



Sharing News



Volume 6, Issue 6

1

June 2005



"I know God will not give me more than I can bear, I just wish he didn't trust me so much."

Mother Teresa



Contents

In this issue:

Contact Information..2

New Babies/Families.2

From My Heart to Yours.....3-5

Sharing Kids Have Heart.....5

In the Spotlight.....6

Announcements.....7

Calendar of Events.8-9

De mi Corazon al Corazon de Usted.....10-12

Anuncios.....12-13

Photos.....14-15



FATHER'S DAY!



"I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection."

~Sigmund Freud

"If the new American father feels bewildered and even defeated, let him take comfort from the fact that whatever he does in any fathering situation has a fifty percent chance of being right."

~Bill Cosby

"Blessed indeed is the man who hears many gentle voices call him father!"

~Lydia M. Child

"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me."

~Jim Valvano

"The older I get, the smarter my father seems to get."

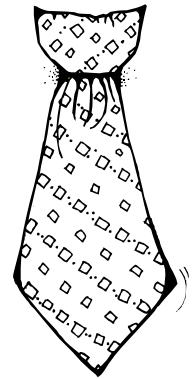
~Tim Russert

"Everyone can be a father, but it takes a lot to be a daddy."

~Anonymous

"Becoming a father isn't difficult, But it's very difficult to be a father."

~Wilhelm Busch



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Sharing Down Syndrome Arizona! Mission Statement

Sharing Down Syndrome Arizona (Sharing) provides an uplifting place where parents, families, and community can share the joys and unique challenges of loving a person with Down syndrome (DS). Education and personal experiences are offered in various forums to help empower families and service providers. Sharing is unique in that it changes how society views people with DS. Once a person is introduced to others involved with Sharing, he or she will be changed forever. Celebration eclipses initial feelings of regret and depression; in time most feel blessed by their circumstances. The primary goal of Sharing is to integrate people with DS into society in order to establish a well-balanced community. All those who develop relationships with people with DS are better off because of it.

Website: www.sharingds.org

Submit photos of your child

Submit a spotlight

Ask or respond to questions with other parents

Make a donation

See upcoming events

Read past newsletters

“Sharing” Board Members**President**-Gina Johnson (602) 622-6344**Vice President**-Curt Johnson (480) 926-8685**Secretary**-Seth Johnson, scj3@law.georgetown.edu**Treasurer**-Kay Bradshaw, kaygb@juno.com**Chairman**-Stacy Tetschner, stacy@nsaspeaker.org**Vice Chair**-Tom Baird, tomb@creativeenvironments.comSharon Baird, tsbaird@cox.netShawnie Huff, khuff.family@cox.netKevin Huff, kbhuff@srpnet.com**Self Advocate**-Bill Grogan, mjgrogan@mindspring.comDr. Paul McHale, pmchale@cox.net

Dr. Dudley Halpe

Dr. John Nelson

Honorary-W. Bradford Perkinson

“Sharing” Programs**“STARS”**-Patricia Cubillas (602) 650-1222 and Beth Michelson (480) 275-8582**Good Grief Bereavement Support**-Kevin and Shawnie Huff (480) 988-0434, khuff.family@cox.net**(Spanish) Todos Los Ninos Son Especiales Coordinator**-Rosa Chacon (480) 926-6500, rmchacon@aol.com**(English) Support Meetings**-Gina Johnson (480) 926-6500**Photographer**-Perry Sevey, www.seveyvideo.com

NEW BABIES

Michelle Teresa Marmolejo, born March 13, 2005**Proud Parents: Nancy Ibarra and Guillermo Marmolejo****Makhi Blackcrow, born March 17, 2005****Proud Mother: Jennifer Sanford****Olivia Ray Plascencia, born April 28, 2005****Proud Parents: Lisa Micsko and Hugo Plascencia****Erica Lynn Castaneda born on March 19, 2005****Proud Parents: Veronica and Gonzo Castaneda****Chelsea Fé Farrington born on August 13, 2004****Proud Parents: Stephanie and Jason Farrington****Twins: Luke David Hennis (DS) and Tessa Alexandra Grace Hennis, born April 15, 2005****Proud Parents: David and Beth Hennis****Twins: Crystal Ibarra (DS) and Perlita Ibarra, born June 1, 2005****Proud Parents: Annabell Carillo and Edward Ibarra**

NEW FAMILIES

Ricardo Llama, born July 27, 1995**Proud Mother: Maria Llama****Jose Arturo Ramirez, born September 15, 1981****Proud Parents: Ana and Joe Ramirez**

Welcome
New
Families!!!



Patrick Hanzuk and dad
Steve with Santa

There are three stages of a man's life: He believes in Santa Claus, he doesn't believe in Santa Claus, he is Santa Claus.

~Author Unknown

From my Heart to Yours ... a Message from the President



Dearest Beloved Friends,

First of all, "Happy Father's Day dear Dads!" At our most recent board meeting proud dad Stacy Tetschner talked about how he and Tom Baird are excited about an up-coming program they are working on called "DADS." We first heard about these kinds of gatherings at a national meeting. When we asked the dads there what "D.A.D.S." stood for they didn't miss a beat and teased us by saying it stood for "Dads Against Down Syndrome." When they could see the shocked look on our faces they playfully confessed that the true meaning was, "Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome." (Whew!, for a moment we were worried!)

So anyway, Happy Father's Day all you great dad's out there! Now I am not so sure the guys actually read the cheesy stuff I write to you dear ones, so if you have a special dad or step-dad who has made a difference in your child's life please give him a hug and a kiss and say thank you. Or if you have a good dad or Grandpa who tried to be good to you, kiss them as well.

June is also a special month to me not just because we get to honor the great dads in our lives but because it is the month my sweet Curt and I will reach 30 years of marriage. Pretty neat, don't you think? Now does it mean we are a perfect couple? Yeah right! You know me better than that. The truth is he is about as perfect as I could ever hope for...it is his wife who is not. But he loves me anyway.

Years ago when I was making that adjustment we all make as a young wife and mother with the pressures and burdens of kids and life pressing on us, one day I was feeling especially discouraged and a dear friend told me a story. She said that a granddaughter had gone to a big party they were holding for her grandparents 65th wedding anniversary.

There came a moment when that granddaughter,

who was a young married woman herself, and the grandma had a private moment alone. That sweet young woman was having a hard day and her words shared the struggles she was feeling. "Grandma, in all these years you've been married to Grandpa, didn't you at least once think of divorce?" With a shocked look on her face her Grandma said, "Divorce? NEVER! Murder? Yes." God bless you dear mothers. In all that you do for your beloved child, remember that you must also make time for the man who loves you and needs you just as much. I know it is often the way we cut each other slack and give those kind words and gentle smiles that make all the difference.

I remember years ago, Curt and I were interviewed by a pediatrician regarding what it was really like to be the parent of a child with Down syndrome. Well you know me. I was going on about how much David meant to me. We spoke candidly of the trials as well but I ended my thoughts with "I would not change one minute of it." That was when my beloved husband smiled, looked at me with a twinkle in his eye and said, "Well, maybe one minute."

Okay I confess, there have more than a few times when I have fussed at God even though I knew that some how I was to be learning something from this experience. On those times my thoughts have been something like, "Okay, just what is it I am suppose to learn from this?" As if by my demanding, God would tell me. However God is so good to me...he loves me enough to patiently let me figure it out for myself. Did I mention I am one of His slower learners?

All of these thoughts were going through my mind today as I sat her to write to you. I look back on how far David has not only brought me but how far Sharing has come as well. For over 14 years those who have served for Sharing have done it because they once felt the blessing of others helping them. As you can imagine, getting funding gets harder every year. We have had some wonderful people who have done much, through our Buddy Walks, and just this

year Stacy and Michelle Tetscher again hosted our Silent Auction Dinner. Also proud Grandma Wes Keyes and his wife Glenda hosted our third annual "Abby's Angel Ride" in honor of their granddaughter Abby West.



So many people help in so many ways. Two days ago I drove to Maricopa to visit my dear friends Carmen and David Williamson as they honored



their son Nathan who passed away one year ago.

It was so good to spend time with this amazing mother. As I went to leave, she and her twins, Sheigh and Mason helped pack up my truck

with things that meant a great deal to her. Things that I know had to be hard to part with but things she wanted to share with another little one who might need them. Her generosity brought tears to my eyes.

See what I mean dear friends...our parents are generous beyond words. But for the first time in 14 years we are turning to you to ask for help.



*When we cast our bread upon the waters,
we can presume that someone downstream,
whose face we may never see will benefit
from our action, even as we enjoy the gifts
sent to us from a donor up stream.*

~Maya Angelou

I thought you might like to know some of the ways we help families who need us. In 2004 alone we spent over \$160,000.00 to help families. The only paid staff member we have is one part-time administrative assistant. I do not take a salary. The rest of the funding has been used to serve our community. Here are a few of our programs.

- New Parent Support (Hospital folders & Gift packages)..... \$22,481.35
- Monthly Newsletters.....\$12,199.81
- Outreach & Education..... \$34,645.15
- Parent & Family Support..... \$52,310.69

Our other programs include....

1. Monthly Parent Support Meetings in English and Spanish
2. New Parent Dinners every other month
3. Beautiful Hospital Welcome Folders in all birthing hospitals
4. Beautiful personally delivered New Parent Gift packages
5. Parties and fun activities for families to gather and share
6. STARS Teen Group (Super Teens Are Rising Stars)
7. Professional Advocacy
8. Good Grief Bereavement Support
9. Parent to parent support
10. Mommy Play Groups

Thank you dear friends for all you are and all you do. As you can imagine not just one person could do all that Sharing does. It is a labor of love by so many.

During the 2004 year, we used the \$160,000.00 given to us to serve so many dear families. If you feel that in some way Sharing has helped or blessed you, won't you consider making a donation to help us keep up this good work? Stacy Tetschner gave a talk in his church about the adoption of their son Raymond...these are his words,

"I have a good friend that reminds me that we are all blessed to live the lives we do.



And he and I both believe that at some point in our lives we have been able to warm ourselves from fires we have not built, been able to drink from wells we have not dug, and have driven on bridges we did not build. When thinking in these terms we see that it is the grace of God and the help of others that has brought us to where we are."

Thank you dear ones from the past and future who choose to, "Pay it forward." We go year to year on the generous support given so that we can give back and help one another.

Within this newsletter you will find a yellow envelope that you can send your donation in to help us help others. It does not matter what you give. If you are able to give we would be most grateful.

With all our love,
Gina Johnson
and Sharing Down Syndrome Arizona

THANKS

Silent Auction Dinner - Take Me Out To The Ball Game

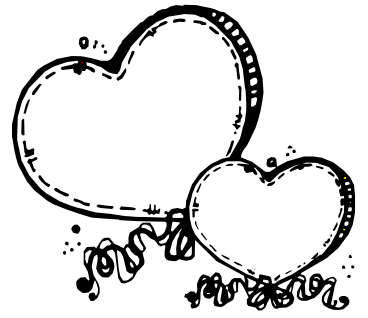
What a wonderful time was had by all who were lucky enough to attend Sharings' third annual Silent Auction dinner hosted by proud parents, Stacy and Michelle Tetschner!

Thank you also to all who attended and all who donated so many wonderful items...it was remarkable. Stacy is the chairman of our advisory board and he is one remarkable man. He and Michelle adopted their son beautiful son Raymond and even before he was adopted they 'stepped up to the plate' to help Sharing. Thank you dear ones!



Our Sharing Kids Have Heart!

"A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others."



~ The Wizard of Oz

Hurry and get well soon angel baby Michyla Escalente of Tucson...we love you!!



We love you Miss Dru Hastings...a kiss from all of us at Sharing!



Yeah, Jonathan has gone home and is doing great!!!



our Thoughts and Prayers are with You...

"A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty."

~ Author Unknown



In The Spotlight...

*Allison
Medina*

She Is Here to Teach

Children light the way to our future. I have two beautiful girls who bring new insight to my life. Of course I love my husband, my family, and friends with all my heart, but when I gave birth to my first little girl, the meaning of the word "love" changed forever. The control this sweet innocent baby had over every part of my being was just simply unheard of. Here I thought I had it all figured out, the house, the great husband, the nice cars, and money in the bank. The life I had always dreamed of as a young girl was taking form.

Upon the birth of my second baby girl, my life imploded. In the first few days of her young life, she was diagnosed with Down syndrome. I will skip the brutal details leading up to the diagnosis. Things like this do not happen to people like me. There was not any history in my family or my husbands. Our life together had been perfect until that moment.



Alli and big sister, Sarah



Medina Family

After coming to terms with Down syndrome, and realizing that my daughter is a baby just like any other baby, life started getting better. After a few short weeks, we joined Sharing Down Syndrome AZ. Lucky for

us, the president lives just a stone's throw away from Val Vista Lakes; she came to our home and calmed our fears. The people in the group are some of the best people I have ever met. Without them to talk to, this would have been a much higher hurdle to clear. The Val Vista Lakes Playgroup moms have also helped tremendously by accepting and including my youngest in all the events and activities. Together, these two groups have helped me get to where I am today.

Now almost two years later, life has become beautiful again. It's not what I had dreamed of, but knowing what I know now, it's exactly what I would have dreamed of. My girls are my life and I love it. People may have questions concerning my youngest daughter. If they do, I would love to answer them. She is the same as any other baby. She has lots of love to share, and most importantly, lots of lessons to teach. She does everything with great enthusiasm and a smile on her face. I am a very proud mother and extremely happy with the cards I have been dealt. What seemed like the end of my perfect life was really just the beginning of another perfect life.



Alli and dad, Paul

- Janel Medina

pjsmed@cox.net

Please send a one page spotlight of your loved one with Down syndrome, along with photos to gina@sharingds.org. Please include the child's full name, date of birth, and the author's full name and phone number (for questions from editors).

Dear Families,

We are in the midst of gathering pledges and funds for this years Buddy Walk. While several members of Sharing DS have taken up the challenge of approaching larger corporations and businesses, we also realize that local businesses can provide much needed financial support, silent auction items, or supplies for the Buddy Walk.

Do you go to a coffee shop frequently? Perhaps a local restaurant or a hardware store? Would you consider approaching the owner with a request for a Buddy Walk donation to support Sharing DS? The donation could be in the form of goods (like bagels for the BW breakfast), gift certificates (for raffle or silent auction), or cash donation to the organization. Anything, big or small, can aid our fundraising efforts.

Do you work for a corporation that is based in Phoenix or has a strong history of supporting non profit organizations? Would you help us find an appropriate contact within your company?

We would be happy to accompany you to the business, or to simply provide you with materials that show how supporting the Buddy Walk 2005 will improve the lives of countless families and individuals within our community. Of course, recognition, thank yous, and a contribution letter from the 501 (c) 3 non-profit are included.

Your time, effort, and energy are very much appreciated.

Please contact Paul McHale through email or phone if you have any questions or are able to help us out!

Sincerely,

Kevin Huff, Buddy Walk Chairman

Paul McHale, Sponsorship Chairman

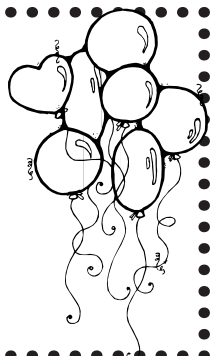
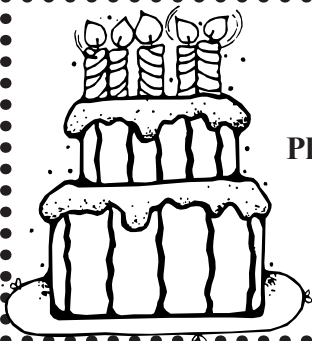
Pmchale@cox.net

(602) 670-4574



Birthday Corner Coming Soon!

Please send in pictures with name, birthdate, and age to sue@sharingds.org or via snail mail to the Sharing office, Attn: Sue.



Calendar of Events

June 25, 2005 Good Grief Meeting

We would like to invite all parents who have experienced the loss of a child with Down syndrome or another disability to join us at the home of Kevin and Shawnie Huff (proud parents of Braxton (passed away), Tia, and Tyler - all who have DS). We will be having dinner and celebrating the lives of our beautiful children. This is a great opportunity to share your experiences or just come and meet new friends. We hope that you will feel comfortable in joining us.

Directions:

Take US 60 to Greenfield Rd.

Go south on Greenfield to Williamsfield Rd.

Go Left (East) on Williamsfield past the WalMart

Take a left on Parkcrest (There is a left turn lane but not a light.)

Turn Right at stop sign onto Galveston

Turn left onto Roanoke St.

1947 S. Roanoke St in Gilbert Phone # (480) 988-0434



Shawnie, Kevin, Tia, and Tyler Huff at Tyler's 1st birthday

July 7, 2005 - July 10, 2005 NDSS National Conference

IMAGINE, The Fairmont Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

What is the NDSS National Conference?

The NDSS National Conference is the country's premier conference on Down syndrome. The 2005 conference, Imagine, will bring together parents, family members, professionals, teens and adults with Down syndrome, and siblings from across the country for education, networking, celebration and much more. This year's conference invites attendees to imagine the possibilities for the Down syndrome community – and how together we can make that potential a reality. The 2005 NDSS National Conference is presented in collaboration with the National Association for Down Syndrome, which serves the Chicago metropolitan area.

Why Should You Attend Imagine?

Actively participate in helping to shape the vision of the future for people with Down syndrome.

Learn best practices in education, health care, employment, community living and inclusion.

Attend the Festival of the Arts 2005, featuring the many talents of people with Down syndrome.

Learn from and meet top experts from around the country.

Find out about the newest products, programs and services in the exhibit hall.

Acquire the most up-to-date information on education, research and advocacy.

Network with more than 900 conference participants.

Learn about resources for babies, children, adolescents and adults with Down syndrome.

Meet and network with hundreds of affiliate leaders from across the U.S.

Who Should Attend?

Parents and family members

Individuals with Down syndrome

Siblings of individuals with Down syndrome



Parent group leaders and advocates
Educators and early intervention specialists
Physicians, nurses and genetic counselors
Psychologists, social workers and counselors
Speech-language, physical and occupational therapists

For registration information, visit <http://www.ndss.org/content.cfm?fuseaction=NwsEvt.EvtConfNC>

July 29, 2005 - July 31, 2005 NDSC National Convention

As you think about your summer plans, I hope that high on your list is attending the NDSC's 33rd annual convention July 29-31 in Anaheim, California. Our conference theme this year is "Golden Opportunities," and this convention will provide you rich opportunities of all kinds.

You will hear exciting nationally and internationally known speakers address topics covering the entire life span. You will meet teen and adult self-advocates who are living satisfying lives. You will have your vision stretched about what is possible for children, teens, and adults with DS.

In addition, you will learn concrete strategies to make your vision a reality. You will network with families and committed professionals. You will meet exhibitors displaying the latest in materials, services, and technology.

Each time I have participated in the NDSC convention, I have come away inspired, better informed, and rejuvenated in my efforts to build a richer, more interesting life for our son Todd, who is now 32. I believe that will happen for you too.

Please note that once again the NDSC has worked hard to keep registration costs low to make the convention as affordable as possible. I hope I will see you in Anaheim!

Cordially,
Judy Martz, President NDSC

For registration information, see <http://www.ndscenter.org/newsAndEvents/convention05/convention.asp>

October 22, 2005 Buddy Walk 2005

Come one, come all, to the 2005 Sharing DS Buddy Walk! More details to follow. 1 E. Continental Dr., Tempe, AZ. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful event and help in a big or small way please contact Kevin Huff at kbhuff@srpnet.com Don't forget, Chris Burke and his band will be there as well! Talk about fun!!!!

We are now seeking items for our Silent Auction! Dear Parents...as you go to restaurants and business just ask them for a donation. They are often so kind but they will need a letter from us stating we are tax deductible. You can come by or we can mail you a letter on our letter head stating that Shairng is a non-profit 501 (C) 3 tax deductible organization. Or just give the companies fax number and we can fax that letter to them. Just email Sue at sue@sharingds.org and she can get one to you.

We couldn't do it with out you dear friends. Thank you. Rachel Hanzuk, proud mom of Patrick, is over our Silent Auction. Her email is srhazuk@aol.com

Feel free to call us and we will pick up any donated items or you can run them by. Just call before to make sure someone is here to let you in. Our number is (480) 926-6500 or my cell (602) 622-6344. Love you, Gina



De mi Corazon al Corazon de Usted...

Queridos Amigos,

Primeramente, Feliz Día del Padre queridos Papás! En nuestra más reciente junta de consejo, el orgulloso papá de Stacy Tetscher platicó como él y Tom Baird están motivados por el próximo programa a iniciar en el cual ellos están trabajando llamado "DADS". La primera vez que nosotros escuchamos acerca este tipo de juntas fue en una junta nacional. Cuando nosotros le preguntamos a los papás que significaba realmente D.A.D.S, ellos respondieron jugando que significaba Papas en Contra del Síndrome de Down. Sin embargo, cuando ellos vieron la mirada de asombro en nuestras caras, confesaron jugando que en realidad significaba Papás Apreciando el Síndrome de Down. (Whew!, por un momento nos preocupamos!).

Bueno, Feliz Día del Padre, a todos los excelentes papás! Yo no estoy muy segura que los chicos realmente leen todo lo que escribo para ellos, así que si ustedes chicas tienen a un papá especial o papá adoptivo que ha hecho una diferencia en la vida de sus niños, por

favor denle un abrazo y un beso y díganle muchas gracias. O si tienen también un buen abuelito que trató de ser bueno con ustedes, denle un beso a ellos también.

Junio is también un mes especial para mí, no solamente porque tenemos la oportunidad de celebrar a nuestros excelentes padres, pero también porque es el mes en que mi dulce Curt y yo cumplimos 30 años de matrimonio. Muy bonito, no creen ustedes? Bueno, eso no significa que seamos la pareja perfecta. Como no! Ustedes me conocen mejor que nadie. La verdad es que él es tan perfecto como yo siempre lo hubiera deseado, es su esposa quién no es. Pero, él sin embargo me ama.

Hace muchos años, cuando yo estaba tratado de ajustarme a los cambios de ser una esposa joven y madre, con las presiones y problemas con los niños y la vida. Un día, me estaba sintiendo especialmente deprimida, y una querida amiga me contó una

historia. Ella me dijo que una nieta había asistido a una gran fiesta en la que estaban celebrando el aniversario 65 de sus abuelitos.

Llegó un momento cuando la nieta, quién era una joven recién casada, y la abuela, tuvieron un momento a solas. La dulce joven estaba teniendo un día difícil, y sus palabras compartían las dificultades que ella tenía. "Abuelita ... en todos estos años que has estado casada al

abuelo, no pensaste al menos alguna vez en el divorcio?" Con una cara azorada la abuela respondió, "Divorcio? NUNCA! ...Asesinato? Sí." Dios bendiga a ustedes queridas mamás. En todo lo que ustedes hacen por sus niños queridos, pero recuerden que también tienen que hacer un tiempo para el hombre que les ama, y que los necesita también.

Recuerdo que hace años, Curt y Yo fuimos entrevistados por un pediatra acerca de que realmente significaba ser un padre con un niño con Síndrome de Down. Bien, ustedes me conocen, Yo empecé a hablar en lo que David significaba para mí. Nosotros hablamos candidamente sobre el tema, y terminé la conversación diciendo "No cambiaría ni un minuto de

eso" En eso, mi querido esposo sonrió, me miró con la rejilla de su ojo y dijo, "Bien, quizás un minuto."

Okay, confieso, que han habido más de unos momentos en los cuales me he quejado con Dios, aunque yo sabía que de alguna manera tenía que aprender algo de esta experiencia. En esos tiempos mis pensamientos eran "Okay, que se supone que debo aprender de todo esto?" Pensaba que si demandaba, Dios me iba a contestar. Sin embargo, Dios es muy bueno conmigo...El me ama lo suficiente para que pacientemente me dejara que yo descubriera mis propias respuestas. Les mencioné alguna vez que yo soy uno de sus aprendices lentos?

Todos estos pensamientos pasaron en mi mente hoy cuando me senté a escribir esto a ustedes. Veo al

pasado, no solo a todo lo que David a traído a mi vida, pero también cuanto Sharing ha progresado. Durante 14 años, todos los que han servido a Sharing lo han hecho porque ellos han sentido las bendiciones de otros ayudándoles a ellos. Como lo imaginan, obtener fondos se ha vuelto más y más difícil cada año. Nosotros hemos tenido a gente maravillosa que ha hecho mucho, a través de nuestros Buddy Walks, y justamente este año Stacy and Michelle nuevamente fueron anfitriones de nuestra Cena de subastas.



También, la orgullosa abuelita de Wes Keyes y su esposa fueron anfitriones de nuestro tercer "Abby's Angel Ride" en honor a su nieta Abby West.



Mucha gente ha ayudado de diversas maneras. Hace dos días, yo manejé a Maricopa para visitar a mis queridos amigos Carmen y David Williamson, que recordaron a su hijo Nathan que murió hace un año.

Fue muy bueno pasar un tiempo con esta sorprendente mamá. Cuando me disponía a retirarme, ella y sus gemelitos, Sheigh and Mason, me ayudaron a empacar mi truck con cosas que significaban mucho para ella. Cosas que se que es difícil dejarlas ir, pero que ella quería

compartir con algún otro pequeñito que pudiera necesitarlas. Su generosidad hizo que brotaran lágrimas de mis ojos. Miren lo que quiero decir queridos amigos, nuestros padres son mas que generosos. Por primera vez en 14 años estamos

volviendo hacia ti para pedirte ayuda.

"Cuando moldeamos nuestro pan sobre las aguas, podemos presumir de alguien corriente abajo, a quien su cara posiblemente no conoceremos, pero que se beneficiará de nuestras acciones, más aún nosotros disfrutaremos de los regalos enviados por alguien cuesta arriba"

~Maya Angelou

Pensé que tal vez les gustaría saber algunos de los medios por los cuales ayudamos a las familias que nos necesitan... Solamente en el 2004, nosotros gastamos alrededor de \$160,000.00 para ayudar a familias. El único miembro del staff al que pagamos es un asistente administrativo de medio tiempo. El resto de los fondos es usado para servir a nuestra comunidad. Estos son algunos de nuestros programas...

Soporte para nuevos padres (Folders de Hospital & Paquetes de regalos).....\$22,481.35
 Periódicos.....\$ 12,199.81
 Promoción y Educación.....\$34,645.15
 Soporte a Padres y Familias.....\$52,310.69

Otros de nuestros programas incluyen...

1. Juntas mensuales de apoyo a Padres, en Inglés y Español.
2. Periódicos mensuales gratis.
3. Cenas para nuevos padres cada dos meses.
4. Preciosos folders de bienvenida en todos los hospitales.
5. Preciosos paquetes de regalos para nuevos padres, personalmente entregados.
6. Fiestas y actividades divertidas para promover la unión de las familias.
7. Grupo de adolescentes STARS.
8. Asistencia Legal profesional.
9. Apoyo de consolación para el dolor.
10. Apoyo padres a padres.
11. Grupos de Juegos para mamas.

Muchas gracias queridos amigos por todo lo que ustedes hacen. Como lo pueden imaginar una sola persona no podría hacer lo que Sharing hace.

Es una labor de amor de muchos.

Durante el 2004, usamos los \$160,000.00 debido a que servimos a muchas familias. Si sienten que Sharing de alguna manera les ha ayudado o bendecido, no considerarían hacer una donación para ayudarnos a mantener este buen ritmo de trabajo? Stacy Tetschner dió una platica en su Iglesia sobre la adopción de su hijo Raymond... estas son sus palabras:

"Tengo un buen amigo que me recuerda que todos nosotros somos bendecidos por vivir las vidas que vivimos. Y él y Yo creemos que en cierto momento en nuestras vidas nosotros hemos sido capaces de calentarnos con fuegos que nos hemos hecho, hemos sido capaces de beber de pozos que no hemos cavado, y hemos manejado en puentes que no hemos construido. Cuando pienso en estos términos, nosotros podemos ver que es la gracia de Dios y la ayuda de otros lo que nos ha traído a donde nosotros estamos."

Gracias queridos desde el fondo de mi corazón. Nos mantenemos año por año gracias al generoso apoyo de sus queridas familias, y también de algunos maravillosos negocios.



En esta edición del periódico, van a encontrar un sobre amarillo que ustedes pueden usar para enviar sus donaciones para ayudarnos a nosotros a ayudar a otros. No importa si dan \$10.00, \$20.00 o más, estaremos más agradecidos por su toma de conciencia.

Con todo nuestro amor,
Gina Johnson
and Sharing Down Syndrome Arizona

Calendario de eventos

October 22, 2005 Buddy Walk 2005

Ven tú, vengan todos, al Buddy Walk de Sharing del 2005! Más detalles serán publicados después. 1 E. Continental Dr. Tempe, AZ. Si te gustaría formar parte de éste maravilloso evento y ayudar de alguna manera pequeña o grande, por favor contacta a Kevin Huff en kbhuff@srpnet.com. No te olvides, Chris Burke y su banda estarán también ahí! Nos divertiremos!!!!

Todos Los Ninos Son Especiales

Hola queridos...in el otoño estaremos organizando nuestras juntas mensuales de TLNSE que seran en español para nuestras queridas familias hispanas. Si quieren conocer unos amigos maravillosos, algunos niños realmente bonitos, y divertirse, por favor vengan y unanse a nosotros. Los lugares se anunciaran posteriormente. Traigan a sus niños para que lleguen a conocer como ayudarles para que puedan ser las personas que estamos esperando que sean. Nosotros los queremos, y agradecemos por todo lo que hacen por sus niños. Nuestra nueva presidente para nuestras juntas educacionales mensuales es Rosa Chacon. Rosa no solamente es la orgullosa mama de Alexis, ella tambien es una terapeuta de intervencion temprana para el Departamento de Desarrollo de Discapacidades, y ella esta muy entusiasmada en ayudarte en esta aventura con tu niño. Puedes contactar a Rosa por e-mail en rmchacon@AOL.com.

Tampoco olviden que Claudia Sanchez (orgullosa mama de Romeo Jr.) es nuestra maravillosa coordinadora del Playgroup del TLNSE. La puedes en el telefono 480-235-6469 o en claudia261014@hotmail.com.

Todos Los Ninos Son Especiales will meet in Phoenix on 9/6, 11/1, 1/4, 2/1, 3/1, 4/4, 5/2 - 2005/2006 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. We will give the location in the August newsletter.

Todos Los Ninos Son Especiales

Hey dear ones...in the fall we will be hosting once monthly meetings that will be held in Spanish for our dear Latino families. If you want to meet wonderful friends come and join us for the fun. Locations to be announced. Bring your kids and come to not only learn how to help your beautiful children but come to meet some of the greatest people in the world. We love you and thank you for all you do for your children. Our new chairperson is Rosa Chacon. Rosa is not only the proud mom of Alexis, she is an Early Interventionist for the Department of Developmental Disabilities and is excited to help you in this journey with your child.

Éste 30 de Abril nos reunimos el grupo de familias hispanas del Playgroup del TLNSE para celebrar el día del niño. A nuestra reunión asistieron muchos de nuestros pequeños y pues lo pasamos muy bien. Tuvimos la oportunidad de convivir un rato, ofreciéndoles un momento agradable a nuestros niños. Ésta vez el huésped de la casa fue la familia Salgado Barrera. Los niños se divertieron mucho ya que tuvimos la oportunidad de tener con nosotros a la divertida payasita Bombombina. Los niños estuvieron muy contentos con ella, ya que Bombombina les pintó sus caritas, y les hizo muchos juegos de concursos. En esos juegos nuestros pequeños fueron todos premiados con juguetes en su día. Tanto las madres como los padres participaron de los juegos de Bombombina, y ganaron regalos para sus hijos. Además de los juegos, los niños también disfrutaron de piñatas, dulces, música y pastel. Muchos bailaron y los más chiquitos se divertieron jugando en casitas de juguetes.

No podía faltar una deliciosa comida para terminar nuestra convivencia. Saboreamos un delicioso pozole, tostadas de tinga de pollo, pizzas, ensaladas, y refrescos para completar. Después de nuestra comida, aprovechamos el tiempo para conocernos unos a otros y también para tomarnos unas fotos del recuerdo.

Pero como todo lo bueno termina, esperamos que les haya gustado esta pequeña historia y de que sirva como incentivo para que otras familias se animen a integrarse a nuestro Playgroup de padres con niños de síndrome de Down totalmente en español. Besos y abrazos.

Agradezco por medio de esta edición a todas las personas que colaboraron de alguna manera para que nuestra celebración haya sido un éxito.

Dios les bendiga.

Claudia Sánchez
 Coordinadora del TLNSE Playgroup
 480-235-646, claudia261014@hotmail.com

This April 30th, the group of Hispanic families from the Playgroup of the TLNSE got together to celebrate Children's Day. Many of our little ones came to celebrate with us. We had the chance to have a good time, offering to our children a nice afternoon. This time our host was the Salgado Barrera family. The children really had a good time because they played with Bombombina, the little clown. The kids were very happy with her, because she painted their faces and prepared many games for them. Every one of the children received a toy that day, even their parents participated in the Bombombina's games. In addition to the games, our kids also enjoyed the piñatas, candies, music, and cake. Many of them danced, and the very little ones had good time playing with toy houses.

The party would not be complete, if we had not had a delicious meal. We enjoyed a delicious Pozole, chicken tostadas, salad, and refreshing sodas. After our meal, we had the opportunity to get to know to each other, and take pictures.

But, everything good has to finish, and we hope that not only you have liked this small history, but also you can animate yourself to become part of our group of parents with Down Syndrome children, completely in Spanish.

I really thank through this edition to every one who helped some way in our successful Children's party. Kisses and hugs. I also wish a happy Mother's day to our beloved mothers.

God bless you.

Claudia Sánchez
 TLNSE Playgroup Coordinator
 480-235-6469 or claudia261014@hotmail.com



Pictures of Valle Luna Abby's Angel Ride Thank you!

MotorCycle Ride a Wonderful Success!

Thank you proud Grandparents, Wes and Glenda Keyes for hosting our third annual "Abby's Angel Ride." All who attended had the time of their lives. It never ceases to amaze me that one little girl could touch so many hearts. A very poignant moment was when her proud daddy, Rob West sang with his band, a song dedicated to Abby. We are so very blessed dear parents. Thank you to Valle Luna Mexican Restaurant for all they did as the host sponsor of this wonderful day of fun. We love you all!



Special Thanks to:

**Janie Riddle and her Valle Luna staff
Rob and Missy West, and Abby
Frank and Dina Pyles
All the Riders**



Volunteers:

**Laura Allen
Rachel Baderman
Jan Cordova
Bill and Debbie Dohl
Larry Edman
Lynlee Goebel
Joana Lamb
Diana and Lori Metzger
Ray Parks
Cindy Toney
Al and Laurie Vallarian
Don and Linda Wuerfel**



Sponsors of \$500 or more:

Valle Luna, 33rd Avenue and Bell Rd.



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Country Meadows Golf Club**

Pictures of Thank You Party

Thank you to Kay Bradshaw for a wonderful party!!!



We are always updating our records. Have a new phone number or address? New to Arizona? Complete the information on this form and send it to the address below, or email it to gina@sharingds.org.



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Child's Name: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____

Your Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Address: _____

Employer(s) of Parents: _____

City/State/Zip+4: _____

Family's Ethnic Origin(s): _____
(This information is requested by United Way and other supporters.)

Home Phone: () -

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