Prader-Willi California Foundation

Prader-Willi California Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity established in 1979 and the only organization dedicated exclusively to serving the needs of Californians impacted by Prader-Willi syndrome.

PWCF is comprised of parents, extended family and friends as well as dedicated professionals and care providers. PWCF is supported solely by dues and donations. Federal TIN #95-3480752.

PWCF proudly maintains an affiliation with the national Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA).

Our Mission

Individuals with PWS should have the opportunity to pursue their hopes and dreams to the full extent of their talents and capabilities. The success of people with PWS depends greatly upon the knowledge and support of the community around them. PWCF provides individuals with PWS, their families, and professionals with a state network of information, advocacy and support services.

Our Aims and Objectives

- To provide education and support
- To increase awareness
- To advocate for families
- To support appropriate and high quality living arrangements
- To support statewide and national research

Our Vision

Our vision is that persons with PWS will live a full life without limits.

You can make a difference!

With early diagnosis and early and appropriate medical and therapeutic interventions, the future of children with Prader-Willi syndrome can be bright and full of promise. Please help us help them.

- Make a tax-deductible donation to PWCF
- Volunteer your time and/or talents to help people with Prader-Willi syndrome
- Learn more and educate others about PWS

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Since 1979 Prader-Willi California Foundation, a non-profit public charity, has been serving persons with Prader-Willi syndrome, their parents, and the professionals who serve them

An Affiliate of ...
Prader-Willi Syndrome Association (USA)
800.926.4797 • info@pwsausa.org • www.pwsausa.org
Prader-Willi Syndrome (PWS) is a non-inherited genetic disorder that causes a multitude of serious and life-threatening symptoms. The hallmark symptom in infancy is hypotonia, severe low muscle tone, which interferes with feeding and causes a “failure to thrive.” From childhood throughout the person’s lifetime, additional symptoms emerge including growth failure, body temperature abnormalities, sleep problems, cognitive impairment, learning disabilities, scoliosis, and incomplete sexual development. The hallmark symptoms of PWS, however, and perhaps the most debilitating, are emotional dysregulation, the impaired ability to control emotions and behavior, and hyperphagia, an insatiable, unrelenting, biochemical drive to eat no matter how much food is eaten. Unmanaged, PWS leads to morbid obesity and premature death.

Because there is no known medication to eliminate or even reduce the drive to eat, persons with PWS cannot live independently without risk of eating themselves to death. There are, however, treatment and management strategies that save lives and improve the quality of life of all persons impacted by PWS. And there is great hope.

PWCF’s Programs and Services
PWCF provides Support, Education, and Advocacy services to families and professionals. We help families secure appropriate medical and therapeutic interventions, educational supports, and residential services. We help increase Public Awareness and acceptance of persons with PWS. We provide Training, and support Research that seeks to unravel the complexities of PWS in order to identify effective treatments and ultimately find a cure.