

In This Issue:

The Disability Awareness Club at Gateway Community College 1

Board of Directors 2007/2008 2

President's Message 2

CDSC Convention Preview 3

People First of Connecticut ... 4

S.T.A.N.D.: Students Take Action Now for Disabilities ... 4

DDS Self Advocate Coordinators 5

Self Advocacy Resources on the Web..... 5

Self Advocacy Groups Groups in Connecticut 5

Meet Kids as Self Advocates ... 6

Meet Joshua O'Neill..... 6

Free Financial Planning Workshop to Empower Families 7

Annual Picnic Wrap-up..... 7

Upcoming CDSC Events 7

What's New? 8

Contact Information:

Call us toll free at: 888.486.8537 or visit us at:

www.ctdownsyndrome.org



The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress promotes opportunity, equity, and inclusion for

individuals with Down syndrome and their families.

The Disability Awareness Club at Gateway Community College

By Brenda Purvis

As a member at the Step Forward Program class of 2008, Brenda Purvis (a student with Down syndrome and a member of the CDSC) recognized the need to educate others at Gateway Community College and created a Disability Awareness Club.

In her role as founder and president, Brenda organized a Brown Bag Lecture Series with guest speakers discussing a variety of disabilities. These lectures were open to students and staff and the general community. Presenters included: the Epilepsy Foundation, Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, Connecticut Brain Injury, Visual Impairment, and Connecticut Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities.

The club's advisor is Jaime French, Director of the Step Forward Program, and the Assistant Advisor is Mary Ann Viscio.

Brenda started an internship earlier last year in the Early Learning Center at Gateway Community College. She interacted with the children by helping with the children's behavior and communication skills. Some of her duties were washing tables before and after activities and setting up for snack time. While the teacher was reading, she would make sure that the children were paying attention. Also she helped them with tying shoes when they asked for help. She enjoyed her internship and working with



Brenda Purvis, President of the Disability Awareness Club at Gateway Community College.

the children. Some of the kids had problems listening, but she learned how to handle difficult behaviors.

This year Brenda is taking cooking classes and is also in her last year of dance, hoping to be a class assistant.

The Step Forward Program at Gateway Community College promotes full inclusion in the workforce and recognizes individual potential and choice by providing a challenging educational and supportive career preparation program that meets the needs of young adults with learning difficulties. The year-long program blends classroom instruction with community-based internship and job shadowing opportunities.

Participants are encouraged to participate in college activities, utilize community resources, and develop intellectual and vocational interests. ■

Board of Directors 2007-2008

President	Walter Glomb
Past President	Lynn Cholewinski
Executive VP	Karen Zbierski
Treasurer	Cathy Schneider
Secretary & Director	Sheryl Knapp
County VP's & Directors	
<i>Fairfield</i>	Anne Eason Sheryl Knapp Sue Sweeny
<i>Litchfield</i>	Colleen and Emil Renzullo
<i>Tolland</i>	Position available
<i>Hartford</i>	Chris McAuliffe
<i>Middlesex</i>	Cecily Quincy
<i>New Haven</i>	Jessica Heeran Kim Mastriano-Guile
<i>New London</i>	Holly Salegna Estelle Harris John Visgilio
<i>Windham</i>	Position available

At Large Directors

Dr. Robert Greenstein - *Medical Advisor*
Beth Lurie - *Newsletter Editor*
Molly Cole - *UConn UCEDD*
Kathleen Whitbread, PhD - *Educational Consultant*

Self Advocate Nick Glomb

CDSC Quarterly

CDSC Quarterly is published four times per year by the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, Inc. We welcome input from parents and professionals. Please help other families by sharing your experiences.

NEW ADDRESS!

Send submissions to: Newsletter Editor,
c/o CT Down Syndrome Congress, Inc.,
A.J. Papanikou Center in Developmental Disabilities
University of Connecticut
263 Farmington Avenue, MC 6222
Farmington, CT 06030
Call Toll Free: 888.486.8537
or by email to: editor@ctdownsyndrome.org

STATEMENT OF POLICY AND DISCLAIMER

The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress is a non-profit statewide organization of families, professionals and friends with a common vision: to improve the lives of persons with Down syndrome by promoting equity, opportunity, inclusion, and empowerment for individuals and their families in all aspects of life. The newsletter reports items of interest relating to Down syndrome and will provide a forum for others. The Congress does not promote or recommend any therapy, treatment, etc. We will not espouse any particular political or religious view. Individuals or organizations referred to do not necessarily endorse this publication or its editor. The editor reserves the right to make corrections as appropriate, and in accord with established editorial practice in material submitted for publication.

CONTRIBUTIONS

The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization registered with the Internal Revenue Service to accept tax-deductible contributions. We receive no funding from any state or federal agencies.

President's Message

by *Walter Glomb*

Meet Connecticut's Self Advocates.

This issue of the CDSC Newsletter contains articles contributed by self advocates and self advocacy organizations in Connecticut. These are adults, and some young people, who are speaking up on behalf of themselves and their peers who have Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. They have a lot to say and I will let them speak for themselves in the pages of this newsletter.

I dare say this group "can be really esteemed accomplished" (as Jane Austen's Mr. Darcy might say) and they deserve our respect and our support. Learn about their issues. Read about their lives. Visit their web sites and read their statements of values and proposals for public policy. If you are an employer, are there opportunities in your company where you could benefit from the skills of an individual who has Down syndrome? In your town, are your schools, churches, businesses and community activities welcoming and inclusive?

And please support our self advocates when the Connecticut General Assembly convenes in 2009.

Most individuals who have Down syndrome depend on public programs at some times in their lives and the state legislature is responsible for the laws, regulations and budgets that implement those programs. In 2009 the legislature will be formulating the next biennial budget for all the state programs on which our self advocates rely. Birth-to-Three, public education, employment supports, day programs, residential supports, transportation and medical insurance will all be at risk as the Governor and the legislature strive to assemble a budget under the mandated cap.

Now is the time to remind your representatives in the state legislature that your family depends on their actions. Please visit your local state senator and representative sometime before January. Introduce your legislators to your son, daughter, brother, sister or other family member who has Down syndrome. Make them aware of the needs of families in their respective districts.

The CDSC seeks to improve the lives of people who have Down syndrome – but how often have we asked those individuals who are living with Down syndrome what do they think is important? This summer, at Lenny & Joe's, I spoke with four of our young adults (Brenda, Ashley, Eva and Nick) and they expressed interest in developing a program of activities for self advocates within the CDSC. In order to facilitate this we have established a Yahoo message board just for CDSC self advocates at http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/cdsc_self_advocates/. I encourage all our self advocates to sign on and begin sharing ideas and experiences and suggestions for the CDSC. We also have a self advocate on our Board of Directors who would like to hear suggestions from his peers and we will once again have a day-long program by and for self advocates at our annual convention on October 25. I hope to see more of our self advocates there this year.



Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention Preview – “Imagine the Possibilities”

Saturday, October 25, 2008 — Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, Connecticut

With distinguished keynote speaker Karen Gaffney.

“I can think of nothing more inspiring, more uplifting or more empowering to a parent than to see an adult with Down syndrome deliver the keynote at our annual convention.” – Walt Glomb, President, Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress

From the moment she was born, Karen Gaffney began an incredible journey that continues today. She is the President of a nonprofit organization dedicated to championing the full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in schools, the workplace, and the community. Karen travels the country

speaking to a wide range of audiences about overcoming limitations and what can be accomplished with the power of positive expectations. Karen tackles any challenge she faces with determination and commitment, knowing she has limits, but not allowing them to limit her drive to succeed.

Oh, and by the way... Karen Gaffney has Down syndrome.

Karen graduated from St. Mary’s Academy in Portland, Oregon, and earned a two-year Associate of Science degree from Portland Community College.

Workshop Topics

Birth to Three

Medical Issues in Children and Infants

Robert Greenstein, MD Director, Division of Human Genetics, University of Connecticut Health Center

ENT Manifestations of Down syndrome: Pearls and Preventive Tips for Parents

Scott Schoem, MD, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center

The Benefits and Basics of Sign Language

Nina Bellantone

Oral Motor Speech Therapy

Lori Overland MS, CCC-SLP of Alphabet Soup

Oral Motor Feeding Issues in Children with Downs syndrome

Jennifer Price, MS, CCC-SLP, of Alphabet Soup

Advocating for Your Child

Laura Glomb, JD

School Years

Positive Behavior Support

Judy Itzkowitz, Ph.D.

Reading Instruction for Children with Down syndrome

Sheryl Knapp, literacy consultant

Integrating Related Services into the General Education Classroom

Julie Giaccone, M.S. CCC-SLP

Teacher Panel (elementary, middle, high school) on Curriculum Modifications and Accommodations in Inclusive Classrooms.

Sheila Blachman, Ph.D.

Person Centered Planning and Transition

Jessica Veneziano-Lemos

Post-secondary Education for Students with Down syndrome

Margaret Kardos OTR/L, ATP

Adult Life

DDS Employment Supports

Beth McArthur, Director of Waiver Management and Systems Improvement; Robin Wood, Director of Self Determination

Adult Services – a Provider Perspective

Tom Sullivan, Executive Director, Arc of New London County

Strategies for Effective Advocacy

April Dipolina, CT Family Support Network

Special Topics

The P.J. Settlement Agreement

Attorney David Shaw

Legislative Issues

Walt Glomb, President, CDSC

Talking About Sexuality to Children with Disabilities

Erin Livensparger, Staff Trainer, Planned Parenthood of CT

Self-Advocates

Panel of Self Advocates

Karen Gaffney

Culinary Career

Nick Glomb, self advocate

My Life - a work in progress: my school, employment and recreation experiences.

Jamie Graham, self advocate

Skin Care Tips

Mary Kay

Pampering

by Ella Grasso Tech

Karate Demo

For more information on the convention, registration forms and sponsorship opportunities visit the Convention page on our web site www.ctdownsyndrome.org

Please note: The Annual Membership Meeting of the CDSC will be held at the convention.

People First of Connecticut

By Carol Grabbe, President

Hello,

My name is Carol Grabbe and I am the President of People First of CT. I am also a Self Advocate Coordinator in the South Region at the Department of Developmental Services. There are a lot of self advocacy resources that I want to make sure you know about. SABLE is a national self advocacy organization that has a conference that is held every two years in a different state. SABLE also has goals they are working on such as improving employment, transportation, inclusion in schools, etc. You can get more information about SABLE at www.sabe.org.

People First of CT is a state chapter of SABLE. People First of CT supports the same goals as SABLE and works with legislators to make needed changes. For example, People First worked hard to help pass the hate crimes bill and helped change the name of DMR to DDS. We are currently working on trying to get more people to use respectful language. We have local People First of CT chapters. People First of CT also works



Carol Grabbe, President, People First of Connecticut

closely with the DDS Self Advocate Coordinators to help support other self advocacy groups. You can find more information about self advocacy at the DDS self advocacy website. This website includes the "CT Self Advocacy Guide" which lists contact information for most of the self advocacy groups in CT.

In my self advocacy work, I've learned the following things that I would like to share with parents of children with disabilities.

My Tips:

1. Stop Talking! Let your child speak for him or herself! (I don't mean to be rude, but you can't listen well if you are talking.)
2. Take the time to really listen. Your child probably has more to say, (if you stop talking and really listen), than you think!
3. Give opportunities to let your son or daughter try new things, take risks, and make mistakes. (Don't be over-protective, we all learn from our mistakes.)
4. Help your son or daughter learn what they are good at. They already get enough advice about what they need help with.
5. Dream big and believe in your child's abilities. That's what really shows respect! Respect builds self esteem and that is what is needed to create a great future! ■

S.T.A.N.D.: Students Take Action Now for Disabilities

Contributed by Beth Goodwin, Director, Community Enterprises, Inc.

S.T.A.N.D. is an organization sponsored by the Manchester Office of Community Enterprises, Inc. and is composed of students of the Transition Academy. The group meets twice a month at the Community Enterprises Transition Academy. The mission of STAND is to advocate for individuals with disabilities on a variety of subjects, including improving transportation availability and improved job opportunities for people with disabilities. Members of STAND have attended and spoken at events at the LOB regarding transportation and have attended several forums around the state on the subject. STAND members have also participated in

multiple letter writing campaigns to the governor and members of the legislature advocating for increased funding to DDS to support graduates. STAND worked on a project in which they wrote letters to the Mayors of the towns in which they lived and asked for meetings to express their interests. The Mayor of Bloomfield, and the Mayor of East Hartford came on separate occasions to meet with the members of STAND. The group had prepared questions which they asked of the town officials, and both Mayors stated that they walked away with a better understanding of the needs of their constituents with disabilities. More recently members of STAND have

embarked on a theatrical venture. They have formed an off-shoot group called the Stand Up Gang. The cast of this group is working together to create a presentation on inclusion, tolerance and self advocacy. Their presentation includes songs, both original and by other artists, as well as skits. The goal of the Stand Up Gang is to eventually perform and deliver their message to public schools in the area. The groups' feeling is that if they can educate people while they are young, then by the time they are in high school and beyond, there will be more tolerance for people with disabilities. The overall goal of STAND is to change minds, one at a time. ■

DDS Self Advocate Coordinators

Contributed by Robin Wood, Self Determination Director, DDS

In 2004, the Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS) created nine, 20 hour week, paid, Self Advocacy Coordinator positions. In the coming year, a tenth position will be added at the DDS Central Office. Self Advocate Coordinators are state employees who also receive services from the department. The Self Advocate Coordinators are responsible for helping the department accomplish the following goals:

1. **ADVOCACY:** Promote and expand the number of people served by the department who participate in advocacy activities.
2. **DECISION-MAKING:** Expand the number of people served by the department who participate in agency decision-making activities such as Advisory Councils, Regional Division Workgroups and Statewide Committees, Quality Improvement activities, training activities, etc.
3. **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:** Assist people served by the department to enhance their leadership skills and become more effective public speakers and advocates.
4. **EDUCATION:** Educate others about important topics such as self advocacy, human rights, making choices, self determination, self-direction, etc.

5. NEW INITIATIVES: Involve people served by the department in new projects initiated by the department. For example, the focus for this year is to encourage people served by the department to participate in the department's new Employment First Initiative.

The Self Advocate Coordinators are proud of all that they have accomplished in the last few years. They have helped create important legislated changes; they have influenced policy change at the department; and they have helped create new materials to help families to better understand the supports and services the department has to offer.

They have also spoken at national, state, and local conferences and other important training events and have positively influenced and educated a variety of individuals including state employees, teachers and other educators, emergency management personnel, etc. Most importantly, they have helped their peers to learn to SPEAK UP and SPEAK OUT and to better self advocate for themselves.

Go to <http://www.ct.gov/dds> to learn more about self advocacy and about the DDS Self Advocate Coordinators. ■



Varian Salters, Self Advocate Coordinator for DDS North Region in Willimantic.



Krista Cholewinski and Anders Carlson enjoy a day of merriment at the Lenny And Joe's Celebrity Carousel. Proceeds from rides were donated to CDSC – over \$700.

Photo contributed by Brenda Purvis.

Self Advocacy Resources on the Web	
National Down Syndrome Society Club NDSS	www.clubndss.org
National Down Syndrome Congress Self-Advocate branch	www.ndscenter.org/selfadvo/intro.php
Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Self-Advocate Message Board	health.groups.yahoo.com/group/cdsc_self_advocates
People First of Connecticut	www.wecahr.org/people.htm
CT DDS Self Advocate Coordinators	www.ct.gov/dds/cwp/view.asp?a=2050&q=332652
CT-KASA	www.ctkasa.org
Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE)	www.sabeusa.org
Self-Advocate Leadership Network (SALN)	www.hsri.org/leaders/index.htm
The Riot!	www.theriotrocks.org
Self-Advocacy On Line	www.selfadvocacyonline.org
National Youth Leadership Network	www.nyln.org
Advocating Change Together (ACT)	www.selfadvocacy.com
National Youth Information Center	www.addyic.org

Self Advocacy Groups in Connecticut	
Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress c/o UConn UCEDD 263 Farmington Avenue, MC 6222 Farmington, CT 06030 (888) 486-8537	
People First of Connecticut c/o WeCAHR 211 Main Street Danbury, CT 06810 (203) 792-3540.	
CT DDS Self Advocate Coordinators c/o Robin Wood DDS Self Determination Director 460 Capitol Avenue Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 418-8770	
CT-KASA c/o UConn UCEDD 263 Farmington Ave., MC 6222 Farmington, CT 06030 (860) 679-1561	

Meet Kids As Self Advocates (KASA)

from <http://www.ctkasa.org/>

We are the Connecticut chapter of Kids As Self Advocates (KASA), a national grassroots network of youth with disabilities and their friends, speaking on behalf of themselves. We are an organization *for* youth, run *by* youth. We help kids with disabilities, their siblings and peers, learn how to be self advocates through information and support.

CT-KASA got its start in 2002 when some of the members of the national KASA project came to Connecticut to help us form our own statewide chapter. They worked with us to identify what our main issues were and what support we needed to accomplish our goals. Through the years, we have received support from the CT Council on Developmental Disabilities, the CT Youth Leadership Project and the CT Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, as well as

many others. Currently we have our office at the University of Connecticut Center for Excellence in Disabilities. We also use meeting space at two of the Independent Living Centers in the state and we're forming new partnerships every day. Our membership has grown to include more than 30 members, from over 25 different towns in Connecticut. Anyone between the ages of 13 and 24 is welcome to join us!

CT KASA activities to address these topics include:

- Presentations on self-advocacy
- Presentations on the transition from high school to higher education or employment
- Articles for national & regional publications
- Participation on boards & committees
- Maintenance of the CT-KASA list serve & website

- Employment of youth in key leadership roles as CT-KASA Youth Organizers & Chairperson
- Hosting speakers at meetings
- Mentoring & social support within members of the group

KASA upholds the following values:

- We believe in self-advocacy by youth with disabilities
- We believe youth organizations, projects & activities should be youth run
- We focus on disability and health care needs
- We educate others about our issues
- We promote independence
- We give & expect respect
- We provide & expect equal opportunity
- We believe in self-determination ■

Meet Joshua O'Neill

In 1998 I graduated from my neighborhood high school in Fort Wayne, Indiana. That summer I started at Chapel Haven in New Haven, CT. I was in the residence program for three years and after I graduated from that I told my Mom and Dad that I wanted to stay in New Haven. I moved into my own condo and I had one roommate for five years and the one I have now I have had for two years. We get along good.

Chapel Haven has its own café and I have worked there for the past three years. I work twelve hours a week. I love my job and being with my co-workers.

I have a work-out trainer and I am with her three times a week. Once a week I am with a computer tutor. As I am still part of Chapel Haven, I take courses



there. I take ceramics and drama. Chapel Haven also provides me with a support counselor who is with me six hours a week. We work on cooking, grocery shopping, banking and budgeting. I do my own laundry.

My brother Noah just got married and I was the best man at his wedding. I love

to be with him and his wife. At the wedding I gave a toast.

I have a girlfriend named Nicolle. She is very pretty and I really like to be with her. We go to movies, dinner and sometimes we just hang out. Nicolle was in Michigan for Noah's wedding. We danced and partied.

On weekends I like to go on rec trips with Chapel Haven. We go to ball games, plays, movies, Six Flags and other fun things.

I miss my family sometimes, but I still like living on my own and being independent. We see each other a lot. I feel good about myself and I have worked very hard to do what I do today. I have a life!

Josh O'Neill

Free Financial Planning Workshop to Empower Families

Special Olympics Connecticut will host a comprehensive workshop entitled, *What Every Parent Should Know About Special Needs Trusts and Estate Planning* on Thursday, October 23, 2008, 7:00 pm – 8:45 pm, at the Greenwich Library, 101 West Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT.

Participants of this workshop will learn how to:

- Envision a plan of action for the future life of your child
- Make informed decisions to reach your goals
- Navigate the legal maze of estate planning and ramifications
- Evaluate financial options for funding a Special Needs Trust

The speakers include Attorney Greta E. Solomon, Principal and Chair of Cohen & Wolf, P.C.'s Trusts & Estates, and Tax Groups and Stephen A. Ehrens, CPA, financial representative for Northwestern Mutual Financial Network. This workshop is free and open to the public. Reservations are suggested. For more information and to make a reservation, contact Marie Domack, Southwest Region, at (203) 380-9990 ext. 602 or email her at maried@soct.org.

Annual CDSC Member Picnic a Huge Success!

What a fantastic picnic we had! Over 230 participants enjoyed a day of fun in the sun and a chance to network with other families with Down syndrome. Let's hope for less jellyfish next year!



Special thanks go to:

- Lauren Morley, Picnic Organizer Extraordinaire
- The registration team: Cole Salegna, Jack Salegna, Lexi Tudisca, Nick Glomb
- Caterer Chris Butler, for donating her time again this year
- Anthony and Lourdes Acock for the amazing desserts
- Sandra Cassidy for her amazing artwork on the faces of our children.
- Kevin Johnson, "the generator guy"
- Holly Salegna
- The Mayo and Morrison Families
- Cathy Schneider, CDSC Treasurer

Upcoming Events from CDSC

Colchester area playgroup meets at the Cragin Memorial Library, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For more information please contact Betsy Ferling-Hitritz at 860-873-8713 or bferling@sfmslaw.com. *October 18, November 15, December 20, January 17, February 21.*

Wallingford area playgroup meets at Wallingford Park and Rec, 6 Fairfield Blvd., Wallingford from 10:00 – 11:30am on the 2nd Saturday of every month. Siblings always welcome. For more information please contact Colleen May at 203-679-0307 or colleencmay@comcast.net *October 11, November 8, December 13, January 10, February 1.*

Hartford Hartford area Mom's Night Out at 7:00 pm. All moms welcome! RSVP to Mary Marchant at 860-657-8761 or marymar@cox.net. *November 28* at Angellino's in Waterford. *December 18* at Olive Garden in Manchester. *January 27* at Houlihan's in Glastonbury. *February 25* at Outback Steakhouse in Newington.

Fairfield area Mom's Night Out. For more information, contact Sheryl Knapp at 203-431-9426 or sknapp44@sbcglobal.net.

Meriden/Cheshire area playgroup meets at Meriden Mall play area from 10:30 – 11:30 am. All welcome. For more information, contact Jessica at JLheeran@yahoo.com or 203-440-1357. *October 17, November 21, December 19.*

New Haven area Parent's Night Out at 7:00 pm. RSVP to Jessica at JLheeran@yahoo.com or 203-440-1357. *October 9* at Outback Steakhouse in North Haven. *November 13* at Sakimura Sushi & Hibachi in Meriden. *December 11* at Chili's in Wallingford. *January 15* at Mickey's in Hamden.

New London area Parent's Night Out at 6:30 pm at Chili's in Montville. RSVP to Estelle at estelleharris@sbcglobal.net or 860-886-8023. *To Come.*

Enfield area Up With Downs Family Support Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm at Allied Rehabilitation Center, 3 Pearson Way, Enfield (next to the DMV). Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Sue or George Marusak at 860-745-3651. *October 1, November 5, December 3, January 7, February 4.*

CDSC Board Meetings are 6:00-9:00 pm on the following dates. 6-7 pm social hour, 7-9 pm business meeting. For more information, contact manager@ctdownsyndrome.org. *October 1, November 5, January 7.*

Assessment Service Planned for Adults with Down syndrome

The Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress (CDSC) has provided Saint Raphael's Geriatric



Services with a \$25,000 grant to fund a formal Assessment Service for adults with Down Syndrome.

In addition to assessing the onset and progression of Alzheimer's disease in patients with Down Syndrome, the funding will also be used to provide education and training for community health professionals and the families of patients. The assessment program will begin in October.

"We are most grateful to the CDSC for this funding and the opportunity to provide improved treatment and education," said Dorothy Ventriglio, administrative director for Geriatric Services.

According to Gerard Kerins, M.D., section chief of Geriatric Medicine at Saint Raphael's, one of the unexpected consequences of growing old for a person with Down Syndrome is the almost guaranteed onset of Alzheimer's disease.

"About 95 percent of patients who have Down Syndrome develop the progressive disintegration of Alzheimer's," said Dr. Kerins, whose clinical interest in Alzheimer's disease and aging adults with disabilities began about 15 years ago. Today, he follows about 250 patients who have Down Syndrome and Alzheimer's disease.

"This is the first time that people with Down Syndrome have needed a gerontologist, and I'm thrilled that we at Saint Raphael's can respond," Dr. Kerins added.

For more information on this service, call the Healthy Aging Line at (203) 789-3275. ■



A Publication of the
Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress, Inc.

c/o A. J. Pappanikou Center in Developmental Disabilities
University of Connecticut
263 Farmington Avenue MC 6222
Farmington, CT 06030

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #13
FARMINGTON, CT