

# "I Am" Campaign: Voices of People with DD

## I am Julian.

I am 25 years old. I belong to many clubs and enjoy having lots of friends. I love my life.

*"At the doctor, I have a hard time explaining what's wrong when I'm alone and that's why I take my Mom or Dad with me."*



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## I am Francie.

I'm a drama queen that loves acting and sports.

*"I like getting lots of support at the hospital. Family, friends and nice nurses and doctors make me feel good."*



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## I am Jenna-Joan.

Dancing and acting are my passions. I also love hanging out with my friends.

*"I don't get scared or nervous at the doctor's because I have a great relationship with mine. They listen to me and that's why I don't want to switch."*



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## I am Andrew.

I enjoy acting and writing songs in my spare time. I have a great sense of humour.

*"Every year I need to get an echogram of my heart. One year the person was pressing really hard on my chest and it hurt very badly. I told him to stop but he didn't. I ended up having to take the test over again because the results did not come out correctly. This next time it was done correctly and without pain."*



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# I am Aldene.

I am a proud member of a self advocacy group.

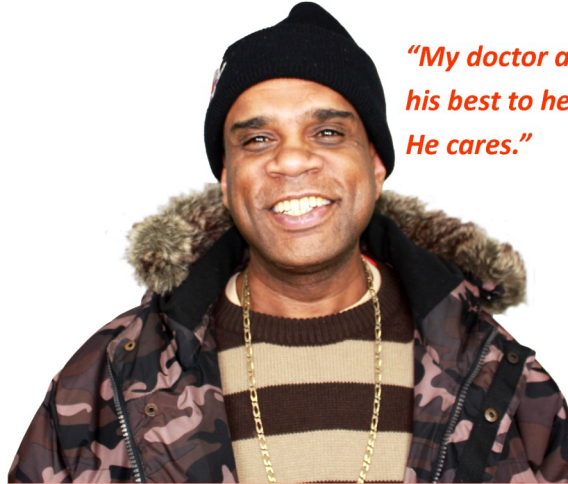
*"One day I was eating a peanut butter sandwich for lunch. The next thing I remember was waking up in a hospital bed with a tube down my throat. I was on life support for three days. They diagnosed a peanut allergy. The staff at the hospital took the time to teach me how to make sure it never happens again."*




# I am Terrence.

I like to go to the library and read books.

*"My doctor always does his best to help me. He cares."*



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# I am Melanie.

I love going to the movies and working with children.

*"My family doctor takes the time to understand my concerns. She is a good and caring doctor."*




# I am Mark.

I do a lot of things, including photography.

*"Once I needed to get a brain scan. In the hospital, they did not tell me what to expect. They tied me to the bed so that I would not move during the procedure. I was only nine years old and scared. I will never forget it. Tell people what is going to happen and help them prepare for it. Please don't let this happen to others."*



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