

2019 Conference



Maine Down Syndrome Network's 2019 Conference to be held in November!

Join us for a day of learning, networking, support & fun!

Each November, hundreds of Mainers with Down syndrome, their families, educators, health care providers and community members come together to learn the latest information and best practices with regards to Down syndrome. They also share their stories, offer their support and gather resources to bring back to their homes, schools and communities.

In addition to workshops and speakers, we invite providers and vendors to share their expertise and provide even more resources for our attendees. And we are proud to invite many of our self-advocate entrepreneurs to display their talents, and promote their businesses.

[Read on for ways you can help...](#)

Attendees Include:

Mainers with
Down syndrome
Parents
Siblings
Educators
Therapists
Support Workers
College Students
& more!

About Us

Maine Down Syndrome Network (MDSN) is a network of families, professionals, and community members living in the state of Maine who share the common goal of promoting awareness and acceptance of people with Down syndrome. We offer support, education and advocacy to our members and to our communities. MDSN was founded in 2001 and has over 500 members across the state. MDSN is a 501c(3) organization.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

1. **Lunch** - A catered lunch is provided to all conference attendees, volunteers, speakers and workshop presenters. In 2019 we approximate this to be 200 people.

2. **Snacks** - Two snacks, including drinks, are provided to all of the children in childcare, sibling, and self-advocate programs. In 2019 we estimate this to be 50 people.

3. **Afternoon Coffee** - Coffee service and dessert are provided in the afternoon to all conference attendees, volunteers, speakers and workshop presenters.

Average Number of Attendees 2009-2018:

175
Adults
40
Children



Speakers & Workshop Presenters

It is the speakers and workshop presenters who make or break a conference. MDSN is committed to presenting workshops of exceptional quality, led by presenters who are among the best in their field. Each year we poll our members and ask what topics they need, what they want to learn more about, and then our dedicated conference committee researches the best and the brightest in those content areas. This is the area for which we always wish we had more funds, because as you can imagine, speaker fees and travel expenses to Maine quickly add up! If you are interested in making a targeted donation for a keynote speaker or a workshop, or if you are able to help us in kind with hotel or airfare, please let us know!

Sibling & Self-Advocate Programs

MDSN's Conference offers multiple workshops for siblings to better understand Down syndrome, and to learn to express their own feelings about having a sibling with Down syndrome. We also offer a track of workshops for Self-Advocates (people who have Down syndrome) to learn to maximize their potential and live healthy lives.





Event Facility

A schedule filled with the best people, and lunch by the best caterers would be nothing without the right facility to make it all work! MDSN's conference requires a space with 6-8 classrooms for workshops (with projectors and screens), an auditorium for keynote and space for 250 to sit down and eat lunch. Additional needs include free parking, the ability to set up the evening before the conference and the ability to stay past the end time (usually 5pm) to clean up and pack up. MDSN does have general liability insurance, and also secures event insurance for the conference.

Conference Schedule

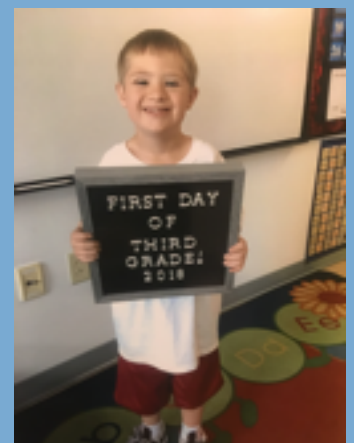
8:30-9:30 Check-in/Registration
9:00-9:30 MDSN Annual Meeting
9:30-10:00 Welcome Remarks
10:00-11:15 Keynote Address
11:30-12:30 Workshop Session 1
12:30-1:30 Lunch
1:30-2:30 Workshop Session 2
2:45-3:45 Workshop Session 3
4:00-5:00 Workshop Session 4

More Sponsorship Opportunities:

4. **Bags** - Each attendee receives a bag to keep all of their conference stuff together. There is an opportunity for your company to display your logo on one side of this bag (MDSN logo will be on the opposite side. Est. 250 bags.

5. **Compendium** - Each attendee will receive a compendium containing workshop descriptions, speaker biographies, and advertisements. Est. 250

6. **Pre-Conference Dinner** - This dinner is attended by MDSN Board, MDSN Conference Committee, Speakers, and other VIP guests. Est. 30 guests.





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