____

Business Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Select Sponsorship Level

- Platinum Partner: \$4,000
- Diamond Sponsor: \$2,500
- Gold Sponsor: \$1,500

- Silver Sponsor: \$1,000
- Bronze Sponsor: \$500
- Friends of F.R.I.E.N.D.S.: \$250

Make checks payable to: **F.R.I.E.N.D.S.**

Please return form by: August 15, 2012

Used Enclosed Stamped Envelope and Mail Form to:



F.R.I.E.N.D.S.
P.O. Box 641
Middletown, MD 21769
www.friendsoffredco.org

