The Extraordinary gifts & Unique Challenges of Williams syndrome

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WILLIAMS SYNDROME

is a genetic condition that is present at birth and can affect anyone. It occurs in 1 in 10,000 births worldwide and is characterized by medical, developmental and learning challenges.

Individuals with Williams syndrome (WS) are friendly and endearing, highly verbal and empathetic. Parents often remark that the joy and perspective their child with WS brings into their lives had been unimaginable.

There are major struggles too. Eighty percent of children with WS have cardiovascular problems. Kidney and gastrointestinal issues are also common. Costly and ongoing medical care is needed.

Williams syndrome presents lifelong learning challenges. Early intervention and therapies help to overcome developmental delays. Daily struggles with things like spatial relations, numbers, and abstract reasoning, can make both classroom tasks and executive functions difficult.

Adults with Williams syndrome join the workforce in a variety of positions and with support live full and productive lives.

COMMON FEATURES OF WILLIAMS SYNDROME

- Similar Facial Features.
- Heart and vascular abnormalities
- Kidney and Gastrointestinal issues
- Sensitive hearing
- Musculoskeletal issues
- Overly Friendly & Social
- Developmental Delay
- Learning Challenges
- Anxiety
- Love of Music/Musicality

THE WILLIAMS SYNDROME ASSOCIATION

Making Connections... family to family, family to professional
Building Networks... social, emotional and professional
Finding Answers... providing critical research support

For more information: visit williams-syndrome.org
call 800-806-1871

williams syndrome
ASSOCIATION

570 Kirts Blvd. #223 . Troy, MI 48084