

JDRF Leadership Launches Campaign on Capitol Hill

Kicking off JDRF's biggest advocacy push this year – with a potential impact that will be felt for years – International Chairman Mary Tyler Moore and President and CEO Arnold W. Donald called on three of Washington's key decision-makers in March to thank them for their past support and bring them up to speed on a critical program that is set to expire.

The effort is focused on reauthorizing and expanding the federal Special Statutory Funding Program for Type 1 Diabetes (better known as the Special Diabetes Program), which currently provides \$150 million per year – 35 percent of all federally-supported type 1 research. The program has provided mandatory funding to diabetes research toward a cure for type 1 diabetes, as well as type 2 treatment and prevention strategies targeted to Native American

populations. Created in 1997 and already renewed twice following intense JDRF advocacy campaigns, the program has demonstrated a strong return on investment, including the development of some of the most promising therapies to treat or reverse diabetes and its complications, and the launching of many human clinical trials in the areas of prevention, complications, cell therapy and others.

Much is at stake. Without Congressional reauthorization, we will see much of this most promising research delayed or halted, and many of the most productive clinical trial and drug development

programs put in serious jeopardy. These include Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet, which has been conducting human clinical trials to test several therapeutic approaches – including anti-CD3 – to prevent type 1 diabetes; the Type 1 Diabetes Genetics Consortium (one of the largest genetic studies ever performed for a specific disease), and the Diabetes Retinopathy Clinical Research Network, now testing highly promising drugs to combat diabetic eye disease.

During their visit to Capitol Hill, Mary introduced Arnold to longtime JDRF

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(From left) Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Int'l Chairman Mary Tyler Moore, President/CEO Arnold W. Donald



Mary Tyler Moore with House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC)

Discover is Part of the Cure

Discover has again raised the bar in supporting JDRF's mission. Discover, a JDRF partner since 1999, has raised nearly \$4 million for diabetes research through corporate support, employee contributions and card member donations. In March 2007, Discover placed a full page insert into the SmartSource magazine section of Sunday newspapers across the country. The insert prominently featured JDRF as a beneficiary of the Discover Cashback Bonus program and was circulated to more than 67 million households.

The Cashback Bonus program has raised nearly \$500,000 for JDRF since 2001. Discover card holders earn Cashback Bonus points from purchases and



can redeem points for JDRF. Discover also provides a 20 percent match to all card member donations generated through the Cashback Bonus program.

Discover has been a strong partner in the search for a cure. Remember your Discover Cashback Bonus card when

making purchases – every dollar you spend at major retailers can help generate funds for JDRF research. For more information on how to apply for a Discover card and help JDRF find a cure for type 1 diabetes, visit apply.discovercard.com or call 1-800-470-7952. ●

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JDRF Partners With Industry to Push Therapies Through the Pipeline

With their experience in bringing drugs and treatments to market, the biotech and pharmaceutical industries are an important part of the search for a cure for type 1 diabetes. JDRF has launched a major initiative, the Industry Discovery and Development Partnership Program, focused on working with companies to more quickly take therapeutics from discovery through development and commercialization. The program works in concert with the academic discovery and development science the organization funds.

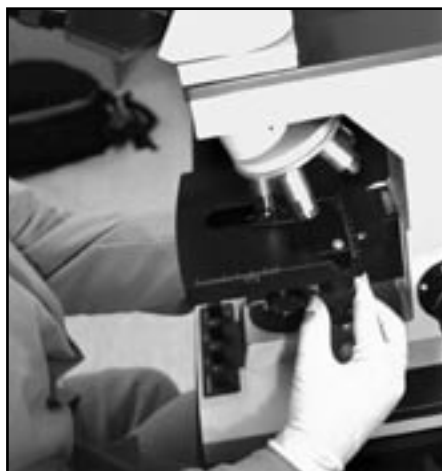
Under this program, JDRF is currently working with 11 companies in the United States and around the world. These range from small biotech start-ups to such major companies as Genzyme, and more of these innovative partnerships are coming. In 2006 alone, we committed \$14 million to this program.

This innovative approach is generating a great deal of interest. In January 2007, for example, the *Wall Street Journal* ran a positive (and prominently placed) story about JDRF's partnerships and our success in leading the way among nonprofits in moving potential new drug therapies into clinical trial through "venture philanthropy."

Through our funding, JDRF is helping take the risk out of drug development by allowing companies to broaden their existing products to include therapies for type 1 diabetes conditions, including

treatments for many of the most devastating diabetes complications.

For example, we're seeing promising results in drugs to treat diabetic retinopathy and macular edema, a complication that often leads to vision loss. In some cases, these drugs have already been approved by the FDA to treat other conditions. Since a drug typically takes about 15 years to travel from discovery



to final FDA approval, we're shortening a staggeringly lengthy process and greatly reducing the cost of development.

In early March, one industry partner, Transition Therapeutics, announced encouraging results from a clinical trial of a therapeutic combination that may be effective at regenerating the insulin-producing beta cells lost when people

develop type 1 diabetes. The combination used in the trial is based on research funded by JDRF in the late 1980s. Although JDRF did not fund this specific trial, we are currently partnering with Transition Therapeutics to conduct clinical trials of a similar regenerative product, a second-generation therapy, which could have even better effects.

In addition, JDRF has formed strategic partnerships with several biotechnology companies to test anti-CD3 antibody therapy, a therapeutic approach that JDRF researchers demonstrated could preserve beta cell function in newly diagnosed patients for up to 18 months after diagnosis. These companies will soon be launching pivotal Phase III clinical trials to seek regulatory approval.

Finally, in April, JDRF announced a partnership MediGene AG of Frankfurt, Germany, aimed at preventing type 1 diabetes through a slightly different approach. JDRF is providing financial support to MediGene AG for the advancement of "monoclonal T cell receptor (mTCR) therapeutics" aiming to prevent beta cell destruction. These therapeutics engineer T cell receptors into antibody-like proteins that can be used to protect specific cell types in the body that are targeted by T cells. JDRF is collaborating with MediGene over two years to accelerate ongoing proof-of-concept studies into the clinic. ●

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ally, former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert (R-IL), one of the key drivers in the successful renewal campaigns of 2000 and 2002, and an influential player in the current reauthorization push. The pair also touched base and discussed strategies with another key ally, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), member of the Senate Finance Committee that will consider the reauthorization bill. And finally, the JDRF leaders met for the first time with House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC), a strong supporter of NIH funding.

Mary and Arnold's visits effectively prepared the way for a broad, far-reaching JDRF grassroots program, during which JDRF advocates are targeting and engaging all Members of Congress in this important battle. JDRF requests that this critical program be reauthorized for five years beginning in Fiscal Year 2009, and that the funding be increased from \$150 million per year to \$200 million per year in each of the five years for both the type 1 and the Native American treatment and prevention programs. The request reflects the tremendous opportunities in diabetes

research, as well as the need to address the increasing incidence and cost of diabetes. This research has great value to its payers as well as patients.

The issue will be paramount when Children's Congress 2007 convenes in Washington in June, and will remain so until Congress renews the program. We will call on all volunteers during this important campaign and ask that you recognize the importance of this effort and participate in future activations on this issue. Collectively, we will amass the effort needed to accomplish this challenging, but critical, goal. ●

Anonymous Gift Raises Bar for Planned Giving

In March, JDRF's Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter received a \$1.2 million bequest from an anonymous philanthropist. While the identity of the donor and her connection to JDRF and diabetes will remain a mystery, we are fortunate that she valued JDRF's efforts to find a cure for diabetes.

This bequest is the third largest received by JDRF since the Planned Giving program was launched in 1995. JDRF has now received seven-figure bequests in each

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of the last three years. “We hope that this increasing frequency of large planned gifts is a trend that will continue the future,” says Alan Berkowitz, the program’s director. “We’ve been promoting the Planned Giving program steadily for 10 years, and JDRF fundraising as a whole has grown enormously. These are important factors that favor the success of our program.”

Whatever the donor’s reasons, it’s not a surprise that the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter was the beneficiary of this gift. Berkowitz adds, “JDRF was founded in Philadelphia in 1970, and the chapter has a long and very distinguished history. The work of that chapter has touched so many people over the years. They have a tremendous pool of potential planned giving donors, which has translated into their being the beneficiary of a number of very significant planned gifts in recent years.”

As a result of this the anonymous donation, JDRF is now poised to surpass FY2006’s record total of \$4.6 million in Planned Giving revenue in FY2007. ●

2007 Annual Conference Co-Chairs Fighting for Their Own Cures

This year’s Annual Conference co-chairs have a number of things in common: both are still in their 20s and in the process of launching their careers, both have type 1 diabetes, and both have passionately engaged with JDRF and our search for a cure.



Christopher Goddard and Meg Burcke

Meg Burcke

Meg Burcke’s involvement with JDRF began soon after her diagnosis at 17 months. Metro St. Louis/Greater Missouri Chapter members may remember the little girl who cut the ribbon at launches, was interviewed by the media, and served as Youth Ambassador at Galas. Last year, Meg graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism, and, after a summer of working on advocacy issues with the chapter in St. Louis, she relocated to Washington, D.C. Counting politics and JDRF as her biggest passions – she’s already signed on to volunteer for the D.C. Walk – Meg says, “After more than 20 years of being part of JDRF, I feel that I’m ‘coming home’ in undertaking this new role, and I feel strongly that this is my time and our time to find the cure!”

Christopher Goddard

Also from St. Louis, Christopher Goddard was diagnosed with type 1 seven years ago at the age of 22. Then a singer-songwriter who was about to release his second CD, Chris immediately arranged to do a benefit concert for JDRF, raising \$23,000 through his “Expect a Miracle” concert. Determined to contribute to society, Chris decided to become a lawyer. He graduated from Washington University School of Law, and recently went to work at the university as assistant general counsel. His wife, Michelle, is working toward her degree as a nurse practitioner, and the couple are the parents of 8-month-old Liam. Chris is secretary of the Metro St. Louis/Greater Missouri Chapter Board, and he recently decided to form a young professionals group at the chapter with the aim of reaching out to young adults with type 1 diabetes.

At Annual Conference (to be held this year in St. Louis!), Meg and Chris will be fitting exemplars for this year’s theme, “It’s Our Move.” Both are action-oriented and enthusiastic people who fight hard for a cure for themselves and millions of others. They look forward to outstanding personal accomplishments and JDRF’s accomplishment of our “main thing” – finding the cure fast.