

What Is Moebius Syndrome? Global Awareness and Support Through MFOMS

Moebius Syndrome is a rare congenital neurological condition that primarily affects the muscles controlling facial expression and eye movement. People born with Moebius Syndrome are typically unable to smile or frown and may experience difficulties with speech, swallowing, or lateral eye motion. Despite these physical challenges, individuals with Moebius Syndrome lead full, accomplished lives — contributing to their families, communities, and professions around the world.

The condition was first described in 1888 by German neurologist Dr. Paul Julius Möbius, for whom the syndrome is named. Since then, research and advocacy have helped improve understanding and acceptance of this rare disorder, though awareness remains limited in many parts of the world.

Raising Awareness and Building Community

In 2009, the international all-volunteer organization Many Faces of Moebius Syndrome (MFOMS) was founded to connect families, promote education, and advocate for those affected. Two years later, MFOMS launched Moebius Syndrome Awareness Day (MSAD) — observed annually on January 24 — to honor the birthday of Dr. Möbius and to raise global awareness of the condition.

Each year, MSAD unites thousands of participants across countries through local events, social media campaigns, city proclamations, and personal stories that highlight courage, inclusion, and understanding. The day has since become a global observance supported by multiple organizations, healthcare professionals, and families worldwide.

Education, Support, and Strength in Every Story

MFOMS continues to lead international awareness through digital storytelling, creative projects, and educational outreach. From the Moebius Voices Story Board and Kids programs to advocacy toolkits and proclamation drives, MFOMS provides platforms that celebrate resilience and empower every voice within the Moebius community.

To learn more about Moebius Syndrome, explore personal stories, or get involved with upcoming awareness initiatives, visit the official website:

www.mfoms.org