

2025 Annual Report



A message from the executive director

2025 was a year of exciting growth and momentum for the Eastern PA Down Syndrome Center, made possible by the continued support of our community. With the opening of a new office space, the launch of 1528 West, and the introduction of several new programs, EPDSC strengthened its ability to connect with families, provide vital resources, and create inclusive opportunities across the region. We knew that taking on these new initiatives would make 2025 a financially challenging year, but they were important investments in our mission. Together, these efforts expanded our reach and deepened our impact, allowing EPDSC to better serve our growing community in meaningful and lasting ways. We are deeply grateful to our donors, volunteers, partners, and families whose generosity and belief in our mission made this progress possible.

Kerri DiDario

Impact Snapshot

34

Support calls
answered

47

Opportunities to
connect with the EPDSC

133

Active Members

\$1,800

Buddy Walk Grants presented



Our mission is to be a positive influence, respected resource, fierce advocate and dedicated support system for individuals with Down syndrome and their families, educators, healthcare professionals and the community as a whole.



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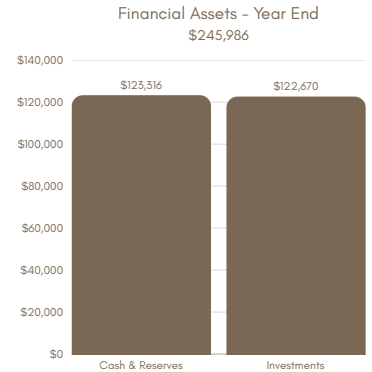
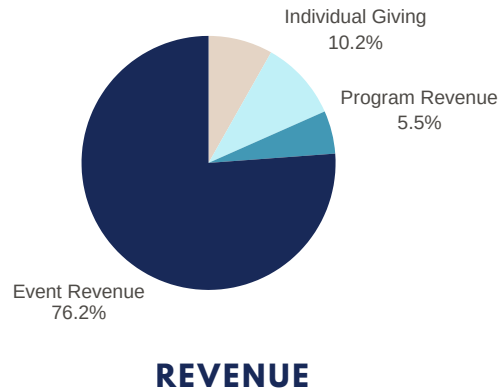
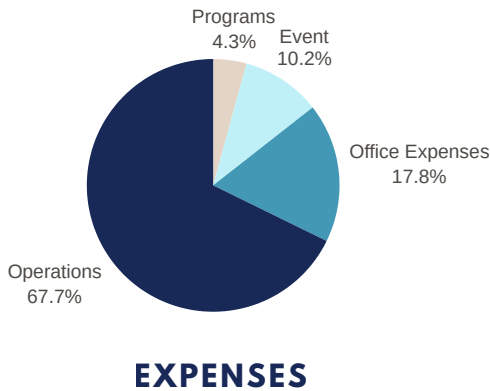


www.epdsc.net

Funds Raised

\$130,698

Expenses: -\$161,073
Net Revenue: -\$30,375



2025 Highlights

- Over 40 hours of Educational Support
- 9 New Parent Welcome Kits distributed to 7 counties and 1 to Virginia
- 4 Special Care Financial and Life Planning Workshops
- Membership events: Annual Meeting, Summer Picnic at the LV Zoo, Suites 'n Treats, and Holiday Party
- 5 New Parent events, 3 School-aged Events, 9 Teen/Adult events
- \$2,700 given out in financial support through Brian J. Wittig Enrichment Memorial Fund
- 15 Advocacy events including interviews on Lighthouse TV and WFMZ Sunrise Segment
- Grand Opening of 1528 West
- First Bryan Meltzer Rise Up Scholarship award presented to Cassidy Miller
- Community Membership and Resource Groups: Local Education Task Force 21, Chamber Non-Profit & Business Partner, Volunteer Center of the LV, Chamber Health & Human Services Committee, Non Profit Resource Group and Disability Friendly Community of the LV



2026 Volunteer of the Year Award

The Eastern Pennsylvania Down Syndrome Center is proud to award the Volunteer of the Year honor to

SARAH NEARY

Sarah Neary went above and beyond as a volunteer in 2025, raising over \$500 as our November Guest Bartender and dedicating weekly time at the EPDSC office from October through December. Her positive attitude and willingness to jump in wherever needed made a meaningful impact and makes her truly deserving of Volunteer of the Year recognition.



ZACH MCALACK

Zach McAlack has made a remarkable impact through his active involvement at EPDSC events. He raised over \$1,700 at Forks Community Days and organized a special Dad's Night Out event. His leadership, dedication, and passion for supporting the EPDSC community make him a truly deserving volunteer honoree.



Congratulations to Our 2025 Buddy Walk Community Impact Grant Recipients

Accent School of Dance
Action Karate
Donegan Elementary School - Life Skills Classroom
Eastern PA Down Syndrome Center - Bright Beginnings
Eyer Middle School - Best Buddies
Foglesville Elementary School
George Wolf Elementary School - Life Skills Classroom
Kernsville Elementary School
Kutztown Elementary School - Life Skills

Liberty High School - American Sign Language Class
Liberty High School - STEPS Program
River Crossing YMCA
Saucon Valley School District - Big Panthers Little Panthers Program
Schnecksville Elementary School
Shafer Elementary - Enhanced Learning Support Classroom
Special Olympics PA, GLVPR Region - Rythmic Gymnastics
Spring Garden Elementary School - Life Skills Classroom
Whitehall High School - Lifeskills Classroom

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SUPPORTERS

Individual Gifts

Katherine Adams
Leanna Altenburg
Anne & Jason Anderson
Martin Anthony
Cheryl Anthony
Jacqueline Anthony
Jasmine Bachman
Peter Barlow
Jessica Barry
Michelle Bartolomei
Carolyn Beahm
Dennis Bednarcik
Naomi Benedek
Sheryl Berger
Victor Bernard
Reagan Bernard
Alexis Bernard
Jennifer Black
Tracy Bodnar
Terrance Bowie
Annette Broderick
Kristy & Sean Brown
Diane Brown
Bruce Buchman
Heather Burns
Heather Caracio
Nicole Carl
Monica Casas
Dennis & Marjorie Chafin
Stacey Cheese
Carolyn Coni
Sherrill Cormack
Angelo Corridori
Harriet Cosover
Linda Davis
Charles Degnan
Emil DeMicco
Christine DeSantis
Nancy Diamond
Charles Diamond
Christina DiBiaso
Kerri & Ed DiDario
Marie DiDario
Bettyann DiDario
Sandra Dipple
Louanna Dorazio
Patricia Dorazio
Vicki Doule
Marjorie Ducheine
Rachael Eshleman
Martina Evans
Barbara Farber
Dena Farrell
Jean Fastenau
Jennifer Faulkner

Individual Gifts

Devin Finch
Barry Fisher
Arthur Fisher
Brian Flory
Jessica Floryshak
Maria & Dan Floryshak
James Floryshak
Michelle Friendly
Alyssa Grimm
Ferdinand Gross
Carrie & Shane Gross
Trevor Gross
John Hall
Alon Hall
Dilinus Harris
Scott Hartman
Tracy Hillegass
Danielle & Peter Horn
Scott Horn
Eddie Horn
Joan Houff
Christine Hricak
Ellen Hyland
Peter Iorio
Jake Kaligis
Kate Kareha
Jean Kashnicki
Christina Kashnicki
Christopher Kelly
Robert Kern
Richard Kerr
Wendy Kershner
John & Holly Kleimo
Dale Knepp
Joel Kowalski
Diane Kowalski
Leslie Kuka
Robert Kusnic
Tara Kusnic
Chris & Sarah Lakatos
Tung-To Lam
Dawn Lastowka
Nicholas Leo
Nikki Leonzi
Donald Levick
Kristina Libricz
Nicole Lloyd
Laura LoVaglio
Marlee Ludovici
Patricia Lurwick
Sara Madonna
Miriam Maehr
Kristen Maehr
Katelyn Maehr
Erin Maguire

Individual Gifts

Meredith Margolis
James Margolis
Aaron Markowitz
Rebekah Markowitz
Deb Markowitz
Susan Martin
Lynn Matula
Zach McAlack
Jeremiah McAward
Jocelyn McGlynn
Laura McKelvey
Meltzer Family
Greg & Katie Meyer
Jackie Meyer
Marsha Meyer
David Meyer
Jessica Micocci
Doug Minnix
Kristin Mittl
David Moat
Anne & Scott Moore
Robert Mortimer
Ryan Murphy
Laura & Steve Neary
Sarah Neary
Joseph Neary
Kevin Neiley
Francis and Judith Nelson
Kelly Nelson
Julie Nichols
John & Cheryl O'Connor
Diane O'Donnell
Carol Ann Olzinski
Denis Olzinski
Lynn Orsatti
Mary Orsatti
Elizabeth Ortiz
Nicholas Ottolini
Susan Ottolini
Brian & Jennifer Paugh
Linda Paugh
Eric Paugh
Kevin Paugh
Jeff Paugh
Jude Pendleton
Gerard Petersen
Jenna Petersen
Lourdes Petko
Tony & Polly Piergiovannia
Kristen Piga
Ronald Piga
Matthew & Erica Potter
Jennifer Pouliotte
Gary Quigley
Christopher Raab

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SUPPORTERS

Individual Gifts

Erik Rander
Rosalee Rehrig
Bonnie Remaley
Michael Rimmel
Kelly Reno
Michele Ribardo
William Richard
Gianna Rickert
Paula Riola
Joseph Roller
Mary Roller
Teresa Romano
Michael Romano
Joe Romano
Nicholas Rosato
Denise Roth
Dee Rothrock
James & Elizabeth Ruckel
Paul Ruckel
Lisa Runquist
Anne Sarubin
Lee Sarubin
Mikayla Scheetz
Carolyn Schilling
Heidi Schoenly
Virginia Schoonover
Lillian Seiling
Karen Selig
Kim Sepko
Heather Sherman
Brian Sherry
Stacey Smith
Jacob Sobchak
Justin Solonyinka
Mary Sowa
Christopher Sowa
Holly Stankewicz
Sarah Steigerwalt
Allison Stewart
Elizabeth Stewart
Angela Stupi
Rachael Thorne
Abigail Thorne
Alyssa Tirpak
Rob Touzeau
Tracy Trapp
Cara Treiber
John Treiber
Ronald Troxell
Kristine & Dan Troxell
Melissa Trumbauer
William Tuckett

Individual Gifts

Sheila VanAntwerp
Eleanora Vanderbeck
Nicole Varner
Linda Vincent
Mark Walter
Mandy Wang
Jennifer Weidman
Michele Wieand
David Wieand
Monika Wiegiers
Kathy Woomer
John Zoeckler

Community Partners

Action Karate Bethlehem
AI Orthodontics
Air Products
ARK Independent Insurance
Brokers, LLC
Blue Ridge Winery
Capital Blue
Captured LV Escape Room
Cedar Crest College
Cigar International
Coalition for Appropriate
Transportation
Colonial Intermediate Unit 20
Costco
Crayola Experience
DaVinci Science Center
Dorney Park
East Stroudsburg University
Edge Restaurant
Eight Oaks Farm Distillery
Fitzpatrick, Lentz & Bubba, P.C.
Fred J Jaendl Foundation
Giant
Grimm's Orchard
Hearts for Music
Homecoming Winery
IM ABLE Foundation
Jackie's Fresh Cut Fries
Lehighton Outdoor Center
MassMutual
Miller Symphony Hall
Moravian University
PA Inclusive
Perkiomen School
Phantoms Charities
Putt U Miniature Golf
Rory Rooster

Community Partners

Solsbury Hill Scoop Shoppe & Bakery
Sorrenti Family Estate Winery
Tamaqua Area High School
Texas Road House
Valor Independent Group Limited
Vanity Haus
Walmart
Wawa Foundation
Wegman's
Weis Markets
Westgate Pizza
Zion Stone Church Sunday School

2025 Board of Directors

Brian Paugh - President
Peter Iorio - Treasurer
Carrie Gross - Secretary
Sean Brown
Dr. Donald Levick
Bryan Meltzer
Dr. C. Gerard Petersen
Joseph Roller
Dr. Teresa Romano

Thank
you

