



Club 21

Learning and Resource Center



Create
Change

Annual Report

for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022



2021-2022 Board of Directors

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Mission Statement

Club 21 provides the educational tools and resources that enable individuals with Down syndrome to be fully included.



A Message from the Board President

I continue to be impressed by the amazing work Club 21 does for individuals with Down syndrome and their families! As our organization emerged from the restrictions and isolation of the pandemic, our staff, families and partners were able to reconnect as a community, and how nice it was to be together in person! This past year, we continued to build and invest in our current programs while looking toward the future and expanding to new areas of need. We would not be able to do any of this without the encouragement and support of our community. The Staff and Board of Club 21 are so very grateful to all of our donors for your generous contributions! I am so proud to be part of this impactful work, thank you!

Matt Peacore
President





A Message from the Executive Director

The theme of 2021-2022 was Create Change!

There is no doubt that everyone at Club 21 experienced change in 2021/2022. Much of the change was in response to the lingering effects of the pandemic and the impact on our families and educators, some more extreme than others.

Another driver of change at Club 21 is that our students are growing up! Since opening our doors in 2009, Club 21 has built an educational pathway from first diagnosis onward. The #1 question of the year was what happens when a student graduates from high school?

This pandemic showed Club 21 where our strengths are: We focus on education, build community, uplift and empower families, and build leaders and advocates. It helped us think out of the box about how we deliver our services and connect with families. It also encouraged us to think about the future and risk.

To create change, we looked at what was needed and what was missing. After much thought and planning, the Board of Directors prioritized funds to invest in current programs and in establishing new programs.

- We hired a part-time Community Liaison to help support our underserved families and break down barriers so that they are able to gain more access and navigate difficult systems.
- We hired a part-time Transition Coordinator to investigate options for life after high school. We are investing in expanding our pathway into adulthood with lifelong learning, meaningful employment and communities of belonging.

So how do you “create change” in the midst of a pandemic? You evaluate your assumptions, you connect with your tribe, you ask hard questions that might expose the gaps in your organization, and then you risk and try new things and invest in the future! We are creating change and grateful you are with us on this journey!

Nancy Litteken
Executive Director



Create Change



What We Do

From first diagnosis onward, Club 21 empowers families to identify the needs of their child with Down syndrome and teaches them how to navigate the terrain of the medical, educational, and Regional Center systems to maximize their child's potential. For that to be a reality, family support, school support, direct educational training, and community building are essential. All of our programs and services fall into these 4 categories. Club 21 believes education has the power to change lives, communities and the world. Through its educational pathway, Club 21 is changing the narrative of Down syndrome and opening doors so that individuals with Down syndrome can be fully included and live healthy, self-determined and fulfilling lives.



club 21™

Our Stories...

Create Change

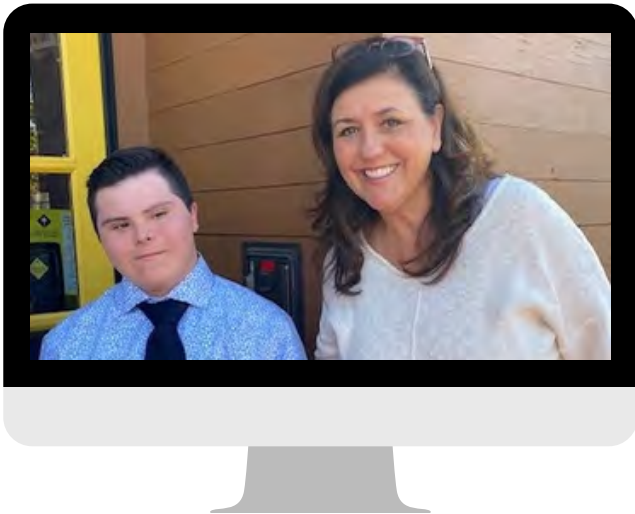


Chelsea's story:

In April of 2020 our sweet Lucy was born with Down syndrome. Having a newborn in a pandemic was actually not terrible because newborn life is basically like you're on lockdown anyway! I got in touch with a staff member from Club 21 who guided me when I had simple questions and directed me to the right people if I needed help. I felt like I had a place to go to on my terms when I needed it. It wasn't until 2022 that I really started feeling the love of the Down syndrome community at Club 21. It was such a gift to be in the same space with other moms, dads, and siblings who share the joy of having a kid with Down syndrome. The warmth and joy of belonging is unexplainable and we have committed our second Saturdays to Club 21. Club 21 makes it really easy to feel included and we feel extremely blessed that there is an organization so close to us that does this so well! I'm excited to see the growth in Lucy and our family as we continue to be a part of Club 21. Together really is better!

Francis' story:

Club 21's programs and services, including Stepping Up, IEP Workshop and Tools for the Journey conference, helped guide us through not only the school year, but also helped us to navigate through our IEP and negotiation with our school district. Club 21 has supported us in many ways over the last year, but one thing that stands out is the network of people they've introduced us to that have helped point us in the right direction for any questions/concerns we've had.



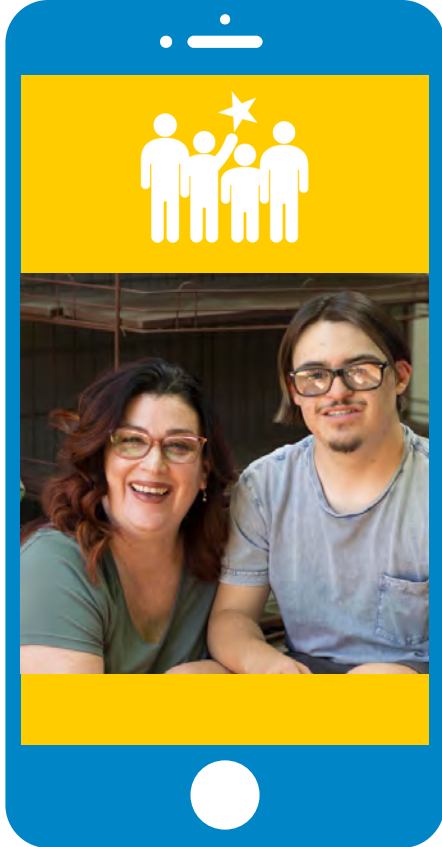
Jacqueline's story:

Club 21 has profoundly impacted my son and his future. Julian is sixteen years old, and we have been with Club 21 for many years, but this past year coming out of Covid and immersing ourselves back into the community was very constructive. Julian is homeschooled and we are always looking for resources, support, and opportunities for him to gain the skills needed for a healthy and productive future.

He wants to follow his sister's and brother's paths and go to college and find a career he's passionate about. Julian enjoyed his last year of CREW, where he utilized the skills he learned from Club F.U.N. and put them into practice with his peers. He is continuously building his social skills and learning what is socially appropriate and what is not.

We participated in the Self-Determination Learning Circles with Kelly-Kulzer Reyes whose patience and in-depth knowledge allowed us to get self-determination with ease. In addition, the Educational Partnership program with Richard Rosenberg provided guidance and resources that will be helpful as Julian prepares to transition from high school to college and future employment. Richard advocates for each child and is passionate about helping them receive quality education and support.

Lastly, during the lockdown, Club 21 was the only program that periodically checked in to see how Julian and his family were and if there was anything we needed. As a result, Club 21 provided vital support, education, and resources for Julian and his family.



Sandia's story:

Club 21 provides programs and classes that help our son with Down syndrome learn the skills necessary to build meaningful relationships and become more independent. Aidan really enjoys the Club Connections program where he is learning and socializing with his peers. Club 21 has helped me navigate his future in both the Self Determination Learning Circles and Partners in Transition classes.

I also enjoyed the many excellent speakers at the virtual Tools for the Journey conference. I learned to let my child try, even though it might be scary.



Laurie's story:

We have followed the Club 21 growth path, from First Steps to Stepping Up and now Club F.U.N, where Sophie looks forward to reuniting with her tribe every month. As Sophie grew, so did I...as a mom, an advocate, a supporter of other moms, and eventually a mentor to families starting the journey. When I think of all the ways Club 21 has made a DIFFERENCE, it comes down to intentionality. For example, we had tried other reading programs that were supposedly designed for the Down syndrome learner, but it was ECAR that successfully taught Sophie to read. How do I know it's working? Because she can miss two or three weeks and walk right back in remembering what she learned. It sticks! It has also given me a tool to share with her teachers at school.

Club 21 is great at addressing whole child issues, including academics, social skills, sexuality, teaching strategies, and developing a future plan for her success and independence. Club 21 will be part of our life-long journey. They have taught me to dream big dreams for Sophie, and to not accept no for an answer when it comes to inclusion. Club 21 has prepared us well for tough conversations that must sometimes be had, and helped us in helping Sophie discover who it is she is meant to be so she can thrive. We are so grateful for Club 21, their staff, and their vision.

Jean's story:

As a first time tutor with ECAR (Every Child A Reader) last fall, I wasn't sure what to expect. I agreed to work both days and was assigned two dramatically different students, one for each day.



It's hard to imagine two more different young people: one girl, one boy; a capable reader and a beginner reader; a lover of food and pop culture and a lover of zombies and monster trucks; easygoing and calm versus busy and high-spirited. Each has challenged me in their own way and stretched me to try new things to help them read and understand better. I love working with both of them and truly enjoy how different they are.

The ability to customize and to adjust instruction to each learners' interests and needs is what makes ECAR so special. Because we work one-on-one, we can incorporate topics that interest the student into the session and use games or books that motivate and appeal to them. I motivate one student with zombie photos made into simple puzzles. A fellow tutor uses Chutes and Ladders. Another uses dance music breaks.

We can focus on the skills that each student most needs to develop and spend less time on skills they are already proficient in. The focused one-on-one attention leads to amazing progress and when progress is slow, the tutor can always try something new. Added bonuses are the time the students get to spend with each other at the end of the session and the parent education while the kids are tutored.

I can understand why there is such a demand for this program and all it has to offer the kids. This experience has taught me so much and I am truly grateful.

Create
Change

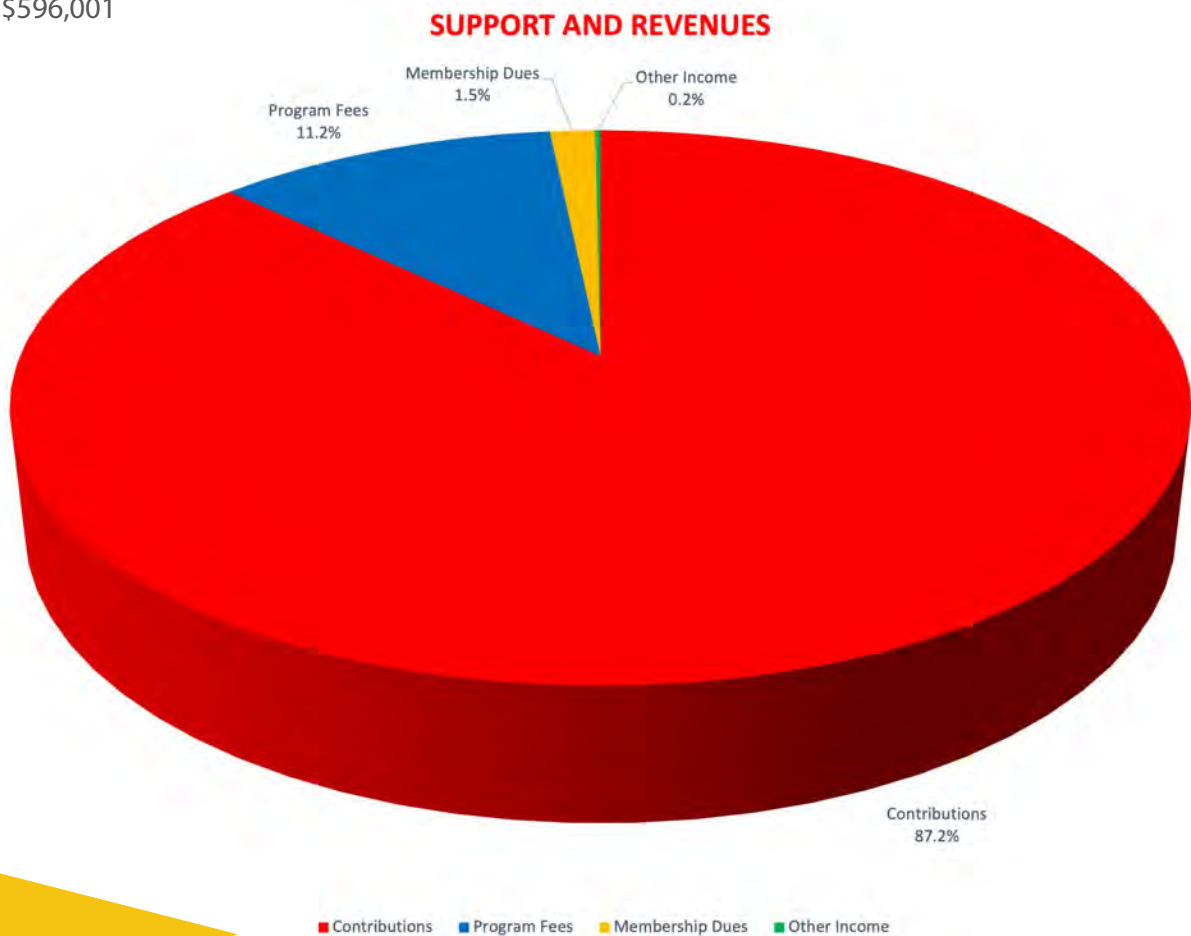
Financial Summary

July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022



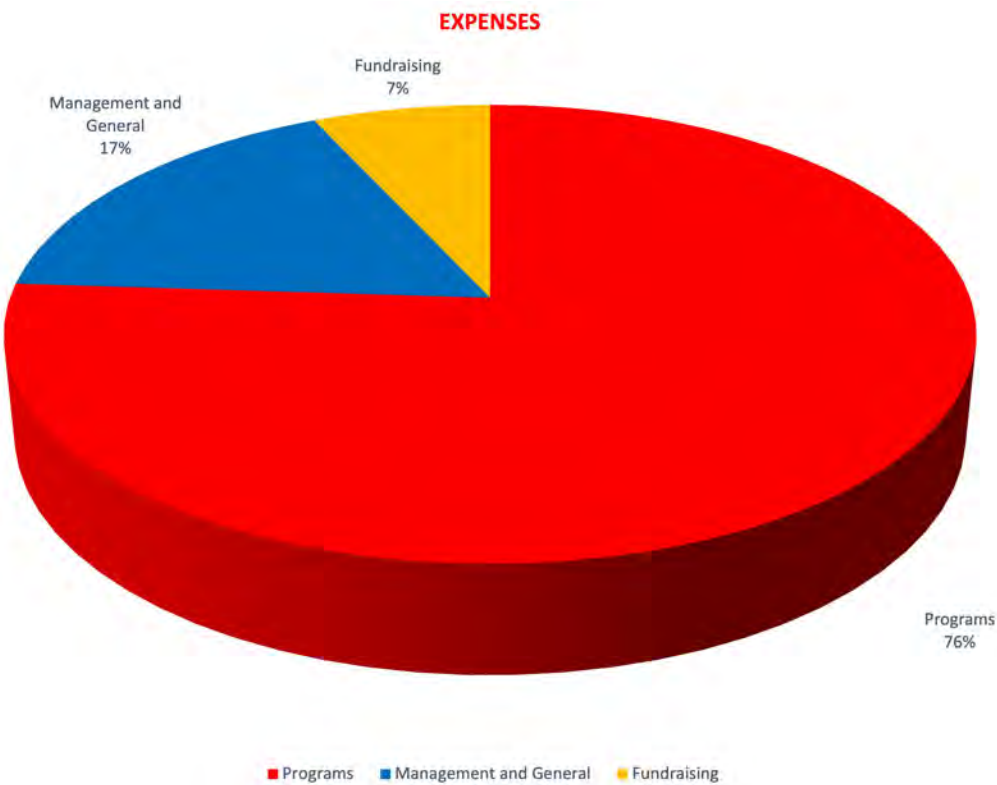
Support and Revenues

Contributions	\$519,543
Program Fees	\$ 66,559
Membership Dues	\$ 8,850
Other Income	\$ 1,049
	<hr/>
	\$596,001

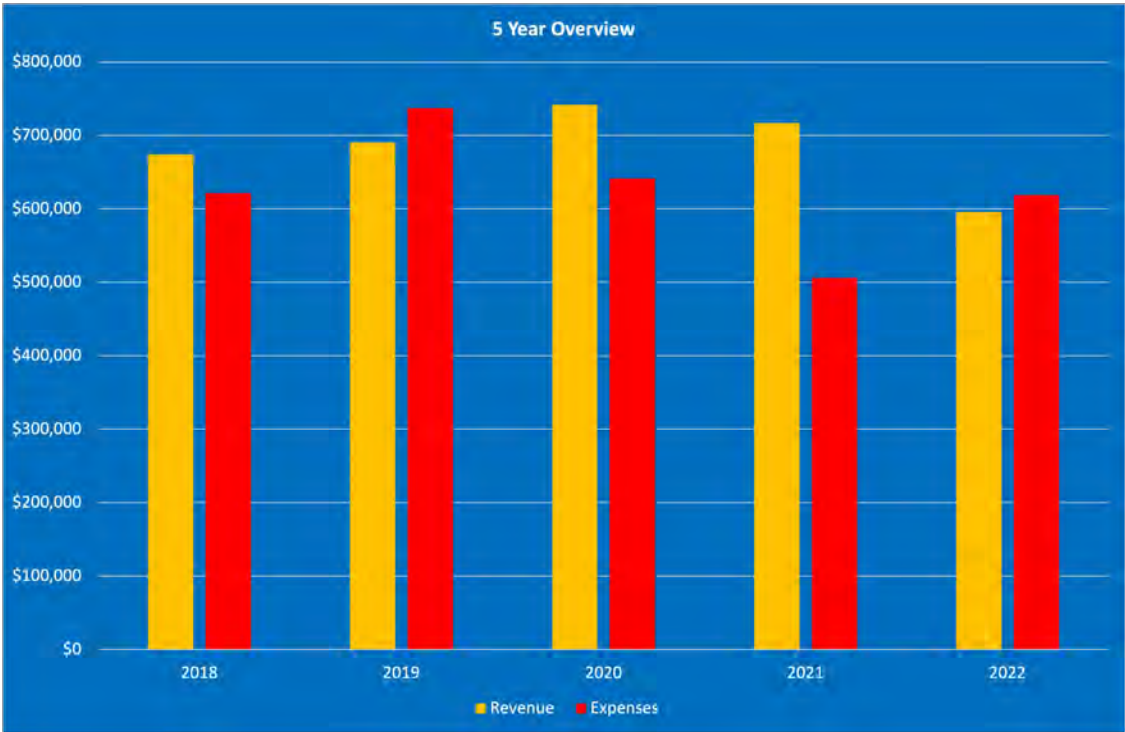


Expenses

Program	\$470,818
Management and General	\$104,900
Fundraising	\$ 42,931
	<hr/>
	\$618,649



The Board designated net assets for use in securing the Organization's stability and continuity and for the development and growth of programs. At June 30, 2022 and 2021, \$325,000 and \$325,000, respectively, are board-designated for operating reserves for six months of budgeted expenses and \$255,940 and \$275,000, respectively, for program enhancements and development.



Five Year Overview

Year	Revenue	Expenses
2018	\$674,361	\$621,597
2019	\$690,410	\$737,568
2020	\$741,888	\$641,225
2021	\$716,933	\$506,352
2022	\$596,001	\$618,649

October 23, 2021



\$10,000+

Team Ryan Zadak
Molly B' Golly (Litteken)
Team Candelora
Case for Inclusion



\$2000+

Team Nathan Chan (Chan/Su)
Walk with Faith (Ancheta)
Soaring with Enrique (Gonzalez)
Devon's Devoted (Mallari)



\$5,000+

Winnie Win Win (Ruggeri)
Team Max (Seiner)
Tim's Tribute (Borquez)



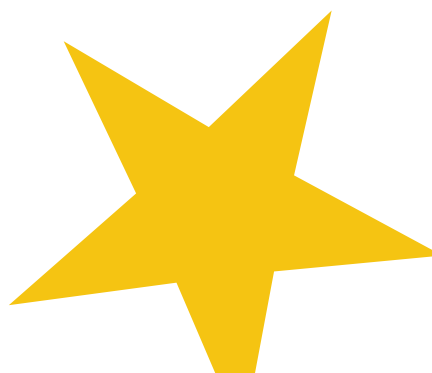
\$1,500+

Team AJ (Lam)
Kayla (Barker)
Team Nadia (Duenas)
Lynx-Schott



\$2,500+

Elle's Angels (Gray)
Team Smiles (Delgado/Medow)
John's Crew (Hantzarides)
Team McLaughlin
Team LOVE (Greer)
Brandon's Brigade (Magarino)
Chloe's Busy Bees (Walch)





\$1,000+

Amanda Grace (Grassedonio)
 Ella's Entourage (Abbondanza)
 Team Jenna (Jimenez/Krawiec)
 Mighty Maddox (Calvillo)
 Team Cupcakes (Ortega)
 The Gabrielle Allstars (Caldwell/Murdock)
 TEAM RYDER (Shields)
 Benny and the Underdogs (Brown/Hom)
 James' Pack (Lohmeyer)
 Call Club 21
 TEAM ELLIOT (Steadman)
 Team Zach (West)
 Team Olivia Vittoria (Lemus)
 Club Connections (Friends of Club 21)
 Travis' Tour (Kennedy)
 Team Hectorito (Gonzalez)
 Super Maya (Vasquez)
 Team Eden (Camilleri)
 Matt's Magnitude (Von Der Ahe)



\$500+

A Tribe for Naima (Guese)
 Logan's Engine 21 Lovebugs (Tao/Casillas)
 Team Matthew Z (Gang)
 Team Providence (Contreras)
 Team Reyes (Kulzer/Reyes)
 JD's Green Team
 Walk with Joy (Domingo)
 Team Titus
 Team Luisa (Hernandez)
 Team Chiara (Pedersen/Mazzilli)
 Nathan (Gandolfi)
 Team Holly Dempsey
 Team Izzy Boo (Dougherty)



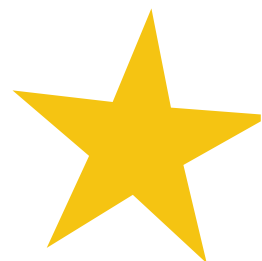
\$250+

Team Lincoln (Acevodo/Rodriguez)
 Team LEVI (Foley)
 Team Helen (Aguirre/Terrones)
 Team "Emmanuel" (Martinez/Garcia)
 Stroll with the Stoners!



Under \$250

BENJlpalooza (Kaplan)
 Kassie's Spark (Trigonis)
 Jack Attack (White)
 Team Leo (Vivas)
 Abby's Road (Conde)
 Cruzin with Jett (Modlin)
 Julia (Ufa/Piotrowski)
 Elliot's Team (Orenski)
 Team Zain (Hadary)



Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



Benefactor - \$100,000+

Anonymous



Believer - \$5,000+

Kate and Ryan Candelora
Pasadena Community Foundation
Elise and Timothy Sloan
Sunkist Growers

The Jerry and Shari Seiner Family Charitable Fund



Champion - \$20,000+

First Congregational Church of Pasadena, UCC
Sherwood Foundation
Von Der Ahe Foundation



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Advocate - \$10,000+

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Melissa and Spencer Walch

Katherine and Joel Zadak



Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



Supporter - \$1,000+

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Elle and Keegan M Key
Brigitte and Khaldoun Sroujeh
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Heather and Matthew Lillard
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Niru Madduri
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Nancy and Steve Norris
Pacific Life Foundation
Jennifer and Dean Pappas
Partnership Painting, Inc.
Monica and Bryan Perez

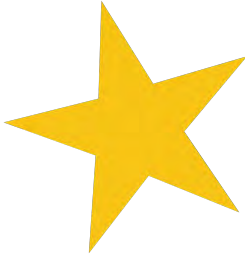
Supporter - \$1,000+ (continued)

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Shadowmachine
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Brigitte and Khaldoun Sroujeh
Gary Stewart
Vicki and David Thompson
June and Tom Togioka
Emmy and Tom Von Der Ahe
Shelley and John Wierick
Teresa Wilde *



Partner - \$500+

Tara and Gaetano Abbondanza
Julie and Dan Alle
Anthony and Jeanne Pritzker Family foundation
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Julie and Brian Etter
Nancy Franklin
Montana and Grant Frum
Jay Gassner
Claire and Roy Grassedonio
Eric and Audrey Gray



Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Partner - \$500+ (Continued)

Margie and John Green
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Eva Vargas

Partner - \$500+ (Continued)

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Terry and Ian West
Carol and Chester Yoshizaki
Julian Zajfen *



Friend - \$250+

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Adam Kaller

Thank You to our Donors

Gifts Received Between July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



Friend - \$250+ (continued)

Candie and Matt Kennedy
Esther and Paul Krawiec
Kroger
Robert Lacy
Law Offices of London, Nguyen & Le Inc.
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Ziffren Brittenham LLP

***Matching Gift**

This report includes gifts received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. We have made every effort to ensure that this report is accurate and complete. If there are any omissions, misspellings or other errors, please accept our sincere apologies and contact our Office so that we may correct our records.



Mission Statement:

Club 21 provides the educational tools and resources that enable individuals with Down syndrome to be fully included.

How do we accomplish our mission?

We Support, Educate, Advocate and Celebrate!

Our goal is:

Independence, Access and Belonging

Core Values:

Family support: You are not alone!

Parent Involvement: We are family!

Innovation: Try something new!

Raising Expectations: We can do it!

Inclusion: We belong!

Follow us on:



Club 21 Learning and Resource Center

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626-844-1821