

**Pandemic Planning-  
How To Make The Most  
of Virtual and Non  
Traditional Classrooms**

**Down Syndrome of  
Louisville**  
Carly Biggs- Engagement Director  
Katie Zurkhalen-Programs and  
Operations Director

DOWN SYNDROME  
OF LOUISVILLE  
SERVING LOCALLY. SHARING GLOBALLY

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**Overview**

**In This Session:**  
Share our experiences: We will share all of our successes and hiccups so other DSAs can avoid the potential pitfalls we faced and see growth virtually.

- Introduction- Who we are
- Virtual programs that are working for us
- Learning Opportunities
- Zoom tips
- Safe return into your building Covid guidelines

Answer questions: Sometimes the unknown holds us back. Let us answer all of your questions about virtual programs for your DSA

DOWN SYNDROME  
OF LOUISVILLE  
SERVING LOCALLY. SHARING GLOBALLY

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**Down Syndrome of Louisville**

- Our Mission
  - Provide support, education, and advocacy for individuals with Down syndrome; thus enabling each individual to reach their full potential.
- Our Values
  - We Care
  - We Have Fun
  - We Stay Open
  - We Don't Settle

**SUPPORT  
EDUCATE  
ADVOCATE**

DOWN SYNDROME  
OF LOUISVILLE  
SERVING LOCALLY. SHARING GLOBALLY

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## Introductions

### Carly Riggs- Engagement Director

- Passion for inclusive arts
- Social events for advocates and families
- Community partners
- Kindness Warrior Podcast
- "Serving Locally, Sharing Globally"



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## Introductions

### Katie Zurkuhlen- Programs & Operations Director

- Educational Programs
- Staffing Operations
- Facilities
- Medical Outreach
- New Parent Support



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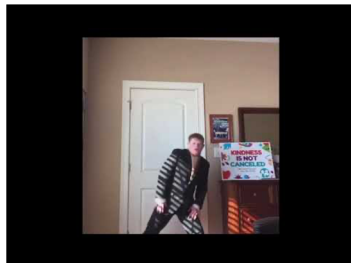
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## DSL Virtual Program Offerings

### Boogie Down Parties

- First Virtual Offering- March 16th
- Hiccups
  - Daily Class
  - Talent Show
- Tips
  - Guest teachers
  - Everyone loves a THEME
  - When in doubt, dance it out
  - Mute is your friend



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## DSL Virtual Program Offerings

### Chef For A Day

- Once a week offering
- Advocates take turns "hosting" their own cooking show
- Quarantine Cookbook (coming soon)
- Hiccups
  - Guest chefs were cooking too fast! Hard for folks to keep up.
- Tips
  - Make sure chefs don't have any items pre-cut or prepared (unless they say so in the recipe)
  - Get recipes to families ASAP- calendar
  - Have someone moderating the Zoom to check on each person cooking



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## DSL Virtual Program Offerings

### Early Ed Circle Time

- Bi-weekly
- Attendance up from in person class 60%
- Parents love this option



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## DSL Virtual Program Offerings

### Adult Development Academy

- Three classes a day- academics are the focus
  - Small Groups (aging population)
  - Healthy Movement
  - Student Council
  - Electives
- Paid Program
- Able to reach members that were otherwise unable to join us in person
- Aging Population



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### DSL Virtual Program Offerings

#### American Sign Language

- Twice monthly
- ASL Student on Staff at DSL
- Never need microphones
- Study Videos
- Songs, vocabulary

#### Book Club

- Once a week
- Smaller groups, more social opportunity
- Scripts
- HP online
- Multiple choice- hold us numbers



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### DSL Virtual Program Offerings

#### Bollywood

- Twice monthly
- Guest Teacher- Volunteer

#### Dance Fit

- Weekly
- Guest Teacher- Volunteer

#### Morning Workout

- Twice Weekly
- Guest Teacher- Staff



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### DSL Virtual Program Offerings

- Infant Class
- Living and Learning
- Telehealth Appointments
- Brain Breaks
- Kids Club



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## DSL Virtual Communications

**Communications**

- Daily Virtual Emails
- Daily Remind Messages
- Weekly Emails
- Monthly Emails
- Social Media
- Mom's Group
- Blog

PRINTABLE DSL TEEN/ADULT CALENDAR

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## DSL Virtual Program Offerings

- Mom Squad
- Dad Squad
- Sib Squad
- Virtual social events
- Education sessions
- Virtual and one on one tutoring

"Michael is a GEM! He is always sitting at the front door of his dad's law office, with a script he has been practicing and ready to get on camera! His joy brings me JOY!"

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## In Person Programs

**Getting the building ready**

- Implemented new drop-off/pick-up routine
  - Directional signage for flow
- Re-arranged classrooms to socially distance 6 members per classroom and 2 teachers
- Set up "sanitation stations" outside of bathrooms and classrooms
- New patio poured and pavilion built to enjoy fresh air for mask breaks (socially distanced)
- Individual supplies in a bag (pencils, calculators, markers, etc.)
- Directional arrows for navigating the building
- New digital sign in on iPad at front desk

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## In Person Programs

**NTI Support**

- o Hiccups
  - Learned we needed enough staff to provide one on one help
- o Tips
  - Pull all available staff to
  - Offer a day without NTI but still educational (circle time identifying weather, calendar recognition, rote counting, themed letter days, etc.)
    - This was very valuable to our parents who had zero respite since the beginning of March





**DOWN SYNDROME OF LOUISVILLE**  
SUPPORTING LOCALS. CHANGING GLOBALS.

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**DOWN SYNDROME OF LOUISVILLE**  
SUPPORTING LOCALS. CHANGING GLOBALS.

## Other 2020 Wins

- Fall Festival
- Kindness is Not Canceled Campaign
- Kindness Warrior Podcast
- Personalized Santa Videos
- Virtual Fundraising Events (Fashion Show, Gala, Walk on Wheels)
- Community In-Kind Gifts have been abundant.
- Bike Camp

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## Questions/Comments?



👏 Brittany loves all of this, thank you isn't enough but we do thank you for all your energy and enthusiasm, she looks forward to seeing you all. It's what is keeping her moving when her lungs are struggling"- Lynn Ware, DSL Parent




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Thank You

CarlyR@dsoflou.org



KatieZ@dsoflou.org



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