

European Down Syndrome Association

France Trisomie 21 France

Internet: www.trisomie21-france.org

Founded: 1981

President: Jacques Daniel

Director: J. P. Champeaux

Members: 3000 (in 62 local associations)

Finances: membership fees, donations, selling material, books



Jacques Daniel,
president of Trisomie21
and father of a teenager
boy with Down
Syndrome

Main goals

- To support people with Down-Syndrome and their families
- To make the social participation of people with Down-Syndrome effective, through schooling, independent housing, work inclusion.
- To contribute to scientific research in order to improve life conditions of people with Down-Syndrome (T21 France has a scientific committee)

Services

We offer counseling locally for the families and nationally for the associations as well as rehabilitation (speechtherapy, physiotherapy, psychomotricity, medical, psychological and educational care).

T21 France has a partnership with two French universities (Saint-Etienne, Bordeaux) and organizes annual seminars.

The local associations have their own library and organise their own family days and leisuretime activities.

Publications

We have a regular journal "Trisomie 21". We have published 2 brochures about schooling and medical care and there is a variety of information flyers in the local associations.

We also offer several information-videos (about work inclusion, housing autonomy...) and one short film made by Down-Syndrome persons (Le mystère du tiroir).

Awareness campaign

One Sunday in November is dedicated to Down-Syndrome awareness, throughout France. Every 18 months a congress or a "summer university" is organised by T21 France.

Projects and campaigns

- to support housing autonomy and work inclusion through the creation of innovative services.

General information

1. Main problems on behalf of persons with Down-Syndrome is the medical care and the acknowledgement of mental handicaps in terms of accessibility. Worksituation for adults.

Numbers

Between 1/1500 and 1/2000 babies with Down-Syndrome are born per year.

Estimation of the total number of people with Down-Syndrome: 40.000

Situation of babys and toddlers

- medical care and physiotherapy are offered
- early intervention: starts with six months
- some other therapies: psychomotricity and speechtherapy

Situation of schoolchildren

- About 85 % of children (up to 6 years are visiting preschools,
- 65 % of children 6-12 years old) are mainstreamed in regular schools,
- 25 % of the children older than 12 years visits a regular school.

Situation of adults

- worksituation is slowly improving thanks to such services as Open ESAT (Service d'Aide par le Travail hors murs)
- housing: more and more DS people can now live on their own in an ordinary environment, according to different projects.



Trisomie21, the regular journal of the french DS-organisation