



**WAISMAN CENTER**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

13<sup>th</sup> Annual

*In-Person and Online*

## **Waisman Center Day with the Experts: Down Syndrome**

Learn about advances in research and clinical services and hear from a panel of experts—individuals with Down syndrome and family members.

**Saturday, March 11, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**In person at Waisman or online via Zoom**

**9:00 - 9:05 a.m.**

Welcome *Maria Stanley, MD, Director, Waisman Center Clinics*

**9:05 - 9:25 a.m.**

### **“Lifestyle and Alzheimer’s Disease in Down Syndrome”**

*Sigan Hartley, PhD, Professor, Human Ecology and Waisman Investigator*

Behavior can be an important form of communication. This presentation will focus on ways of learning more about what an individual with Down syndrome may be communicating with their behavior as well as ideas for ways to reduce the likelihood of challenging behaviors and offer alternate behaviors that meet the individual’s needs. This presentation will also focus on how to increase and maintain positive behaviors and how to assess and work through challenging behaviors.

**9:25 - 9:45 a.m.**

### **“The Future of Prevention and Treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease in Down Syndrome”**

*Brad Christian, PhD, Professor, Medical Physics and Psychiatry, Associate Director, Waisman Center*

People with Down syndrome are at very high risk for developing Alzheimer’s disease, particularly when they are 50 years old and beyond. While exciting progress is being made in the development of potential therapies for treating Alzheimer’s disease in the general population, people with Down syndrome have not been included in the testing of therapies or given access to some of these promising treatments. Fortunately this will be changing in the very near future! This talk will present our research findings that reveal the changes in the brain during the development of Alzheimer’s disease and how emerging drug therapies are being developed to alter the trajectory of disease progression. Plans for future clinical trials specific to individuals with Down syndrome will also be discussed.

**9:45 - 10:15 a.m.**

### **“The Road to Adulthood: A Brief Exploration of Youth to Adult Transition”**

*Julie Hajewski, MSN, A-NP, APNP, Wisconsin Youth Health Transition Initiative, Provider Education &*

*Amy Lyle, MSSW, Senior Clinical Social Worker, Clinic Coordinator, Down Syndrome Clinic*

Don’t let life pass you by! Join Amy Lyle and Julie Hajewski as they offer a brief glimpse into youth-to-adult transition, with a focus on healthcare. Amy will get us started with an overview of life choices and considerations during transition. Julie will talk specifically about some of the steps of youth to adult health care transition and will offer several valuable resources for self-advocates, families, and caregivers to facilitate their health care transition journey.

**10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. PANEL DISCUSSION** that includes individuals with Down syndrome and family members.

**Please register at [www.waisman.wisc.edu/event/experts-down-syndrome-2023/](http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/event/experts-down-syndrome-2023/)**

*Hosted by the **Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin (DSAW)- South Central, GiGi’s Playhouse, and the***

***Waisman Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison***

*Sponsored by the **Friends of the Waisman Center***



Waisman Center | 1500 Highland Avenue | Madison, WI  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**

For additional details, call 608.263.5837 or email [palumbo@waisman.wisc.edu](mailto:palumbo@waisman.wisc.edu)