



**PROGRAM AND EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**  
**Family Support Group**



November's Family Support Group focused on transitions in the school system. Family speakers Christine Riggi, Alisa Adamson, and Mary Bryant led the round robin discussion, encouraging family members to share their experiences and ask questions. "It was great to learn more information and different options when it comes to transitioning each school year", Shirley said. "I love being able to sit around and talk with all the other parents", Estela said.



## DSNNN Holiday Party

Thank you to those who joined us for our 4th Annual Holiday Party! We enjoyed celebrating the holidays with over 100 family members, friends and community supporters. Members connected with one another while kids played games, decorated cookies, made hot chocolate and sang karaoke, and everyone enjoyed a delicious meal.

A very special thank you to our Board of Directors for providing the main dish, Thom, who played Santa, our DJ, Laura Bardo, photographer Jessica Baker, and our many volunteers from UNR, Spanish Springs High School and McQueen High School who helped make the evening special. It means the world to our organization to be able to work with supporters like you.

This party wouldn't have been possible without our gracious anonymous donor. Thank you.

To see more photos from the holiday party, check out our Facebook page by clicking [here!](#)

## THANK YOU

During Giving Tuesday, 24 hours of online giving, you raised \$525.00 for DSNNN programs! Your generosity provides support for our many programs that not only touch the lives of people with Down syndrome and their families, but that of the disability community in northern Nevada.



Thank you.

## A Word From Development Coordinator, Amanda Merrill



It is with a heavy heart that tender my resignation with the Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada. I was offered a position at the Food Bank of Northern Nevada and I accepted.

This was not an easy decision for me. The last four years with the Down Syndrome Network has been an amazing, rewarding and educational journey. I am so proud to have worked for some of the most committed and loving families I have ever met!

As I worked to make a positive impact on the Northern Nevada community, I can truly say it is you who has changed me. I have learned what it means to be an amazing parent by watching you with your own children and through hearing your amazing stories. I have met some of the most fun, passionate, artistic and hilarious individuals that put the fun into "work" and make this world a brighter place. This community is incredibly special and I'm thankful for the opportunity to not only serve you, but to develop friendships and connections that I hope to hold on to for the years to come.

Thank you for everything, DSNNN! I look forward to volunteering and participating in future events.

See you soon,

Amanda Merrill  
Development Coordinator

## SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

### Western Trade Alliance



Western Trade Alliance is Nevada's largest bartering company which provides its members with several avenues to grow their business and save their money with the power of barter.

Western Trade Alliance has partnered with the DSNNN on events like the Buddy Walk and the annual holiday party, and donate WTA barter dollars for anything from prizes to bounce houses to make DSNNN events special. We truly appreciate our partnership with Western Trade Alliance!

To learn more about Western Trade Alliance and how they can benefit your business, click [here](#).

## BENEFIT DSNNN PROGRAMS WHILE YOU SHOP



Shoppers who used their S.H.A.R.E.S cards at Save Mart Supermarkets now only need to enter their phone number at check out to raise money for the Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada. However, shoppers will need to register for the program online through eScrip by clicking [here](#).



When you shop with AmazonSmile for the holidays, choose the Down Syndrome Network of Northern Nevada as your organization of choice.

AmazonSmile will donate a portion of proceeds to the DSNNN at no additional cost to you.

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