



SAM, FROM USA

Sam has Progeria.  
You helped us find the gene for it.  
Please help us  
find the cure.



The Progeria Research Foundation, Inc.  
www.progeriaresearch.org  
978-535-2594

The Progeria Research Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization.

*The Progeria Research Foundation*

P.O. Box 3453  
Peabody, MA 01961-3453

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Together we WILL find a cure!



SAMMY, FROM ITALY

To learn more about how  
you can help, contact us:  
info@progeriaresearch.org  
www.progeriaresearch.org  
978-535-2594

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## What is Progeria?

Progeria is formally known as Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome. A genetic disease characterized by premature and accelerated aging, Progeria is always fatal: Children with Progeria die of heart disease or stroke at an average age of 13 years.

Children with Progeria are born looking healthy, but within months display early signs of the disease including growth failure, loss of body fat, hair loss, and aged-looking skin. Within just a few years they experience stiff joints, hip dislocation, atherosclerosis, and heart disease. Progeria affects both boys and girls equally, in all races throughout the world. But despite differing ethnic backgrounds, children with Progeria have a remarkably similar appearance.

These kids are wonderfully intelligent and active throughout their shortened lives. They are living just as all children do – going to school, running around, playing, and laughing with friends. They are kids being kids.

*“Isolating the Progeria gene is a major achievement for the medical research community. The discovery not only gives hope to children and families affected by Progeria, but also may shed light on the phenomenon of aging and cardiovascular disease.”*

*Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute  
(Senior Author on the Progeria gene discovery)*



MICHEL,  
FROM BELGIUM

JUAN CARLOS,  
FROM COLUMBIA

## The Progeria Research Foundation

The Progeria Research Foundation (PRF) was founded in 1999 by Sam's parents. **PRF's mission: To discover the cure and effective treatment for Progeria, a fatal premature aging disease which afflicts children, and its aging related disorders.** Because much of this work involves the biology of aging and heart disease, it may also benefit millions of adults worldwide.

PRF was the driving force behind the discovery of the Progeria gene in April 2003. This monumental task was achieved because of the commitment of scientific researchers and the generous donations of people like you.

With your help this important work can continue so that one day **together we WILL find a cure!**

Join us on the road to a cure for Progeria!

*"We are so thankful that PRF is here to help us – you are our hope for our little Megan."*

Megan's parents,  
Steve & Sandy



ZOE,  
FROM  
PUERTO  
RICO

MICHAELA, FROM ENGLAND



## PRF needs you!

Your generous donations will help us continue these crucial programs that may unlock the secrets of aging and heart disease, one of the leading causes of death the world over.

These programs have led to groundbreaking research in Progeria and will lead to finding the cure.

### **PRF Diagnostics Testing Project**

Offers the first-ever genetic test to confirm the diagnosis of Progeria; from there PRF can provide early intervention and accurate treatment recommendations so that children with Progeria can enjoy a better quality of life.

### **PRF Cell & Tissue Bank**

Provides medical researchers with cells and DNA material from Progeria patients and their families so that research on Progeria and other aging-related diseases can continue to advance.

### **PRF Medical & Research Database**

Compiles detailed clinical data on children with Progeria to provide treatment recommendations for the Progeria families and their doctors, as well as new research directions for Progeria and aging.

### **PRF Medical Research Grants**

Support medical research projects worldwide, creating valuable partnerships for future research, expanding our resources, and opening new directions for future research.

### **PRF-Sponsored Scientific Programs**

Bring together scientists and clinicians to share medical expertise and further their research efforts for children with Progeria.

### **PRF Clinical Studies**

Clinical testing of the children to understand as much as possible about Progeria and help us determine whether a treatment (when it becomes available) is working to delay or reverse the disease.

### **PRF Family Message Board**

Offers a private chat room so families of children with Progeria can connect and develop a support network.

## Together we WILL find a cure!

The Progeria Research Foundation is driven by the passion and hope of many people. With every project PRF runs and every research proposal PRF funds, we come closer to finding a cure. Our medical discoveries not only benefit children with Progeria, but may also help the millions of people who suffer from heart disease.

PRF has made incredible strides, but this critical work can only continue to move forward with your help. Your donations and your volunteer efforts are essential.

## Please contribute today.

Please send your tax-deductible contributions to:

**The Progeria Research Foundation, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 3453**

**Peabody, MA 01961-3453**

To contribute online, go to: **[www.progeriaresearch.org](http://www.progeriaresearch.org)**

Would you prefer to contribute your time?

PRF has many volunteer opportunities.

Please contact us at:

**[info@progeriaresearch.org](mailto:info@progeriaresearch.org)**

**Tel: 978-535-2594**

**Fax: 978-535-5849**

HAYLEY, FROM ENGLAND

