

Katie Schiefen and Mary McHale spent three days in Washington, DC, to attend the Affiliates In Action conference. This is an annual event for affiliate leaders in the Down syndrome community. Over 300 people attended from over 85 affiliates. Topics ranged from "Presenting A Prenatal Diagnosis" and "Sibling Issues" to "How To Hold A Great Buddy Walk." The highlights include the visits that Katie and Mary made to the offices of Senators Nelson and Johanns and Congressman Terry. They asked for support of the ABLE Bill aka Savings Account Bill where families can contribute money into a savings account for an individual with a disability and the funds don't count as assets for that individual. They also asked for support for funding for the Kennedy Brownback Bill which is the bill by which doctors receive resources, etc., when presenting the information that a child has Down syndrome.

