



FACT SHEET: Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation



August 10, 2009 – Wayne, PA – The Saturday Club is pleased to announce that the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) will be the primary beneficiary of funds raised from our 2010 American Girl Fashion Show[®] event. JDRF is a leader in setting the agenda for diabetes research worldwide, and is the largest charitable funder and advocate of type 1 research. The mission of JDRF is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

More than 85 percent of JDRF's expenditures directly support research and research-related education. Because of its unwavering focus on its mission to find a cure, JDRF annually receives top rankings from independent sources that rate charitable giving.

Type 1 diabetes is a disease that strikes children and adults suddenly, but lasts a lifetime. It requires multiple injections of insulin on a daily basis or a continuous infusion of insulin through a pump. Insulin, however, is not a cure for diabetes, nor does it prevent its eventual and devastating complications which may include kidney failure, blindness, heart disease, stroke, and amputation.

As many as 3 million Americans may have type 1 diabetes; the most severe form of the disease. Diabetes is an enormous health concern. Current government figures report that diabetes costs our nation more than \$132 billion annually.

In 2010, the Foundation will celebrate its 40-year anniversary. Founded in 1970 in Philadelphia by parents of children with type 1 diabetes, JDRF has awarded more than \$1.3 billion to diabetes research, including more than \$156 million in FY2008. In FY2008, JDRF funded more than 1,000 centers, grants, and fellowships in 22 countries, including nearly 40 human clinical trials worldwide.

The Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter, the organization's local affiliate, hosts two large fundraisers every year: the Walk to Cure Diabetes, which takes place in October, and the Promise Ball, a black-tie gala which takes place every May. Throughout the year, the chapter offers many other events; some fundraising-related and others strictly for outreach – opportunities for families to network with one another. In the past year, the "Life Stages" program has been implemented. "Life Stages" is a series of sessions where attendees can learn about diabetes care, diabetes and college, diabetes and school advocacy, and a variety of other topics.

For more information about the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, please visit the website www.jdrf.org or contact the Foundation by phone at 610.664.9255 or email philadelphia@jdrf.org.