

Life Through the Eyes of a Health-Challenged Youth

Imagine life if you were only able to see things for a brief moment before your world faded to gray. Every person you speak to seems to be speaking a different language. Others shun you because you do not know that you smell awful because you need a shower. It seems like everything that comes out of your mouth hurts those who are around you. Imagine waking every morning not knowing that you exist, and above all things not having the power to control any of this.

This is the way that 21-year-old Stephen Rios, lived his life. In the midst of all of his turmoil the young Texan explains, "I was a kind, gentle, caring, and compassionate young person whose only wish was to let the world see who I really was. Instead, people only saw me as a mean and disrespectful person with a crooked tongue." Stephen had to deal with these pressures every day. This was his world.

Family Notices Astonishing Changes

Brenda, Stephen's mother explains, "Stephen had been unable to succeed in school, to develop social skills appropriate for his age, or even to hold an age-appropriate job. He could dream but never could execute his dreams. Stephen's hyperactivity was present in both his body and mind. He had been unable to 'read' body language, thus he was socially inept."

Stephen joined his mother and his aunt Julie in beginning the Isagenix program. Stephen struggled with his weight and had come to accept that he would be overweight for a long time. "I started out weighing 365 pounds, Stephen explains, "it is the result of having gone through a deep depression and having a serious eating disorder."

After the second day of the Isagenix program Stephen experienced dramatic changes. "Stephen began coming out of his box," Brenda says. His aunt Julie also noticed, "He's out from behind the blinders that defined his world since five or six years of age. Brenda asked him to find and hang up the portable telephone and he notified her that it was done right away. Brenda was shocked!"

"Never in my entire life has my son immediately done anything as soon as he was asked," Brenda says. "He had been incapable of immediate compliance, powerless to quick transitions from one task to another." Stephen says he suddenly became aware of the silent body language that we all use. "In just a few days Stephen was able to join into group conversation," says his aunt Julie. "He has now become an enjoyable conversation partner."

Brenda is ecstatic and overcome with joy to have her son back. "He looks me in the eye," she says. "I had not seen the response of his soul in his eyes during a conversation since he was a little boy. The windows of his soul are there and they are clear."

Brenda will always remember with great emotion the day Stephen came out of his room animated and exclaiming, "Wow! Oh Wow! I live with people! I have a family! I don't have to be lonely anymore! You guys are not just gray blobs moving around the room anymore." "I always knew that the kid was in there," Brenda explains. "I just didn't know how to let him out. I still do not know what is in the products that made the difference. I just know that I have my son back!"

Stephen's New World

Stephen's face shines with excitement as he describes his new life. "My entire world began to open up. I began to notice things I have never noticed. I didn't have a family before. They were just like gray blobs all floating around. I began to understand what people were saying. I realized that I existed and actually had a life."

Within four months of taking the Isagenix products, Stephen has begun to slowly piece his life back together. "I bought a car two weeks after getting on the product, and shortly thereafter was able to accept a job for a custom 3D modeling project. I was able to follow through, despite unrealistic expectations from customers," he says.

As a result, Stephen has saved enough money to get his GED, pay for and insure his car, and take drivers education classes which will allow him to get a normal job for the first time in his life. "Being able to think, to understand, to see the world in its entirety, has helped me finally begin putting together a life of my own," Stephen says. This excited young man accepts the fact that his health challenges robbed him of his childhood and many experiences. He missed so much of his life. Stephen maturely states, "Life goes on, and thanks to Isagenix I will be able to learn things I have yet to learn." He understands that there is still much work to do until he is fully ready to be on his own, but he is now able to take the first steps.

"If you know a child with a similar experience please try to share Isagenix with them. It may not work for them like it did for me, but any chance for improvement is better than no chance at all," Stephen states. "I thank John Anderson and all those who helped make this product."

