

TVDSA NEWSLETTER



TREASURE VALLEY
DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

In this Issue

Scholarship Spotlight	1
Social Groups	2
Updates from the Board	2
IPUL Monthly Training: Understanding Idaho Medicaid	2
Mission/Vision Statements	3
Join TVDSA Today	3
Accommodations: What They Are and How They Work	3
Board Information	3

TVDSA Upcoming Events

September 7

Board Meeting

Google Meet, 8:00 pm

September 18

Cool Club/AIM

Roystone Hot Springs, Sweet, ID

1:30 pm

September 25

Best Buds

Location: TBD

1:00 pm



Scholarship Spotlight: Baylee Auger

One of the many programs that TVDSA has is a scholarship program that is specifically designed to assist ambitious members who happen to have Down syndrome pursue their goals in higher education. It offers up to \$500 per semester towards tuition and materials. We have been fortunate to be able to fund this program with all of your generous donations. One of our repeat recipients is Baylee Auger. Here is a small peek into Baylee's journey in her own words:

I am part-time student at Boise State University. I am in second year, I am a sophomore. My advisor, Megan, told me during spring semester, I am 12 classes from getting an Associate's Degree in Business. I am working hard to get this done. I am taking English and Math this semester.

Being a student with COVID restrictions is hard for me. There are a lot of online classes and working with writing center. I think outside the box. It can be really hard for me every day to get everything done on time. I am working on time management. It is important to me to stay safe but also go for my dreams. The BSU Access Center has given me a smart pen for taking notes in lectures so I can listen lectures again later. It is a lot of work. I am so excited to go back to school soon.

I hope to go to more activities this year. I am part of Best Buddies, BSU Dance Club, and participated in the BSU Dance Marathon. I hope to do that again. I took a class to explore careers and my future self. I do not know yet my career path will be, but I am excited to find it.

I was the 2020 Idaho Miss Amazing Teen Representative. I went to Nashville, Tennessee. It was really fun. I met a lot of people and had a lot of good food and music. I got some souvenirs. I did not win, but am a



finalist. I hope to participate in the next Idaho Miss Amazing in the Junior Miss division and to go back to nationals again.

College is a lot of money. My parents help me manage money too. I got a Ruby Rainbow scholarship and TVDSA has helped me a lot too. I want to give hope to others with Down syndrome and their families. I am willing to talk to families if they want to. Set your mind to your dreams and work hard so you can do it too!

TVDSA is proud to have had a small part in helping Baylee achieve her dreams. If you know anyone that is interested in participating in the scholarship program, contact us at scholarship@idahodownsyndrome.org.

Social Groups

Best Buds

Best Buds we're having a BEACH PARTY! We'll be doing the limbo and dancing on the beach!

An RSVP is required to come to this event. You can reserve your spot by emailing bestbuds@idahodownsyndrome.org. Looking forward to seeing everybody there!

When: Saturday, September 25

Where: TBD

Time: 1:00 to 3:00 pm

What to bring:

- Masks for adults and kids
- Sunblock and beach towels

Please review the [guidelines for TVDSA social group activities](#) from the TVDSA website.

For more information about Best Buds, email bestbuds@idahodownsyndrome.org



Cool Club/ Adults in Motion (AIM)

Let's make a splash!

The Cool Club and Adults in Motion will be going to Roystone Hot Springs to enjoy the pool and hot tub. We have reserved a private session for Cool Club and AIM on **September 18** from **1:30 to 3:00 pm**. We will meet at Roystone (about an hour's drive from Boise). Roystone is located at **7880 N Hwy 52, Sweet, ID 83670**. Please bring a swimsuit and towel.

Please review the [guidelines for TVDSA social group activities](#) from the TVDSA website. Before you RSVP, carefully review these protocols to ensure you understand and agree to abide by them at our gathering.

RSVP IS REQUIRED, and we will be limited to 30 total (participant and 1 guest). Due to safety precautions, drop-ins will NOT be permitted.

Contact Brenda Taylor (b.taylor@idahodownsyndrome.org) or Kathy Brilz (k.brilz@idahodownsyndrome.org) with questions or to RSVP by Wednesday, September 15. A reply will confirm your RSVP, and you will also be emailed a link to the waiver required by Roystone and TVDSA.

Activities are only open to current TVDSA members. If you need to renew your membership or check your membership status, email membership@idahodownsyndrome.org.



Updates from the Board

COVID Update for Social Events

As you may know we have resumed our social groups and many of our leads have events coming up. If you were not aware, currently our COVID protocol limits events to outdoor venues only at this time. Many have asked when indoor events will be allowed. The Board is reviewing the data and information to make that determination. With the information we have, we are not inclined to allow indoor events yet. We review this information often and will open events to indoor venues when we determine it is safe.

Changing of the Guard

It seems like the universe is watching over us. They say when one door closes, another one opens.

We are sad to report Charmaine Thaner is leaving the Board. Not to worry, she still will assist with some functions, and you will still see her presence on our Facebook meetings. Thank you, Charmaine from the entire Board for your service and continuing to help TVDSA. Please share your appreciation with her the next time you see her. We are also happy to announce Kristie Oakes has agreed to join the TVDSA Board. Many of you may remember that Kristie was previously on the Board and served in many positions with TVDSA. We welcome Kristie back and look forward to her experience. Thank you, Kristie.

Idaho Parents Unlimited (IPUL) Monthly Training—

Understanding Idaho Medicaid Webinar

September 8, 2021, 6:30 pm MST
([Click here to register.](#))

Join Idaho Parents Unlimited as we help to demystify Idaho's Medicaid!

Learn where to start, about children with special healthcare needs and disabilities, mental health options for children and families, and more!

Our Mission

To enhance the quality of life for persons with Down syndrome by promoting inclusive environments as well as advocating respect, dignity, and appropriate supports for people with Down syndrome to ensure that the world sees them as we do — Equal.

Our Vision

A world where full inclusion is a reality rather than a goal.

Join TVDSA Today!

If you are not currently a member or you would like to renew your membership, you can do so **online with the TVDSA Membership Form**. You can contact us at membership@idahodownsyndrome.org to verify your membership status.

Board of Directors

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Secretary & Membership

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Accommodations: What They Are and How They Work

understood.org

Español

Los niños que piensan y aprenden de manera diferente a menudo enfrentan obstáculos para aprender. Por ejemplo, si su hijo tiene , puede que no sea capaz de permanecer sentado el tiempo suficiente como para resolver problemas de matemáticas. Si tiene problemas para leer, puede que tenga dificultad para aprender historia leyendo un libro de texto tradicional. Por fortuna, existen cambios en el salón de clases llamados que pueden eliminar esos obstáculos.

Continúe leyendo para aprender qué son las adaptaciones y cómo pueden ayudar a su hijo.

Las adaptaciones son cambios en la escuela que remueven las barreras y proveen acceso al aprendizaje. Las adaptaciones no cambian lo que su hijo está aprendiendo, sino cómo lo aprende.

Este es un ejemplo clásico. Supongamos que su hijo está cursando una clase de historia de los Estados Unidos, pero tiene dificultad para leer. Una adaptación sería que el maestro le permita escuchar la versión en audiolibro del libro de texto. De esa manera puede aprender historia sin que sus dificultades con la lectura sean un obstáculo. Se ha eliminado un impedimento para que aprenda.

Lea el artículo completo en understood.org.

English

People who learn and think differently often face barriers to learning and getting work done. But schools, workplaces, and society can make changes to remove these barriers so everyone can do their best work.

These changes are called accommodations. In many cases, accommodations are legally required to give equal access to people with disabilities.

Accommodations don't change what students learn in school. Nor do they change what job responsibilities people have. They change how people learn and how people get their work done.

Accommodations also don't change the expectations for performance. They simply offer support to account for challenges.

For example, students might get extra time to read through a word problem. But they don't get fewer problems or easier ones. And they still must take the same exams and finish the same assignments as other students.

It's similar in the workplace. Employees might get a written list of tasks with deadlines. But they must still complete the key responsibilities of the job.

Read the full article at understood.org.