

Juvenile Diabetes
Foundation
International
Children's Congress
June 20–22, 1999
Washington, D.C.

## Please Help Our Children Advocate for a Cure for Diabetes

The first JDF Children's Congress of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International (JDF) needs a letter from you telling your Member of Congress why funds are needed now more than ever for research to find a cure for diabetes and its complications. The letters will be delivered during the Children's Congress, June 20–22, 1999.

Write your Member of Congress in care of: The JDF Children's Congress 1320 Old Chain Bridge Road, Suite 330

McLean, VA 22101

- Tell them your own personal story about diabetes—you, someone in your family, someone you know.
- Let them know diabetes is a debilitating disease that afflicts 120 million people worldwide.
- Tell them how every three minutes one of the 16 million Americans who has diabetes dies of it.
- Explain that insulin is only life support, not a cure.
- Diabetes accounts for \$98 billion in annual U.S. health-care costs.

## **Background**

One hundred children with diabetes representing all 50 states will come to Capitol Hill, June 20–22, 1999, to bring their heartfelt plea for help to fund a cure for a disease they endure every day: diabetes. Their mantra, "Promise to Remember Me," will powerfully call to lawmakers to remember the urgency of finding a cure for diabetes.

The child-delegates will be participating in the first JDF Children's Congress—an historic gathering marking the first time children from across the U.S. have mobilized in this magnitude to urge Members of Congress to increase funds for medical research. The delegates, much like Members of Congress, represent their home states and fellow children-constituents with diabetes.

JDF Children's Congress Congressional Co-Chairs are U.S. Senators Arlen Specter (R-PA) and Harry Reid (D-NY) and U.S. Representatives George Nethercutt (R-WA) and Diana DeGette (D-CO). Some 288 other Members have joined the JDF Children's Congress Congressional Committee.

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International is the world's leading nonprofit, nongovernmental funder of diabetes research. It was founded in 1970 by parents of children with diabetes. JDF's mission is to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.



Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International
The Diabetes Research Foundation