



Down syndrome Outreach (DsO) of Whatcom County is the local committee that works to support and celebrate individuals with Down syndrome and their families. As part of The Arc of Whatcom County, we provide resources, trainings and connection. Down syndrome Outreach is making a difference in the lives of families here in Whatcom County. Patty Tripp has shared how Down syndrome Outreach and The Arc of Whatcom County has made a difference in their lives.

Patty Tripp is the proud grandmother (Nana) of Grayson, an adorable little boy with Down syndrome. She shares that Grayson was born during the COVID pandemic, when everything was locked down. Grayson's Mom, Baylee, did not know that Grayson had Down syndrome until he was born, so she and Grayson's dad, Palen, were alone in the hospital trying to figure out how to care for their new son. Because of COVID restrictions, visitors were not allowed. Aside from hospital staff, they were completely on their own until they were able to return home. As Patty began researching how to best meet Grayson's needs, she discovered The Arc of Whatcom County. The Arc connected the family with programs and resources in the area that provided the support they needed.

"This support helped Baylee have everything she needed to help her son thrive," Patty shared. Patty also reached out to find opportunities for Baylee to connect with other mothers raising children with Down syndrome. Through this search, Down Syndrome Outreach and Buddy Fest became an important source of support, encouragement, and community for the entire family.

One way DsO fundraises to support families is through Buddy Fest. Buddy Fest is an annual event for people with Down syndrome, their families and friends, and everyone in the community! Buddy Fest is also our major fundraising event, which helps us to provide:

- **Programs, activities, and family support events** provide learning and social opportunities for those with Down syndrome and their family members.
- **Awareness events** that celebrate individuals with Down syndrome and create awareness about the important contributions they make to our communities.
- **Educational workshops** for caregivers, educators and self-advocates to foster independence.
- **Advocacy efforts** supporting legislative initiatives, educational and medical support, and community awareness.





We would like to invite you to support our 5th Annual Buddy Fest Celebration on September 26th, 2026 at the Mt. Baker Rotary Building on the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds in Lynden. Can you join us, or support the event and community with a sponsorship? The event will run from 12-3 PM and we are expecting about 300 people to celebrate with us. We will walk a 2/3-mile course around Lynden, and then enjoy lunch, activities, entertainment, and community building.

Questions? Contact Rhonda at (360) 715-0170 ext. 203 or email rhondar@arcwhatom.org. You can also donate online at arcwhatcom.org. Click on "Donate" and indicate you'd like your donation to go to Down syndrome Outreach. We will reach out to you to get your logo so we can promote your business with the event.

Thank you in advance for your generous support to help us celebrate and promote appreciation and inclusion of people with Down syndrome in our community. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,
The Down Syndrome Outreach Committee



All events occur in accessible locations. For sign language interpreter service, assistive listening devices or community material in alternative formats including Braille, large print, and audiotape call The Arc office at (360) 715-0170, seven working days before the event.

*DsO is a program of The Arc of Whatcom County, a 501(c)3 Organization (Federal Tax ID #311579359).
The Arc of Whatcom County • 2602 McLeod Road • Bellingham, WA 98225 • (360) 715-0170*

United Way
of Whatcom County





Please consider one of the following signature sponsorship levels and help make a difference for our community. Together, we can increase awareness and create a supportive community for all.

GOLD LEVEL: \$2,500+ sponsorship

- Team of 10 admissions to The Arc of Whatcom County's Buddy Fest
- Corporate advertising and promotional materials can be displayed at event
- On-site signage and recognition
- Logo on our website during marketing for Buddy Fest
- Acknowledgement from the podium at the event
- Logo in The Arc of Whatcom County newsletter (which reaches over 2,500 families)
- Recognition and logo/link on social media leading up to Buddy Fest

SILVER LEVEL: \$1,500+ sponsorship

- Team of 5 admissions to The Arc of Whatcom County's Buddy Fest
- Acknowledgement from the podium at the event
- Logo in The Arc of Whatcom County newsletter (which reaches over 2,500 families)
- Recognition and logo/link on social media leading up to Buddy Fest

BRONZE LEVEL: \$500+ sponsorship

- Two admissions to The Arc of Whatcom County's Buddy Fest
- Logo in The Arc of Whatcom County newsletter (which reaches over 2,500 families)
- Recognition and logo/link on social media leading up to Buddy Fest

BUDDY LEVEL: \$1-\$500

- Recognition in The Arc of Whatcom County newsletter

IN-KIND DONATION!

We need all kinds of community support to make this event a success! Great food, door prizes and raffle items all help make the event a fun and special time. Would your business consider an in-kind donation? All donations of raffle items will be considered sponsorships in the amount of the donated raffle item.

Looking for another way to participate?

VOLUNTEER!

We are aiming to have 50 volunteers helping with everything from guiding and encouraging walkers on the course through Lynden, to helping with set up, games and organization. We kindly request that volunteers arrive at 11 AM.





Yes, count me in for supporting Buddy Fest this year!

(Please send your logo electronically so we can thank you for your sponsorship!)

Checks can be mailed to : The Arc of Whatcom County, 2602 McLeod Road, Bellingham ,WA 98225

Name _____ Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____ Date _____

I'd like to support with a:

- GOLD LEVEL: \$2,500+ sponsorship**
- SILVER LEVEL: \$1,500+ sponsorship**
- BRONZE LEVEL: \$500+ sponsorship**
- BUDDY LEVEL: \$1-\$500**
- IN-KIND DONATION**

In-kind donation description:

Signature _____ Date _____

