



# **18TH INTERNATIONAL FRAGILE X CONFERENCE**

### Introduction – Dads Helping Dads

- Will Bridges
- Laurie Married 24 years
- Caroline 19 Self Advocate
- Clark 16 No FX Gene
- Houston, TX
- LSU ChE Technical Sales
- Lots of hobbies
- Happy to be here!



FRAGILE X CONFERENCE

- x How I became a "Fragile X Dad"
  - x Superstar Wife Occupational Therapist
    - x Wide Fragile X Spectrum
      - x Caroline From Kindergarten to College
        - x Aim High / Tempered Expectations
          - x "Control What You Can Control"



- x Communication #1: Call and Response
  - x Communication #2: Front Loading
    - x Communication #3: Limiting Distractions
      - x Example: Headphones
        - x Example: Side Talking
          - x Example: Using Phone to Talk & Text
            - x Embrace the Repeat! Count to 7



x Interaction Ideas, esp with younger children: x Ready / Set / Go with a ball or Swing x Deep Pressure x Break down tasks into small steps x Don't forget about your other kids! x Discipline – when, how? x Is it for Attention or Anxiety?



x Love Languages

x Find things in Common
x Sports, Books, Fitness, etc.
x Telling Dad Jokes / Using Humor

x Physical Humor

x Most Important Thing: Just Show up
x Don't give up!



### **Speaker Contact Information**

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Hangout? Bourbon Tasting?



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INTERNATIONAL **FRAGILE X** PREMUTATION REGISTRY



#### • •

- Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter
- Western Massachusetts Chapter •

#### Thank you to the following **NFXF Chapters and Community Partners**

- Fragile X Association of New York
- Fragile X Association of Southern California
- Fragile X Resource Center of Missouri
- Greater New York City Chapter •
- Heartland Chapter Iowa South Dakota
- Houston Chapter
- Northern California Chapter
- •













We're here to help make each and every day just a bit better. Reach out to us as <u>contact@fragilex.org</u> or

(202) 747-6210 / (800) 688-8765

From the NFXF team: Linda, Jayne, Hilary, Missy, Kristin, Robby, Jen, Amie, and Kim









