



facingdisability.com

Mission:

A spinal cord injury affects the entire family. FacingDisability.com is designed to provide Internet-based information and support for people with spinal cord injuries and the members of their families. Connecting with the life experiences of others who have been down the path ahead of you often helps people find their own strength and support

In A Nutshell:

FacingDisability.com was specifically created to connect families who suddenly have to deal with a spinal cord injury with people like them who have already “been there” and “done that.”

The new website contains more than 1,000 videos of on-camera answers to the most important questions about spinal cord injuries. The answers come not only from people with spinal cord injuries themselves, but also from their parents, spouses, children, siblings, experts and friends.

They are the voices of real-life experience. And they are honest, sincere, straightforward—and brief. (Most answers are less than one minute in length.)

Visitors to the website can search by individual questions, such as: “What was your greatest fear at first?” “Where did you get the best financial help and information?” People can also find someone who has lived a situation like their own by narrowing their search by gender, by level of injury (paraplegic or quadriplegic) by the age at which the person was injured, or by relationships (parents, siblings, spouses).

The website was created by the Hill Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, based in Chicago. The foundation interviewed more than 100 people about their life experiences with spinal cord injury, asking them all the same 48 questions. They selected the answers that would be most helpful to others and put them on the website.

The website also contains interviews with top medical experts on such subjects as: Spinal Cord 101, Addiction and SCI, Social Life in a Wheelchair, Sex and SCI and Pediatric SCIs,. There are Forums, a Blog, a Peer Counseling Match-Up and an extensive Resources section.