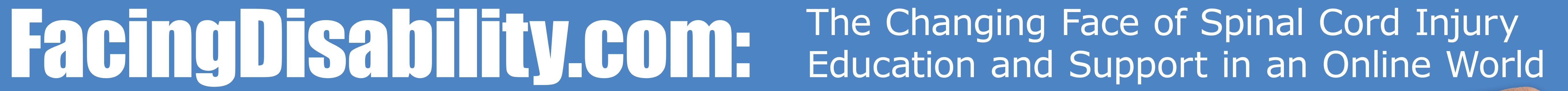


## Sara J. Klaas, MSW, C-ASWCM

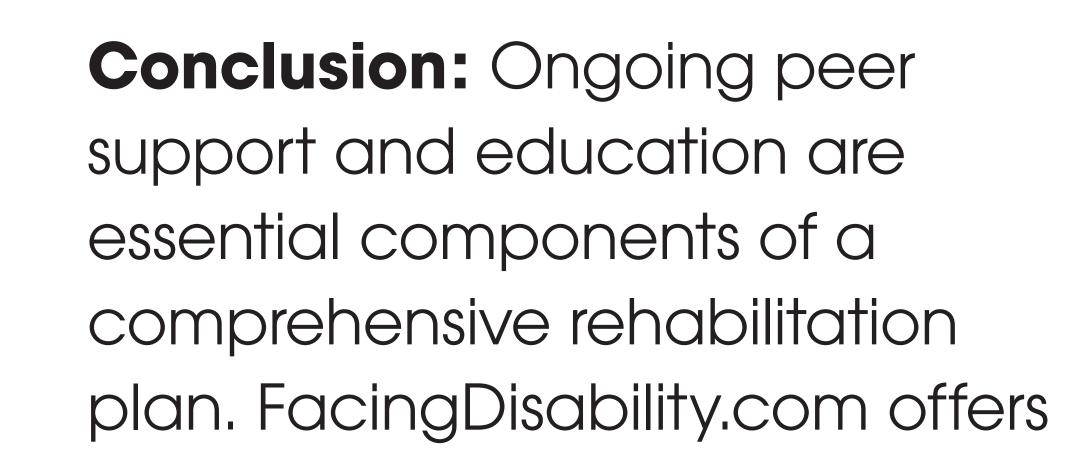
Shriners Hospitals for Children, Chicago, IL sklaas@shrinenet.org



How have your family relationships changed?

#### Thea Flaum

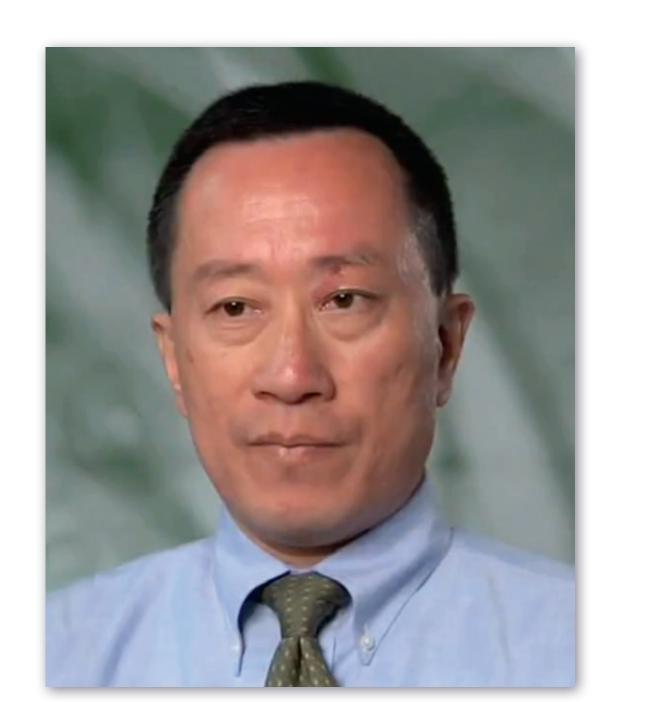
Hill Foundation, Chicago, IL tflaum@facingdisability.com The new Facing Disability video app allows users to share their own stories.



an important new resource for those with SCI, their families

and healthcare providers on the rehabilitation team.

Support: This project was supported by the Hill Foundation for Families Living with Disabilities, a 501(c) 3.





low-cost intervention that expands the delivery of state-of-the-art healthcare via support and education online. Design/Methods: Participants were more than 100 individuals with SCI, their family members and healthcare providers. Video interviews were conducted with SCI families in which they answered a series of 48 questions regarding their life experiences; the answers deemed most helpful were put up on the website. Medical

Preventing Pressure Ulcers, Rehabilitation, Sex and Fertility, Coping with a New Injury.

Objective: A spinal cord injury (SCI) is a life-changing event, not only for the

person who sustains the injury, but also for the whole family. 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. Facing Disability.com is a new high-tech

**Results:** The website offers more than 1,400 videos of real-life answers to questions about families coping with SCI. Expertise from the SCI medical community is also presented in video interviews. The website offers resources, forums and peer counseling. Facing Disability.com currently averages 2,400 unique visitors per week. (See the results of a recent online survey below.)

experts were interviewed about basic SCI topics, such as Spinal Cord Injury 101,

The innovative new video app encourages SCI families to share their stories by recording their own videos and uploading them directly to Facing Disability.com.





# How is it working?

**Online Survey** (123 Responses)



#### What sentence describes you best?

I am a person with SCI: 48% I am a family member of a person with SCI: 19% I am a healthcare professional: 16%

#### How old are you?

25-34: **22%** 51 and up: **36%** 35-50: **30%** 

How easy was it to navigate our website? Extremely Easy: 26% Very Easy: 46%

How helpful were videos by spinal cord injury experts? Extremely Helpful or Very Helpful: 71%

#### Most helpful expert topics:

Spinal Cord Injury 101 Sex and Fertility Adjusting to Social Life in a Wheelchair Basics of SCI Rehabilitation

#### How helpful were personal experience videos?

Extremely Helpful or Very Helpful: 70%

### Most helpful personal experience topics:

Life After SCI Relationships After SCI Feelings After SCI SCI Rehabilitation

How would you rate the overall effectiveness of the website? Extremely Effective: 28% Very Effective: **36%** Moderately Effective: 27%

How likely are you to recommend our website to a friend or co-worker? Extremely Likely: 40% Very Likely: 31% Moderately Likely: 15%

