



# NEW INTERNATIONAL CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS ABOUT WILLIAMS SYNDROME

"AUTOUR DES WILLIAMS" and the "FEDERATION WILLIAMS FRANCE" associations are launching an international call for research projects about Williams Syndrome.

## "AUTOUR DES WILLIAMS" in a few words

AUTOUR DES WILLIAMS is a French-speaking association that brings together families affected by Williams and Beuren syndrome. AUTOUR DES WILLIAMS welcomes families who have just been diagnosed and accompanies them throughout their lives. The association also aims to bring families together and create a network of solidarity, to raise awareness of Williams syndrome, to work on learning, employment and inclusion. One of the objectives of the association is also to finance scientific research programs. The proposed funds come from several sources: donations, awards, private grants, sales (calendar, t-shirts etc.) They come from our generous donors and the persevering and dynamic work of the families.

## "FEDERATION WILLIAMS FRANCE" in a few words

The FEDERATION WILLIAMS FRANCE gathers and represents regional associations that act together to connect families throughout France. Its mission is to provide moral and practical support to people with Williams syndrome and their families, to organize leisure activities and adapted stays, to organize meetings and sharing during national conferences, to raise awareness of Williams syndrome among the general public, to encourage and support medical and scientific research on Williams and Beuren syndrome.

## **Aim of this call for proposals**

Funding will be allocated to Williams syndrome research projects. They will be selected by our Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee and by our executive board members.



This year we raised **80,000 €** that will be attributed to one or several research programs

### **Required criteria**

The projects selected for funding will be based on several criteria including: methodology, relevance, feasibility, impact on improving the patients' well-being, scientific originality.

The CNRS supports our approach, a synergy with a project funded by the CNRS will be valued.

This year, priority will be given to projects dealing with gastroenterology issues (diverticula, constipation, nutrition, stomach ache, reflux).

### **Selection procedure**

Deadline for project receipt: **1<sup>st</sup> September 2025**

Projects will be reviewed by experts and non-experts. They should be presented in **plain language in English or French** and should include:

- A clear description of the project (readable by non-experts)
- The aims and expected benefits for patients
- A detailed financing plan

The total length of the proposal **should not exceed 4 pages**



Please send your proposals to: [williamscall@free.fr](mailto:williamscall@free.fr)

**Prof. Brigitte Gilbert-Dussardier**  
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**Prof. Gilles Faury**  
*UFR de Chimie et de  
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**M. François de Oliveira Santos**  
*Président, Autour des  
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**Prof. Agnès Lacroix**  
*Présidente du Conseil  
Médical et Scientifique.  
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Cognition, Comportement et  
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**Dr. Yves Dulac,**  
*Cardiologue, Hôpital des  
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**Mme Anne-Laure Thomas,**  
*Vice-Présidente, Autour des  
Williams*

**Dr. Cécile Gallea,**  
*Chargée de recherche CNRS à  
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**Dr. Alain Londero,**  
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**M. Antoine Vidalinc**  
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**Prof. Sibylle Vital,**  
*PU-PH en Odontologie  
Pédiatrique, Université  
Paris Descartes, Hôpital  
Louis Mourier, AP-HP, Paris*

**Dr. Jean-Luc Douillard,**  
*Psychologue clinicien,  
Thermes de Saujon*

**Mme Françoise Boulic**  
*Coordonnatrice de la  
Fédération Williams France*

**Prof. David Geneviève**  
*Médecin généticien, chercheur Inserm, responsable du centre  
médical et de la plateforme d'expertise pour la maladie  
rare, Montpellier.*

If the project is accepted, a detailed report is expected at the end of the "contract", giving a summary of the main results (publications, etc...) and a balance sheet of expenses. We would also like a presentation of the project and the possible results to be given orally to the families.

Thank you very much for your commitment.

You can find the list of projects funded in previous years on the associations' websites

<https://www.autourdeswilliams.org/la-recherche/projets-finances/>