



#### **Did You Know?**

- Down syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition.
  Approximately one in every 700 babies in the United States is born with Down syndrome about 6,000 each year.
- Around 80% of babies with Down syndrome are born to mothers under the age of 35.
- Down syndrome affects people of all ages, races, and economic levels.
- educational programs, a stimulating home environment, good health care and positive support from family, friends and the community enable people with Down syndrome to lead fulfilling and productive lives.
- Children with Down syndrome really are "more alike" other children than different.



When you are ready, whether you are an expectant parent or a new parent, make NCDSA your first call.

(984) 200-1193

info@NCDSAlliance.org



### **Our Mission**

To empower, connect, and support the lifespan of individuals with Down syndrome, their families, and the community through outreach, advocacy, and education in North Carolina.

### **Our Vision**

North Carolina Down Syndrome Alliance is an effective, compassionate, and comprehensive resource on Down syndrome throughout North Carolina. NCDSA envisions a culture in which all people with Down syndrome are empowered to achieve their full potential and live healthy, productive lives as valued citizens within the fabric of society.

### **North Carolina Down Syndrome Alliance**

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 99562 Raleigh, NC 27624

Tel (984) 200-1193 Fax & Spanish Info (919) 788-3646 info@NCDSAlliance.org

NCDSAlliance.org



NCDSAlliance.org



North Carolina

**First Call Program** 

For New and Expectant Parents

# North Carolina First Call Program



ncdsa

# **New and Expectant Parent Program:**

~ Pre

**Prenatal Information Packets** 



Welcome Baby Bag full of gifts and resources



Award-winning New Parent Handbook



Accurate, up-to-date, and balanced information about Down syndrome



Connection with a trained Parent Mentor to discuss your questions and concerns



Home or hospital visit available upon request

Referrals to local and national resources



Access to NCDSA's full range of resources, programs, and community events including new parent socials,

New and Expectant Parent meetings, playgroups, and local online communities



Connection to local NCDSA community groups, or your closest Down syndrome support agency

# Welcome New Parents

# Congratulations!

NCDSA believes every baby deserves a joyful welcome!

The most important thing to remember is that your baby is a baby first and is not defined by his or her diagnosis of Down syndrome. Right now there may be a lot of emphasis on how your baby may be different and possible medical problems he or she may face, but try to take things one day at a time. You will soon find that children with Down syndrome are more alike than different from other children.

# And Expectant Parents

Learning that your baby has Down syndrome is an overwhelming and emotional experience for most parents. You may initially feel confused, frightened, angry, saddened, and/or isolated. NCDSA has information, resources, and mentors available that can help you make important decisions for your family.





The North Carolina Down Syndrome Alliance works to ensure that all expectant and new families in North Carolina receive resources and support.