

<b>2026 NDSC Convention - General Conference Sessions (sorted by track) as of 5/7/2026 and subject to change</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Tracks</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
From Day Programs to Dream Jobs: Navigating the World of Adult Services	Adult Life	Allison, Amy (Primary Speaker)
ResponSIBle Adults: A proactive approach to supporting adult siblings with Down syndrome	Adult Life	Rotundo, Ryan (Primary Speaker)
AI for All: Empowering Parents and Professionals in the Down Syndrome	Adult Life	Rodgers, Rylin (Primary Speaker), Smart, Jessie (Primary Speaker)
Overcoming Passive Resistance: Empowering Independence in Post-	Adult Life	Ramos, Mariah (Primary Speaker)
Building Independence: Helping Your Child Prepare for College, Work, and	Adult Life	Randall, Tina (Primary Speaker), Walters, Erica (Primary Speaker)
Building Self-Determination: Strategies for Caregivers of Persons with Down Syndrome	Adult Life	Brown, Ruth (Primary Speaker), Chapman, Richard (Primary Speaker), Costanzo, Kathryn Mary (Primary Speaker)
Gifts and Challenge Exchange	Adult Life	McGuire, Dennis (Primary Speaker)
Transforming Disability Supports: Community, Choice and Meaningful	Advocacy	Stack, Robert (Primary Speaker)
Storytelling that Moves People to Action: Using Social Media to Power Your Advocacy	Advocacy	Benfield, Jillian (Primary Speaker)
The Art of Letting Go:The Power of Relationships in Supported Decision Making at Every Age and Stage of the Lifespan	Advocacy	Daily, Heather (Primary Speaker)
What's Happening in Washington? NDSC's Federal Policy Update and How You Can Help Drive Change	Advocacy	Mast, Jawanda (Primary Speaker), Sabia, Ricki (Primary Speaker), Sachs, Heather (Primary Speaker), Smith Lee, Stephanie (Primary Speaker)
Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for Legislative Advocacy Impact	Advocacy	Gerhart-Rothholz, Julie (Primary Speaker)
Personal, Environmental, and Community Safety: A behavioral approach to keeping your individual safe	Behavior	Santamaria, Tarin (Primary Speaker)
Understanding Hyperactivity and Inattention and Managing ADHD in Down Syndrome	Behavior	Close, Meredith (Primary Speaker), Sargado, Sabrina (Primary Speaker)
Behavior Basics: Cracking the Code	Behavior	Taylor, Stacy (Primary Speaker)
Medication Management of Challenging Behaviors in Down Syndrome	Behavior	Baumer, Nicole (Primary Speaker), O'Neill, Meghan
More than Meets the Eye:A deeper look at visual behaviors, functional vision, and communication through behavior across the lifespan	Behavior	Collins, Rachel (Primary Speaker), DeBoom, Megan (Primary Speaker), Saenz, Jennifer (Primary Speaker), Spiric, Jen (Primary Speaker), Willems, Ilse (Primary Speaker)
The ABCs of challenging behaviors: treatment approaches to help children succeed	Behavior	Bar, Sari (Primary Speaker), Dorsman, Karen (Primary Speaker), Pregmon, Emily (Primary Speaker)
Key Skills for Success at Home, School, and in the Community	Behavior	Taylor, Stacy (Primary Speaker)
Toilet Training Tips and Tricks	Behavior	Taylor, Stacy (Primary Speaker)
Muscle Matters: Enhancing Structure and Function at Any Age	Communicati	Purdy, Monica (Primary Speaker)
Bridging the Gap: Accessing Resources in Rural Communities	Communicati	Gianni, Nancy (Primary Speaker), Reaves, Christina
Speech Matters: From Assumed Competence to Verbal Independence	Communicati	Gray, Jennifer (Primary Speaker)

Making Sense of Speech Differences in Down Syndrome	Communication	Bekins, Jennifer (Primary Speaker)
Comprender y estimular funciones ejecutivas en personas con síndrome de Down para potenciar la participación	Communication	Sevilla Godoy, Fabiana (Primary Speaker), Vidal Rojo, Patricia (Primary Speaker)
Comunicación efectiva en el síndrome de Down: promoviendo la funcionalidad y participación	Communication	Vejar, Constanza (Primary Speaker)
What Autism Looks Like in an Individual with Down Syndrome	DSASD	Gray, Charlotte (Primary Speaker), Rudden-Parks, Allisa (Primary Speaker)
DS-ASD: Cracking the Code of Behaviors	DSASD	Patel, Lina (Primary Speaker), Unnerstall, Teresa (Primary Speaker)
DS-ASD: Navigating Adulthood and Empowering Individuals and Their Families	DSASD	Gray, Charlotte (Primary Speaker), Unnerstall, Teresa (Primary Speaker)
AI for Advocacy: Practical IEP Tools to Empower Families and Professionals	Education	La Belle, Joe (Primary Speaker), Richardson, Soren
From Vision to Practice: Action Plans for Inclusive Education for Students with Down Syndrome	Education	Hansen, Courtney (Primary Speaker)
Transition & Futures Planning for the IEP-From Early Childhood to Life After High School	Education	Allen, Shemica S. (Primary Speaker)
Unlocking Joyful Reading: Proven Strategies to Fast-Track Success for Learners with Down Syndrome	Education	Hale, Natalie (Primary Speaker)
Beyond One-Size-Fits-All: Emphasizing the 'I' in IEP	Education	Thrower, Jaia (Primary Speaker), Thrower, Leesha (Primary Speaker)
Strengthening IEP Teams: Collaboration Through Multiple Lenses	Education	McMillan, Cate (Primary Speaker)
Bright Beginnings: Understanding and Utilizing Part C Early Intervention	Education	Romanick, Roxane (Primary Speaker), Vander Wal, Kendra (Primary Speaker)
AI for Inclusion and Independence: Practical Tools for Home and School	Education	Halle, Dana (Primary Speaker), Smith, Sean (Primary Speaker)
How to Teach Reading: A Practical, Research-Driven Approach for Learners With Down Syndrome	Education	Halle, Dana (Primary Speaker)
Count Me IN!! A Parent Guide to Overcoming Barriers to Inclusive Education	Education	Hoaglund, Stacey (Primary Speaker)
Historias que transforman: Cuentos y recursos visuales con IA para apoyar conducta y autonomía	Education	Marrero González, Arelis (Primary Speaker)
Elegir, crecer, ser: claves para una identidad positiva en personas con síndrome de Down	Education	Sevilla Godoy, Fabiana (Primary Speaker), Vidal Rojo, Patricia (Primary Speaker)
Ready, Set, Work! Practical Strategies for Employment Success	Employment	Allison, Amy (Primary Speaker)
From Hire to Thrive: Employer Tips and Family Support for Lasting Job	Employment	Novorr, Jeffrey (Primary Speaker)
From Job Aids to Job Coaches: The Basics of Workplace Support	Employment	Noerper Smith, Mandy (Primary Speaker)
Special Needs Trusts: Supporting Individuals with Disabilities	Financial	Garrett, Myrian (Mini) (Primary Speaker), Hunter, Chris (Primary Speaker)
Everything You Need to Know About ABLE Accounts	Financial	Finch, John (Primary Speaker)
Secured Steps: A Clear Roadmap for Your Child's Financial Future	Financial	Llewellyn, Jeff (Primary Speaker)

Navigating Life and Government Benefits After Age18	Financial	Bush, Barbara (Primary Speaker)
The Recipe for Health: How to Nourish Your Mind, Body, and Soul	Healthy Living	Essig, Madison (Primary Speaker), Frank, Katie (Primary Speaker), Murray, Lake (Primary Speaker), Verma, Shelly
Embracing Each Other as We Embrace our Special Children: Fostering Marital Connection Through the Lifespan of our Children	Healthy Living	Jeppsen, Mary (Primary Speaker), Jeppsen, Michael (Primary Speaker)
Grieving with Joy	Healthy Living	Magill, Dorothy "Dottie" (Primary Speaker), Pellegrino, Tracy (Primary Speaker), Sikora, Jenn (Primary Speaker)
Brain Train: SMART Actions That Might Boost Cognition and Prevent Alzheimer's Disease in People with Down Syndrome	Healthy Living	Skotko, Brian (Primary Speaker)
Redefining Health: How the Mouth-Body Connection Empowers Every Family and Every Ability	Healthy Living	Adame, Beatriz (Primary Speaker), Erps, Kayla (Primary Speaker)
On Your Feet! Functional Feet for Individuals with Down Syndrome - What Should We Do?	Healthy Living	Baker, Hannah (Primary Speaker), Mann, Sarah (Primary Speaker), McClain, Helen (Primary Speaker)
Regulation and Its Role in Mental Health and Wellness Throughout the Lifespan	Healthy Living	Schlieder, Valerie (Primary Speaker), Soderfelt, Annika (Primary Speaker)
Nutrition and Down syndrome: Drawing a Map for Healthful Eating.	Healthy	Guthrie Medlen, Joan (Primary Speaker)
Caring with Calm: Mindfulness for Caregiver Resilience	Healthy	Samaan, Rebecca (Primary Speaker)
Transitioning from home sweet home to a community filled with the unknowns: A roadmap for supporting your loved one with special needs as	Housing	Denny, Molly (Primary Speaker)
Revolutionizing Down Syndrome Research: Innovative Clinical Studies, How to Get Involved, and Groundbreaking Results!	Medical	Egan, David (Primary Speaker), Espinosa, Joaquin (Primary Speaker)
The Skin is In: Skin Conditions in Children and Adults with Down Syndrome	Medical	Rork, Jillian (Primary Speaker)
Have a Question? Ask the Doctors!	Medical	Bulova, Peter (Primary Speaker), McCormick, Andrew (Primary Speaker), Vellody, Kishore (Primary Speaker)
Promoting Optimal Pediatric Health in Down Syndrome - What Caregivers Need to Know!	Medical	Baumer, Nicole (Primary Speaker), Bull, Marilyn (Primary Speaker), Santoro, Stephanie (Primary Speaker), Vellody, Kishore (Primary Speaker)
Nutritional deficiencies and supplementation in Down syndrome	Medical	Agawu, Atu (Primary Speaker), Spinazzi, Noemi (Primary Speaker)
Partnering with Healthcare Professionals: Tools & Strategies for Caregivers and Adults with Down Syndrome	Medical	Chicoine, Brian (Primary Speaker), Essig, Madison (Primary Speaker), Sciuillo, Dana (Primary Speaker)
Transforming Healthcare Visits: How to Tackle Anxiety in Medical Appointments	Medical	DeRossett, Andrea (Primary Speaker), Stepp, Bree (Primary Speaker), Wang, Lauren (Primary Speaker)
Neurological and Neurodevelopmental Manifestations in Down Syndrome	Medical	Baumer, Nicole (Primary Speaker), O'Neill, Meghan (Primary Speaker), Van Zant, J. Seth (Primary Speaker)
Sleep Difficulties in Children and Adolescents with Down Syndrome	Medical	Kelminson, Karen (Primary Speaker)

GLOBAL Adult Care Guidelines: Sneak Peek into the Exciting Evidence Based Updates	Medical	Bulova, Peter (Primary Speaker), Gelaro, Bryn (Primary Speaker), Romanick, Liz (Primary Speaker)
Down Syndrome and the Effects on the Feet and Body	Medical	Riley, Lorri (Primary Speaker)
Regression in Down syndrome - what is it and what do I do about it?	Medical	Franklin, Cathy (Primary Speaker), Patel, Lina (Primary Speaker), Quinn, Eileen (Primary Speaker), Santoro,
Sleep Apnea in Down Syndrome: A Multidisciplinary Panel Discussion	Medical	Fodstad, Jill (Primary Speaker), Maxwell-Horn, Angela (Primary Speaker), Shaikh, Imran (Primary Speaker), Sheffield, Abraham (Primary Speaker)
Voices of research - family & researcher perspectives on participating in Down syndrome research	Medical	Combs, Daniel (Primary Speaker), Self-Advocate, TBD (Primary Speaker)
Promoting Health and Preventing Obesity in People with Down syndrome	Medical	Bardhan, Sujata (Primary Speaker), Caldwell, Angela (Primary Speaker), Kelly, Andrea (Primary Speaker), Ptomey, Lauren (Primary Speaker)
Amplifying Family Voices in Science: Advancing Alzheimer's Disease Research in Down Syndrome Together	Medical	Cohen, Annie (Primary Speaker), Glover, Crystal M. (Primary Speaker), Parisi, Melissa A. (Primary Speaker)
Investigación internacional sobre el síndrome de Down: Estados Unidos, América Latina y más allá	Medical	Espinosa, Joaquin (Primary Speaker)
¿Cómo abordar en la consulta odontológica los desafíos del diagnóstico dual de autismo y Síndrome de Down?	Medical	Hernandez, Daniela (Primary Speaker), Lopez, Patricia (Primary Speaker), Mauricio, Lilia (Primary Speaker)
DSMIG Poster Session - Cycle 4	Medical	Brown, Ruth (Primary Speaker), McCormick, Andrew (Primary Speaker), Patel, Lina (Primary Speaker)
Friends for Life: A Workshop on How to Promote Positive Siblings Relationships	Personal Perspective	Smith, Bridget (Primary Speaker)
Heart to Heart: A Candid Conversation about Down Syndrome and Alzheimer's	Personal Perspective	Dailey, Kristin (Primary Speaker), O'Toole, Molly (Primary Speaker), Sloan Ransdell, Jadene (Primary Speaker)
Providing Comprehensive Access to Needed and Inclusive Education, Medical and Living Services and Resources to Rural Communities. Models	Personal Perspective	Dougherty, Elliot (Primary Speaker), Dougherty, Kate (Primary Speaker)
From Awareness to Access: Supporting the Transition to College for Students with Intellectual Disability	Post Secondary	Roberts-Dahm, Danielle (Primary Speaker), Sandvoss, Sheryl (Primary Speaker)
An Introduction to Inclusive Postsecondary Education	Post Secondary	Haythorn, Martha (Primary Speaker), Judge-Diegert, Mary (Primary Speaker), Roberts-Dahm, Danielle (Primary Speaker), Smith Lee, Stephanie (Primary Speaker)
Preparing for College: A Guide for Students with Down Syndrome and Their	Post	Spain, Davis (Primary Speaker), Williamson, Amy (Primary
Beyond the Diploma: Journey to a College Degree for Students with Down Syndrome	Post Secondary	Balazs, Kari (Primary Speaker), Balazs, Lisa (Primary Speaker), Mark, Petra (Primary Speaker), O'Malley, Donovan (Primary Speaker), Spanski, Nancy (Primary

I Want to Date! Supporting Healthy Dating Relationships	Relationship	Couwenhoven, Terri (Primary Speaker)
Supporting Healthy Sexuality During the Tween Years: Pubescence in Females with DS	Relationships	Couwenhoven, Terri (Primary Speaker)
Supporting Healthy Sexuality During Pubescence in Males with DS	Relationship	Couwenhoven, Terri (Primary Speaker)
The Magic of Connection: Building Social and Romantic Relationships Through Speech and Language Therapy	Relationships	Bookout, Sarah (Primary Speaker), Gray, Jennifer (Primary Speaker)
Facilitating Friendships between Children with and without Intellectual	Relationship	Bailey, Tara (Primary Speaker)
Your Learner's World of Circles: Teaching Safe Connections and Healthy	Relationship	Halle, Dana (Primary Speaker)
Milestones in Motion: Empowering Early Motor and Feeding Development Using an Interdisciplinary Movement System Approach	Therapies	Biedermann, Susan (Primary Speaker), Kinslow, Tricia (Primary Speaker), Milligan, Helen (Primary Speaker)
Balance Detectives: Unique clues and key strategies for unlocking confidence and independence with movement	Therapies	Baker, Hannah (Primary Speaker), McClain, Helen (Primary Speaker), Spiric, Jen (Primary Speaker)
Tiny Hands, Big Moves: Fine Motor and Gross Motor Norms and Evidenced Based Strategies for Skill Development.	Therapies	Kinslow, Tricia (Primary Speaker), Milligan, Helen (Primary Speaker)
Building Gross Motor Skill Development from Birth to Mastering Walking, Running, and Beyond	Therapies	Winders, Patricia (Primary Speaker)
Practical tips for the recognition and management of anxiety or obsessive-compulsive disorder in individuals with Down syndrome	Therapies	Brown, Ruth (Primary Speaker), Fodstad, Jill (Primary Speaker), Sannar, Elise (Primary Speaker), Schwein, McKenzie (Primary Speaker), Smythe, Bridget (Primary Speaker)
Healthy Transition: Journey to adulthood	Transition	McCormick, Andrew (Primary Speaker)
Tweens to Teens to Transition: Resources and Strategies for Navigating the Path to a Thriving Adulthood	Transition	Davidson, Emily (Primary Speaker), Lombardo, Angela (Primary Speaker), Lombardo, Isaiah (Primary Speaker)
Transitioning to Adulthood: What you need to know about Guardianship, Supported Decision-making, and Alternatives	Transition	Davey, Catherine (Primary Speaker)
From Worry to Words: Creating a Letter of Intent in Community	Transition	Wells, Jena (Primary Speaker)
What Happens When the School Bus Stops Coming	Transition	Leahy, Michele (Primary Speaker)
Moving Past the School and Teen Years: Tip and Tricks for Putting Together the Jigsaw Puzzle of Adult Life	Transition	Mast, Jawanda (Primary Speaker), Meredith, Stephanie (Primary Speaker)
Superando como familia los retos en la juventud y vida adulta en personas con síndrome de Down	Transition	Vásquez de Salazar, Irene (Primary Speaker)
"Construyendo Autonomía: Salud, Comunicación y Vida Diaria"	Transition	Adney Flores Arizmendi, Karla (Primary Speaker), Figueroa Perez, Jose Francisco (Primary Speaker)