

February 2021

Dear Friends,

As parents, volunteers and donors, we desire nothing more than curing our children of type 1 diabetes (T1D). While so much more is available now than ever before to lessen the burden of living with T1D, the ultimate outcome is to eliminate it altogether with a cure.

Last year, we were proud and excited to be at the forefront of the effort to launch JDRF's first Center of Excellence to accelerate high-impact research to develop cures for T1D. This initiative supports scientific innovation by leading T1D researchers, while removing administrative requirements that divert time away from the lab. This "cures accelerator program" at the JDRF Center of Excellence in Northern California is unique in that it combines the research expertise of Stanford University and the University of California, San Francisco in a collaborative effort.

The groundbreaking work of this JDRF Center of Excellence builds upon the pioneering [Edmonton Protocol](#) for islet transplantation and utilizes cutting-edge science to discover solutions for sourcing islet cells and solve the challenging problems of immune rejection and autoimmunity while leveraging new technologies such as CRISPR gene editing.

Knowing this revolutionary Cures research is taking place in our home state of California—JDRF's first Center of Excellence—is exciting and inspiring. We invite you to join us and be part of completing the final \$3 million in funding for its first five-year commitment, ensuring uninterrupted momentum.

To accomplish this, a special \$3 million campaign has been established. Each individual gift of \$10,000 or more can be directed to this exciting "cures accelerator program." Directed giving beginning at this level is uncommon for JDRF and we are pleased to provide this opportunity for our fellow supporters in California to be part of this extraordinary work.

This is a lot to digest, but we wanted to get this in front of you as soon as we could. Your local staff and/or volunteer partner will follow up with more details about the JDRF Center of Excellence in Northern California and this exciting and unique opportunity. We are available to share our perspectives and insights and will also team with your staff partner to make sure your questions are answered.

Thank you for considering joining us in supporting this breakthrough Cures research project.

Sincerely,



Karen Jordan
JDRF International Board



Michelle Griffin
JDRF Global Mission Board



Joe Niehaus
JDRF Northern California Board Chair