

The moment has arrived. Prenatal counseling will never be the same, thanks to you.

Six years ago, DSAA members participated in a research study on family attitudes toward people with Down syndrome. Studies have just been published in the *American Journal of Medical Genetics*, and we wanted you to be among the first to know. The researchers heard back from 2,044 parents/guardians, 822 brothers/sisters, and 284 people with Down syndrome from around the country, and they said loud and clear: Down syndrome is far more positive than many healthcare professionals describe.

As you know, international discussion is mounting over the forthcoming noninvasive prenatal tests for Down syndrome. The Down syndrome community has been dedicated to providing accurate, up-to-date information about Down syndrome for expectant parents. Now, we have the largest and most comprehensive information to share about Down syndrome.

What can you do now?

1. Share the research. The journal has kindly made the articles accessible to everyone, even those who do not have a subscription. Please feel free to direct friends and family to the following links:

Results from parents/guardians: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ajmg.a.34293/pdf>

Results from brothers/sisters: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ajmg.a.34228/pdf>

Results from people with Down

syndrome: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ajmg.a.34235/pdf>

2. Contact local physicians. Now you have the research to help secure meaningful meetings with area physicians. Send the journal articles to your local obstetricians, geneticists, genetic counselors, midwives, neonatologists, and pediatricians. And, then ask them if you could meet with them to tell them more about your child. Ask about opportunities to present stories at Grand Rounds or other healthcare gatherings.

3. Contact local medical, nursing, and genetic counseling schools. Offer to meet with them and let them get to know your child.

Thank you for believing in this work when we approached you six years ago. You have been very generous, and I hope that you will take pride in the listing of DSAA's name in the Acknowledgement section of each paper.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Skotko with any questions.

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