

Amy Allison

Executive Director

Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City

B.S. Psychology, B.S. Sociology



Amy has a double bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sociology from Brigham Young University and began working in the field of developmental disabilities in 1995. Early in her career, she served in various roles including Medicaid Case Manager, Group Home Supervisor, Service Coordination Supervisor, and direct care provider. Working with individuals with disabilities for the last 23 years from infants to senior citizens has given her a great insight into issues faced across the lifespan.

Amy became the Executive Director of the Down Syndrome Guild in January of 2003. During the past 15 years she has been responsible for overseeing dramatic growth and expansion of the organization which now serves 1,600 members, 22 hospitals, 45 school districts and dozens of service providers. Under Amy's leadership, DSG was presented with the National Down Syndrome Congress 2007 Parent Group of the Year Award and the 2010 Support Kansas City Best in Non-Profit Leadership Award. Ingram's Magazine recognized Amy as a Kansas City Top 40 Under Forty winner in 2009 for her passion and dedication to serving individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the professionals who serve them.

Amy launched the National Down Syndrome Affiliates in Action (DSAIA) Conference in 2007. The focus was to bring leaders in the DS community together to address common challenges shared by DS organizations. The goal was to share best practices and enhance operational capacity. In 2010, DSAIA progressed from being a conference to becoming a national Trade Association dedicated to serving the needs of Down syndrome organizations. The mission of DSAIA is to help affiliates enhance their operational capacity, overcome common challenges and leverage resources so they can serve members efficiently and effectively.

Amy became the Chief Operating Officer of the DSG in 2018. Under Amy's leadership, DSG has grown to be one of the premier Down syndrome associations in the United States. She has increased the staff, budget and programs delivered in a short period of time thereby impacting thousands of lives. Amy is a sought after consultant and speaker in the Down syndrome community based on her expertise.