

2009 NDSC Self Advocate Book Project

The Self Advocate Council (SAC) is expanding the SELF ADVOCATE BOOK PROJECT, and we need everyone to participate .

The SELF ADVOCATE BOOK PROJECT began in 2003 when self advocate, Tracy Hile, introduced her idea. The project was simple.

Self advocates donated money for books that positively portray individuals with Down syndrome.

The self advocates present these books to school libraries in the NDSC Convention host city.

The project accomplishes several goals set by self advocates:

1. The public sees self advocates (adults with Down syndrome) as productive and giving back to the community
2. Self advocates increase disability awareness for students K-12
3. Self advocates increase leadership opportunities as they implement the project
4. Schools and communities become more inclusive places for people with Down syndrome

Here are some ways you can help expand the project and put more books in a greater number of libraries:

* Generously donate to the project by enclosing a check with your registration. This will enable us to purchase more books.

* Purchase books from the list below on line (such as www.amazon.com) or at your local book seller, bring them to the Convention, and leave them at the Self Advocate Council (SAC) table in the exhibitors' hall.

*Purchase books at the convention and bring them to the SAC table. Some titles on the list, but not necessarily all, will be available through exhibitors.

*NEW this year: Local parent groups may challenge their self advocates to raise \$100 to purchase a Bundle of Books, which includes all five of our titles.

You may make your checks payable to the NDSC, and send them to the NDSC Center, 1370 Center Drive, Suite 102, Atlanta, GA 30338. Please put "Book Project" on the memo line.

If you wish make your donation in honor or memory of someone, please include instructions with your book(s) so that we can insert a book plate.

We are always looking for books that positively portray people with Down syndrome. If you have suggestions, let us know!

2009 Self Advocate Book Project List

1. ABC for You and Me by Margaret Girnis & Shirley Leamon Green preschool- This alphabet book uses photographs of children with Down syndrome as it introduces letters of the alphabet.

2. Count Us In: Growing Up with Down Syndrome by Jason Kingsley & Mitchell Levitz The authors discuss their friendship, having Down syndrome, marriage, children, becoming independent, and their hopes and dreams for the future.

3. A Special Kind of Hero: Chris Burke's Own Story by Jo Beth McDaniel Chris Burke became one of America's favorite personalities when he starred as "Corky" on the hit ABC television series *Life Goes On*

4. Adults With Down Syndrome by Siegfried Pueschel This edited text gathers many highly respected experts - including individuals with Down syndrome themselves - to discuss the experiences and needs of adults with Down syndrome. The book contains a good mixture of clinical, social, legal, and personal information.

5. Fasten Your Seatbelt by Brian Skotko This is a crash course on Down syndrome for brothers and sisters by a brother of a person with Down syndrome.