

"When GiGi was born, I remember being so afraid of Down syndrome. It seemed like everyone, including the medical staff, were also afraid for me, which scared me even more. I remember thinking "How am I ever going to explain this feeling to my kids? How will I tell them that this is our 'new life?'" Nancy Gianni, founder and GiGi's mother, soon came to realize that GiGi was more like her other kids than she was different and despite the challenges they face every day, she promised GiGi that she would create a place of acceptance, learning and pride for her and all her friends with Down syndrome.



"It's not just for little kids... there's something for all ages."

our vision

is to see a world where individuals with Down syndrome are accepted and embraced in their families, schools, and communities.

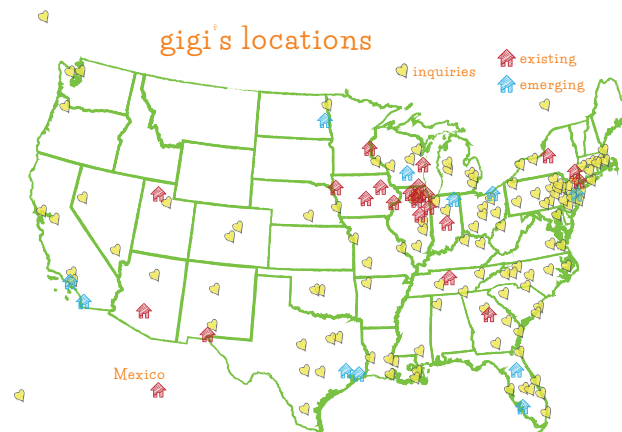
our mission

is to increase positive awareness of Down syndrome through national campaigns, educational programs, and by empowering individuals with Down syndrome, their families and the community.



"When my brother was born I didn't know what Down syndrome was. When I came to GiGi's they showed me how I can help him and what a great life he will have!"

GiGi's Playhouse is something different to everyone. For some it may be family support, an educational experience, community awareness, a hug, a party, informational network, or a self esteem boost – but for all it's a place to belong.



Changing the way the world sees Down syndrome.
one child. one diagnosis. one community at a time.

National Office | 847.885.7529

2350 West Higgins Road
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169

Locations across North America, including Mexico, and still growing!
Check our website for a location near you!
gigisplayhouse.org



educate. inspire. *Believe!*

#GiGisBelieves



GiGi's
Playhouse™

Down Syndrome Achievement Centers

a vision of a changed world

educate.

over 30 free therapeutic and educational programs

Program focus is on the development of specific skills, including:

- Speech and language
- Fine or gross motor movement and fitness
- Social skills
- Education - One on one tutoring in literacy and math
- Career skills and real world learning
- Self-confidence in the individual with DS, as well as support and networking for the entire family to face the diagnosis.



"From prenatal diagnosis to career skills, GiGi's makes a lifetime commitment to their families."

What's really special?

Each GiGi's program motivates our participants and their families to give their "Best of All". Each week, we raise the bar just a little bit higher and teach children and adults with Down syndrome to reach just a little further to give their "Best of All". It might be standing just a second longer or reading just one more word or even trying one extra push up – but our kids and adults rise to the challenge! #Bestofall

“Come visit us at our store or online!”



inspire.

national awareness campaigns

We are here and we are proud! GiGi's focuses on spreading positive and accurate information about what Down syndrome is and what it is not. Through a variety of campaigns, we are able to spread this awareness internationally.

- "One Million Voices" Traveling Gallery
- "i have a voice" Traveling Gallery
- National Conferences
- Annual Award-winning Awareness Calendar
- Interactive Website
- Custom-made Awareness Materials



check out our award-winning Down syndrome awareness calendar!

Great as a gift and best of all it's a great awareness tool for hospitals, schools and the community!

Believe!

In just 11 years, there are over 23 GiGi's Playhouses changing lives in the U.S. and Mexico, with more in the works. The mission of GiGi's Playhouse has evolved from creating awareness to building success and accomplishment in children, teens, and adults through GiGi's educational and therapeutic programs.

adult education

GiGi University is a progressive learning program that focuses on the whole person. The course focuses on goal development through small group skills instruction and physical fitness. At the end of the course, a graduate will receive an internship with Hugs + Mugs to further develop their skills for future employment.

The Hugs + Mugs Gift Shop and Café is a live retail storefront that provides our GiGi U interns with individualized, hands on training to prepare them for community-based employment. Visit us online at hugsandmugs.org

GIGI U
confident u • healthy u • whole u

Hugs + Mugs
HANDMADE • HEARTFELT • HOPE FILLED

"GiGi's is here every step of the way, to help families accomplish everything they want for their child...and more!"
~ Nancy Gianni

