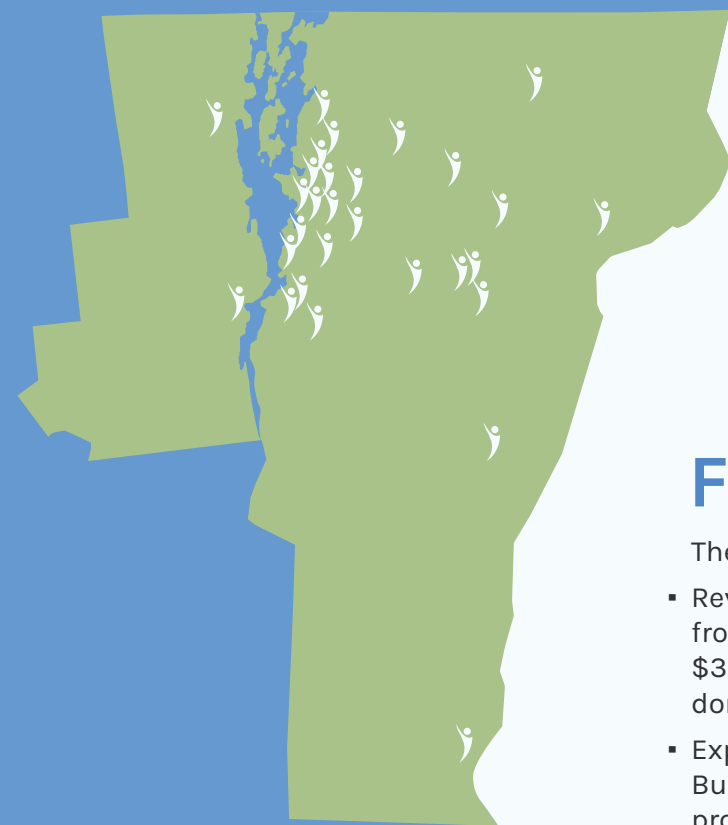


Champlain Valley Down Syndrome Group



2022 Annual Report

Who We Are

The Champlain Valley Down Syndrome Group (CVDSG) was established in 2011 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to better connect and support families throughout our region. Membership includes over 70 families throughout Northern Vermont and the Champlain Valley of Upstate New York and is free and open to anyone who wants to join.

The CVDSG supports events and programs to share information, make connections and to foster community. The annual scope of the group's activities are coordinated by the Board of Directors, which consists of four officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary), each serving 2-year terms. In 2022, the Board was expanded with an additional four Directors and the CVDSG by-laws were updated to address term limits and other operational issues.

The Board meets quarterly to conduct group business and make decisions that support the group's events, programs, and mission. Meeting times are posted on our website (cvdsg.org) and are open to all members. The Annual Meeting, traditionally held soon after the new year, allows the Board to report on the events and finances of the previous year and to provide a look ahead. Members are invited and encouraged to reach out to the Board with any ideas that could help further our mission.

The CVDSG strives to provide critical outreach and facilitate networking for families by connecting groups with similar interests or concerns and often serves as the first point of contact for families who are new to the area or may have just learned about a diagnosis of Down syndrome. The CVDSG is also an affiliate of the two primary national advocacy groups for people with Down syndrome: the National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) and the National Down Syndrome Congress (NDSC).

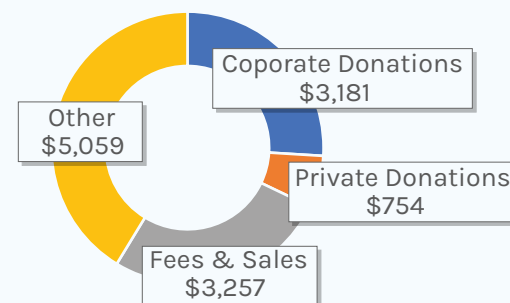
Financial Report

The CVDSG had \$5,787 in assets at the beginning of 2022.

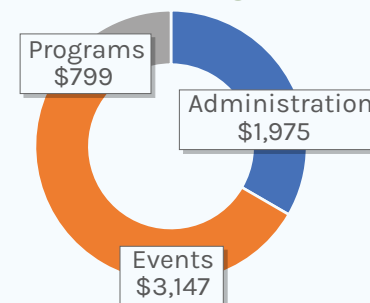
- Revenue: A total of \$3,181 was raised in corporate donations this year, along with \$754 from the generous contributions of individual donors. The Buddy Walk generated \$3,257 through registration fees and t-shirt sales. Revenue was bolstered by the donation of \$5,059 from Down Right Special of Rutland County.
- Expenses: \$5,922 was spent this year. \$3,147 was expended on the Events, such as Buddy Walk and summer picnic (park rental, food, security). \$799 was committed to programs (MDSC conference, United Dance workshops). Another \$1,975 was used to support administrative aspects of the group (insurance, website maintenance and hosting, NDSC affiliate dues).

At the end of the year, the CVDSG had \$12,054 in assets.

How Are We Funded?



How is Funding Used?



Event and Program Highlights

2022 saw a return to some measure of normalcy following the disruptions caused by the Covid pandemic, and members were willing and eager to come together in person and re-establish our relationships.

Some highlights:

- The CVDSG was able to cover the costs for members interested in attending the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress' Annual Conference, held virtually (hopefully for the last time) in March.
- Our two social gatherings, one at the St. Mark Bowling and Entertainment Center in April and the other the summer picnic in North Beach Park in July, were both very well attended.
- Supported by financial assistance of the CVDSG, a number of our group members were able to participate in 2-day United Dance workshops, held in the Burlington area in March and October. This internationally known troupe provides structured, professionally led dance and art programs specifically designed to meet the unique needs of individuals with Down syndrome.

The group's singular focal event, the 12th Annual Champlain Valley Buddy Walk, was held under sunny skies in early October in Burlington's Battery Park and along the beautiful Lake Champlain waterfront. Approximately 150 people were able to attend this year's event. The Buddy Walk provides an opportunity for members to meet one another, gives the group valuable local media exposure and also serves as the group's sole annual fundraising effort. This event would not be possible with the generous support of this year's sponsors:

- Platinum Level: M&T Bank
- Gold Level: Dore + Whittier Architects, Green Empire Brewing, Timberlane Dental Group
- Silver Level: Otter Creek Engineering, Lakeside Pediatrics

Special Thanks

Another in-state Down syndrome support group, Down Right Special of Rutland County, made the difficult decision to close down their operations this year. They granted their remaining funds to the CVDSG to further support people with Down syndrome and their families in the State of Vermont. This very kind and thoughtful donation will help continue and expand our group's programming.

