

## TEENS LIVING WITH A DCC PROGRAM

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This year we are excited to add a special component to the Corporate Kids Event (CKE) Teens Camp for teens diagnosed with a DCC (ages 12-17). In addition to the camp activities offered by CKE, Program Coordinators, Heather Will and Kathe Gee will moderate a series of discussions and activities specially designed for teens living with a DCC.



**Katherine Gee**, and her husband, Tom, live in New York State. They have two daughters, Natalie, a.k.a. Neptune (age 15) and Lillian (age 12). Katherine went to Mansfield University and Corning Community College, graduating with an Associate degree in General Studies. Katherine is a classroom Teaching Assistant for kindergarten in the Corning school district. Tom is an IT platform owner and solution architect at Corning Inc. Katherine has isolated complete agenesis of the corpus callosum, which she, along with her entire family, found out about during a routine MRI she had in college. She has been an advocate for those living with the disorder due to genetically passing it to her younger daughter, Lillian. Katherine served on the NODCC Board of Directors for six years and as the executive chair of the Community Committee. She has recently rejoined the Board for another term to continue helping with Zoom calls and professional webinars. Katherine hosts NODCC Regional Meetings during the off years of the national conference. You can find her videos on YouTube where she shares her experiences and encourages parents.



**Heather Will** has been serving the DCC community for 12 years. She helps to administer the birth year support groups on Facebook, is a former NODCC board member, and is currently volunteering with the NODCC community committee. Heather was a teacher for 8 years and currently homeschooling all three children. Heather also assists her oldest, Timmy, with his YouTube Channel called The Magic Brain Kid, which helps bring awareness of DCCs to the general public.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

*NODCC reserves the right to change the schedule at any time. Revised 5/6/26*

### Thursday, July 23

- 1:00 - 2:30      **Welcome - Introductions - Ice Breakers**  
During this session participants will have the opportunity to introduce themselves, share about their life, and get to know others. The introductions will be a space to share with the group about who they are, where they live, what things they enjoy for themselves, and some information about their diagnosis. Ice breakers will give participants the chance to have fun, break down barriers, and come together as a team.
- 3:00 - 4:30      **Discussion: Friendship & Preparation for Session Ask the Professional: Q&A About DCC**  
Beth Martinec will be teaching the group about friendship and how to identify if a person in your best friend, a close friend, or an acquaintance. In this session the group will learn what type of activities and what type of information it is appropriate to share with different levels of friends. Upon conclusion of the discussion on friendship, we will prepare questions for the teens to ask during the Saturday afternoon Adults Living with a DCC Program session *Ask the Professional: Q&A About Disorders of the Corpus Callosum*.

## Friday, July 24

- 11:00 - 12:30 **Discussion: What is a DCC & Art Therapy**  
In this session, we will discuss what is a disorder of the corpus callosum and how do we explain it to our peers, to other adults, and to medical professionals. We will also practice advocating for our needs. After our discussion, we will conclude the session with some fun art therapy time with Jasmin Turner.
- 2:00 - 3:30 **Discussion: Ask the Professional: Q&A About DCC**  
An informal session in which teens may join adults diagnosed with a DCC to ask medical and behavioral questions regarding their DCC diagnosis with answers from Research Scientists, Dr. Warren S. Brown and Dr. Lynn K. Paul.
- 4:00 - 5:30 **Discussion: Conversation Skills**  
In this session moderated by Jasmin Turner, the group will watch a series of videos and discuss appropriate behaviors during a conversation, how to keep a conversation going, and how to answer questions appropriately.

## Saturday, July 25

- 9:00 - 10:30 **Attend Adults Living with a DCC Panel Q&A**  
During this session teens may attend this panel discussion in which conference attendees may ask the panel of adults diagnosed with a DCC questions related to what it is like for them living with a DCC.
- 11:00 - 12:30 **Yoga**  
In this session, the teens will learn to be mindful of their body, their position in space, and its position in relation to other things. They will also learn how yoga can be used as a calming strategy and how to implement it at home.
- 4:00 – 5:30 **Discussion: Bonding with Siblings & Farewell**  
The session will prepare the attendees for going back home and being back with their siblings. We will discuss how to make meaningful connections and what it means to be a good brother or sister. We will also take time to work on emotional regulation when things with our siblings do not go as planned.