ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2018

FUNDRAISING
73%

PROGRAMS & SERVICES
26%

ADMIN
1%

REVENUE
$1,789,803

SPENDING WISELY
$1,614,846

FUNDRAISING
19%

PROGRAMS & SERVICES
75%

663 program spaces filled

Run Up for DS Records
1,100 runners/$240,000 raised

New Programs
Adults Can Cook, Teens Can Cook, Friday Reads, Taekwondo for Beginners, One to One Tutoring

Digital Connections
83,000 webpage views
1,300 new social followers
54,000 reading and communication video views

280 Speech Language Therapy
143 One to One Programs
143 Group Programs
97 Occupational Therapy
Sadie Gates: Smile

Sadie Gates recently graduated from the Down Syndrome Resource Foundation’s post-secondary transitions program. It was the culmination of a 21-year journey.

“DSRF has literally been with us since the day Sadie was born,” explains her mom, Abbe. “As soon as they told us an hour after her birth that there seem to be signs of Down syndrome, my mother got DSRF on the phone. She was a little panicked, of course. When my mother stopped talking, she heard one word: ‘Congratulations.’”

DSRF walked alongside the family as they began to navigate their unexpected journey. “We were finding out the road ahead of us and the challenges we would face,” says Abbe. “And yes, there have been a few little detours, and some things don’t come as easily to Sadie as they would for a person without Down syndrome. But it’s okay. You don’t dwell on what people can’t do; you look at what they can do.”

That positive focus on the unique abilities of each individual is at the heart of DSRF’s approach, and the results are plain to see. “Sadie just thrived because of DSRF,” says Abbe. “They helped her learn how to talk, but they also gave her something for her spirit. The smile on her face when she would come out of every class she ever attended there – it was never, ‘Mommy, I don’t want to go.’ Never.”

Now, as she enters adulthood, the possibilities for Sadie’s future are wide open. But for Abbe, it boils down to one very simple thing. “My hope for Sadie’s future is exactly what Sadie hopes for herself,” says Abbe. “That’s all I want.”

And just what are Sadie’s hopes? “I would like to help others with different needs,” she says with her trademark smile. “In the future, I want to become like my mom.”

Whatever the future holds, DSRF will continue to be there to support the family. “I don’t know what life would be without the Down Syndrome Resource Foundation,” confesses Abbe. “And I’ll never know, because we’re forever there. We’re forever there.”