MADISON AREA DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY
www. madss.org

*Hosted by the **Madison Area Down Syndrome Society***
*and the **Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison***
*Sponsored by the **Friends of the Waisman Center***

WAISMAN CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

4th Annual

Waisman Center Day with the Experts: Down Syndrome

Saturday, March 22, 2014 | 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(Complimentary coffee & bagels at 8:30 a.m.)

Friends of the Waisman Center Auditorium | 1500 Highland Avenue | Madison, WI
Free Admission and Parking | Please pre-register

Learn about the latest advances in Down syndrome research, and hear from a panel of experts—individuals with Down syndrome and their family members.

9:00–9:30 a.m. **Welcome and Introduction to the Waisman Center**
Marsha R. Mailick, PhD, Director, Waisman Center

9:30–10:00 a.m. **Parents' Long-term Impact on Adults with Down Syndrome**
Marsha Mailick, PhD, Director, Waisman Center
This presentation will report findings from a 22-year study of 75 adults with Down syndrome and their families. We found that when mothers and fathers had positive psychological well-being and maintained a close relationship with their adult child with Down syndrome, the adult had optimal outcomes in midlife (average age = 51 years). They were more independent in daily living skills, had better health, and had fewer behavior problems. The findings suggest the importance of the family context for healthy aging in adults with Down syndrome.

10:00–10:30 a.m. **Skin Cells and Stem Cells to Study Down Syndrome**
Anita Bhattacharyya, PhD, Senior Scientist and Waisman Center Investigator
Human stem cells with have trisomy 21 provide an unparalleled way to study how the formation of the brain is different in Down syndrome. Stem cells can be made from the skin cells of individuals with Down syndrome and then turned into brain cells to study brain development. What we learn will help us better understand Down syndrome, explain the reasons for specific Down syndrome deficits, and ultimately lead to better treatments.

BREAK

10:45–11:15 a.m. **Behavioral Concerns in Down Syndrome**
Maria Stanley, MD, Medical Director, Waisman Center Clinics
Individuals with Down syndrome can experience a range of behavioral concerns and changes. It's helpful to have an understanding of the unique strengths and challenges for people with Down syndrome, as well as the current developmental functioning of the individual, in order to best support positive behaviors. When encountering the emergence of a behavioral change, it's important to consider the broad range of possible underlying contributors including underlying medical issues and environmental factors.

11:15 a.m.–12:00 p.m. **LUNCH**—Optional, $5 box lunches (Cousins Subs) available for purchase. Gluten free options available.

12:00–12:15 p.m. **What is the Madison Area Down Syndrome Society?**
Sterling Lynk, Executive Director, MADSS

12:15–1:00p.m. **PANEL DISCUSSION**—A panel of experts that includes individuals with Down syndrome and their family members

❖ **Capacity is limited, please pre-register to attend the event at the Waisman Center.**
To register: waisman.wisc.edu/events-experts-ds2014.htm

❖ **For additional details, call 608.263.5837 or email palumbo@waisman.wisc.edu**