

INTRODUCTION

Hi! My name is _____ and I am __ years old. I have _____, _____, and _____. My medical diagnoses affect my brain. To state it plainly, my brain is just wired differently. Some of the symptoms that I experience with my illness are _____. Any or all of my symptoms can appear suddenly and I have little control over them.

My mom and dad sometimes have to give me a “protective hug” until the storm passes. The “protective hug” helps me to feel and be safe during these storms. Also, the medicines that I take have a lot of side effects. The only side effect that I seem to have from my medications is being sleepy. Fortunately, I have not experienced a lot of the side effects that some kids do.

I have two great doctors who specialize in helping kids who have funny wiring in their brains just like me. My doctors are working very hard with me and my parents to find the right medications to help me function at my best, as well as feel and be safe all the time. Sometimes this process can take a long time. I also have a great case manager, who is doing everything that she can to help me learn how to manage my illness.

My parents say I am very smart. Everyone agrees that I am loving and affectionate. My parents say that I have a magnetic personality and that people just radiate to me. I like to play and have fun like every other kid my age. Some of my favorite things to do are swing, color, build neighborhoods out of Lincoln logs, play with Legos and, most of all, bowl. My parents think I’m a natural bowler!

I live at home with my mom, my dad and my sister _____ who is __ years old. I also currently have a foster brother and foster sister that live with us. Unfortunately, my grandparents do not live close, but my family has some wonderful close friends through our church. My sister’s foster mom has also become like a grandma to me and I call her Mama Sherry.

As you can see, I am a regular kid that sometimes needs extra help. I hope you will be patient, kind and understanding with me. I also hope that you will join me and the rest of my family in our prayers that one day there will be a cure for these horrible illnesses.

Another very special thing about me is that I am adopted. My birthmom chose my parents to raise me as their own. That is a very special thing. I don’t completely understand the whole thing, but my parents will help me understand when I start to have questions.

Thanks for taking the time to learn about me! I know my mom would be happy to answer any questions that you might have after you have reviewed all of this information. My parents and I are looking forward to a great school year!

~ _____ (Child’s first name)