### CHANGING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WHO STUTTER

Founded in 1977, the National Stuttering Association is the largest self-help/support organization for people who stutter in the United States. The NSA is dedicated to bringing hope and empowerment to children and adults who stutter, their families, and professionals, through support, education, advocacy, and research. Our vision is to build on our position as the preeminent organization for supporting people who stutter.

If you are the parent or family member of a child who stutters, you may have questions about what to do for your child. The National Stuttering Association is here to help!

NSA Family Programs supports young people who stutter by providing resources for the whole family and others in their support network. This information speaks to the wide variety of ages and situations which families may encounter. Information, good therapy and support from other people who understand the challenges with stuttering will allow families to move along in their journey with confidence! We have resources for persons who stutter of all ages, as well as their families and other interested persons.

As you read over this information, you will see that there is so much that can be done for children who stutter. New programs and information are emerging all the time, so stay connected with the latest info by logging onto WeStutter.org often. Even if your child has not experienced success with their stuttering in the past, there is still hope for the future.

Through the NSA, countless children and adults who stutter have improved their speech and overall communication skills, reduced their concerns about stuttering, and found that they can do anything they want to do!

**WESTUTTER.ORG** 



The National Stuttering Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Since 1977, we have dedicated ourselves to bringing hope and empowerment to children and adults who stutter, their families, and professionals through support, education, advocacy, and research

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# PARENTS & CHILDREN WHO STUTTER



## THERE ARE MANY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP; THESE ARE JUST OUR TOP 15

#### 1. NSA KIDS, TEENS, & FAMILY CHAPTERS

The NSA is the only organization to offer local support chapters specifically for children, teens, and their families. Our NSA Kids groups are designed for young children who stutter (age 7-12), NSA Teens groups are designed for teenagers (age 13-17) who stutter, and our Family chapters are designed for all children, 'tweens, and teens (ages 7-17) who stutter. All groups are open to family members\* and speech professionals, as well!

\*Parents must remain with minor children for the duration of the meeting

#### 2. ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Our 4-day Annual Conference is the best way to help children who stutter learn to overcome the challenge of stuttering and teach them that they are not alone! Workshops specifically designed for school-age kids create an amazing opportunity for children who stutter to build confidence and make new friends, while parents and siblings can participate in their own workshops to help them better understand and cope with stuttering.

#### 3. LOCAL I-DAY EVENTS

Our local and regional 1-day events bring together children who stutter, their parents, and specialists in the treatment of stuttering for a full day of sharing, encouragement, support, and fun. These life-changing events give you a taste of what it is like to attend an NSA Annual Conference.

#### 4. GAMES & ACTIVITIES

Learning about stuttering can be fun! Visit the 'Just for Kids' section of our website for stories, games, and more to get the conversation started with your child.

#### 5. LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN TREATMENT

The NSA has partnered with leading stuttering specialists from around the country to provide the most up-to-date information about new treatments for children who stutter.

#### 6. LATEST RESEARCH

The NSA's Research Committee keeps you informed about developments in research to help you decide what's best for your child.

#### 7. VIRTUAL PARENTS CHAPTER

As a parent, you may be concerned about the difficulties your child will experience with their stuttering, both socially and academically. You are not alone! The NSA supports children, young adults, and parents through the myriad of challenges that you may encounter. One of the ways that we do that is through our parent-led Parents & Caregivers Virtual Chapter meetings.

Held monthly, this free virtual support group for parents and other caregivers of people who stutter. If you are the parent/guardian/caregiver of a person (of any age!) who stutters, you may have questions about what to do and how best to help; you've come to the right place. Join us for these informal discussions about the challenges and successes of raising children who stutter.

#### 8. PEDIATRICIANS

Often the first health care professionals that parents turn to when they initially have concerns about their child's stuttering. The NSA has a special section of the website and brochure that speaks to the physicians to help them to better understand stuttering today.

#### 9. EDUCATORS

Help your child's classroom teacher learn how to help your child at school with our informative brochure for educators.

#### 10. PARENT SUPPORT CHAIN

Connect with other parents online who have faced the challenge of being the parent of a child who stutters. Search 'NSA Parents' on Facebook to find our closed, moderated group open only to parents of children who stutter.

#### **11. SECURE/SUPERVISED INTERACTIONS**

The NSA maintains a Safe Environment Policy to protect all minors at NSA events.

#### 12. CONSULT A PROFESSIONAL

Fortunately, many treatments are available for children who stutter, though not all of these treatments are helpful for all children. Seek the advice of a speech-language pathologist (SLP) who specializes in the treatment of children who stutter and work closely with your therapist to ensure the best possible outcome for your child. Contact the NSA for help finding a local specialist.

#### 13. INFO AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

The NSA's website (WeStutter.org) is filled with helpful information about stuttering, including advice from parents of children who stutter, guidance from professionals, and inspirational stories from people who have not let stuttering hold them back.

#### 14. ADVOCACY FOR YOUR CHILD

The NSA is frequently cited the media involving stuttering. Because of our national prominence, we offer a voice for the needs of people who stutter.

#### **15. STAY CONNECTED**

The NSA is dedicated to providing hope, empowerment, and support for you and your child. Through the NSA, you will become part of a community of people who understand stuttering and how to help people who stutter. Together, we can make a real difference in your child's life.

Check out WeStutter.org today to find a local chapter, the latest research, periodic email blasts, social media, and much more!