



Date: 6/12/12

As an Education Coordinator at the Down Syndrome Aim High Resource Center, (DSAHRC) I have had the privilege to coordinate the DSAHRC Reading Tutorial Program

for the last three years. This program is made possible through a generous grant from the Tearing Up the Turf for Timothy and his friends with Down syndrome Golf Tournament.

The DSAHRC Reading Tutorial program was established in 2008 by the Down Syndrome Aim

High Resource Center under the leadership of the DSAHRC Education Committee Chairperson Virginia Don Vito MacPhee in 2008. Ms. MacPhee is an educator and a Parent of a daughter with Down syndrome.

The Reading Tutorial program uses the Guided Reading and balanced approach to Literacy to teach reading comprehension, decoding skills, word identification and Phonemic awareness, fluency in reading and oral reading accuracy.

Individuals with Down syndrome ages 5 and older are eligible to enroll in the program. The Education Committee selects NYS Certified Reading Specialists to provide one on one reading instruction over 10 week period with two one hour sessions per week.

This program has been invaluable to all students who have had an opportunity to participate in it. Many students and adults with Down syndrome have been able to read for the first time in their lives after having participated in the program.

Their enthusiasm for learning has greatly increased and it has giving them incredible confidence.

All students make progress over the 10 week sessions in their reading and comprehending abilities.

The feedback we have received from parents and tutors speaks profoundly to the success of the DSAHRC Reading Tutorial Program. Below are some comments from our families:

This program is invaluable to my 24 year old daughter with Down syndrome. The progress she has made is amazing, and she demonstrated such an enthusiasm for learning more.

Thank you so much for this opportunity! We are so blessed to have our child so loved and taken care of educationally.

The one-to-one made such an impact on my child's reading level.

My daughter made incredible progress this summer and we are really grateful for the program.

We were very pleased with this summer program we would absolutely continue next summer if offered.

This was a very positive program. Thank you for the opportunity and hope to see the program continue.

I cannot thank you enough for arranging this Reading Program! It was fantastic and we are incredibly grateful.

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