

Celebrations!

Being part of 2019 Giving Hearts Day raised just under \$10,000 for Designer Genes. Thanks to everyone that said #countme and helped us double our match.

A big shout out to the Our Place Motorcycle Club for their Bikers 4 Bikers Event. The event raised \$4500.00 for this year's iCan Bike Camp

Designer Genes was the March winner of the BisMan Power of 100, receiving \$10,000 from the event. Down Dogs for Down Syndrome and Cliver's Survivors (Kuppler Family) went all out this year, raising \$675.00 in memory of Clive on World Down Syndrome Day.

Designer Genes has been fortunate to share a full-time communications intern with The Arc of Bismarck and the ND State Council on Developmental Disabilities. Joseph Bump started in January and has been a valuable asset to carrying out our mission.

The National Down Syndrome Society awarded Designer Genes one of their 2019 Champion of Change awards for Buddy Walk of the Year.

iCan Bike Camp

Yup that's right – its an odd-numbered year, which means iCan Bike will be back in town, August 5 – 9 th .

We have a great planning committee and can hardly wait to be back at

VFW Ice Arena with our friends from iCan Shine. Registration is now open on our website for both riders and volunteers. We hope that we see some of you there.



August 5-9, 2019
VFW ALL SEASONS ARENA
BISMARCK

Cost: \$100

Registrations are limited and must be received and paid by July 1.

LEARN TO RIDE A 2-WHEEL BICYCLE!

5-DAY CAMP TEACHES INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES TO RIDE

PARTICIPANTS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

iCan Bike teaches individuals with disabilities to ride a two-wheel bicycle and become lifelong independent riders.

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS

Participants must be:

- At least 8 years old
- Able to walk without an assistive device and sidestep to both sides
- Able to attend a 75-minute session each day of the 5-day camp
- Under 220 lbs. and have a minimum inseam of 20"



For More Information: DesignerGenesND.com

Those interested in participating in or volunteering should visit www.DesignerGenesND.com to register or contact:
Camp Coordinator - Heather Lundeen - 701-471-5615.



Early Years' Mom Get-together Save the Date

Moms of young ones with Down syndrome (Birth through 8) will gather on Thursday, May 2 at 7:00 pm. Location to be announced.



Mark Your Calendars

UPCOMING DESIGNER GENES DATES OF NOTE

April 30	Designer Genes Board Meeting
May 2	Early Years' Mom Get-Together
July 9	Designer Genes Board Meeting
August 5 – 9	iCan Bike Camp
August 18	Designer Genes Annual Potluck Picnic – Sertoma Shelter/Superslide Amusement Park
September 9	Last day to get in your Walk Star Poster to Jamie Christensen.
September 13	Power Up Conference
September 23	Registration closes for Designer Genes Walk
September 26	Team Captain Pick – up Night (1500 E. Capitol Ave. (park on the north side)
September 28	2019 16th Annual Designer Genes Walk for Down Syndrome
October 8	Designer Genes Board Meeting
November 6 – 7	ND DPI Statewide Transition Conference
December 14	Supper with Santa/Annual Meeting – New Location: Harvest Brazilian Grill, Mandan ND

2019 Designer Genes Walk for Down Syndrome

Even though spring has just arrived, we're already getting ready for the 2019 Designer Genes Walk for Down Syndrome. This will be our 16th walk. Hard to believe, right? Team Captain packets are available by contacting info@designergenesnd.com, and our online registration system is ready for you to set up your teams. You may be noticing something a little different about how the walk is being promoted this year. Per several board discussions, we are striking out on our own without the NDSS trademark of "Buddy Walk". While we will miss the buddy terminology, we believe that the walk has become a community tradition and we would like to make annual and intentional commitments to state and/or national investments that reflect the current sentiment of our organization. Watch for more information on these investments. If you have any questions about the above information, feel free to contact Roxane or any of the Board members (Sandy McMerty, Board President, sandy@giftedbean.com for board contact information).

