

The T1D Voices Council

The **T1D Voices Council** will offer JDRF a diverse patient perspective to ensure that its efforts continue to reflect the needs of people with the disease.

Last year JDRF announced the creation of a new patient advisory group, the **T1D Voices Council**. Comprising 18 people affected by type 1 diabetes (T1D), the council will enable even more people with T1D and their families to offer their valuable perspectives to JDRF's research and advocacy goals, to help guide the organization's activities and ensure that its efforts remain aligned with the needs of people with the disease.

"JDRF is committed to all people with type 1 diabetes, and as such, we believe our most important advisors are those affected by the disease," said Jeffrey Brewer, president and CEO of JDRF. "Only by expanding our engagement of the T1D community and allowing it to inform our priorities can we ensure that JDRF is working toward the proper goals."

Designed to represent the broader T1D community, the **T1D Voices Council** will include members from across the United States and abroad, with diverse backgrounds and connections to T1D, from young people with the disease to adults and grandparents, in order to reflect the diversity of those who are affected by the disease. Chosen participants will meet two or three times every year to provide a patient perspective to JDRF staff and leadership on issues such as how JDRF should define a cure for T1D, what JDRF's research priorities should be, how JDRF's resources should be split among its priority areas, and what guidelines and expectations should be set for clinical trials.

The council will be led by Bill Parsons, a member of JDRF's International Board of Directors whose son has T1D, and JDRF's chief scientific officer, Dr. Richard A. Insel, M.D. "We are eager to bring together this diverse group of people in the type 1 community, whose invaluable insight will help guide JDRF toward our common goal: improving lives and curing this disease," said the **T1D Voices Council** inaugural chairman, Bill Parsons.

Together, the council's leaders will create and execute a competitive review and selection process for council participants, who will serve staggered terms of two years. JDRF chapters and affiliates will be responsible for nominating candidates for council positions, to ensure that various geographic regions throughout the country are represented.