Charity Stream Talking Points

About JDRF:

JDRF is the leading global nonprofit funding type 1 diabetes (T1D) research. Founded in 1970 by parents determined to find a cure for their children, JDRF has expanded to become the largest charitable supporter of T1D research in the world.

Our mission is to improve lives today and tomorrow by accelerating life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent, and treat T1D and its complications. JDRF-funded research has three goals: to CURE (restore the body’s ability to make insulin), to PREVENT (stop T1D before it starts, eradicating the disease for good), and to TREAT (keep people with T1D healthy until a cure is found by advancing new technologies and therapies).

JDRF is the link between research breakthroughs and the T1D community—from the creation of engineered insulin to the production of the first artificial pancreas system. We coordinate clinical trials to ensure new therapies are thoroughly and quickly evaluated, and we keep the pressure on so people living with T1D can take advantage of every innovation.

JDRF stands for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation—but we don’t call ourselves by that name anymore. We used to refer to “juvenile diabetes” because T1D was frequently diagnosed in, and strongly associated with, young children. Today, we know an equal number of children and adults are diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (approximately 110 people per day). So, a few years ago, we changed our name to JDRF:

- To remove the misconception that T1D is only a childhood disease.
- To acknowledge that nearly 85 percent of people living with T1D are over age 18.

About Type 1 Diabetes (T1D):

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is a chronic autoimmune disease in which a person’s pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone people need to get energy from food. T1D strikes both children and adults, and its onset has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle. People with T1D depend on external insulin, via injection or infusion with an insulin pump, to survive. There currently is no cure. It is estimated that up to 38 million people worldwide have T1D.

T1D requires management 24/7. Insulin doses must be administered many times per day and calculated carefully based on food intake, exercise, stress, illness, the amount of time insulin remains active, and other (often unpredictable) factors. People with T1D measure their blood-sugar levels through finger pricks at least
six times a day (often much more), or by wearing a continuous glucose monitor (CGM). Even with a strict
regimen, people with T1D may still experience dangerously high or low blood-sugar levels that can, in extreme
cases, be life-threatening. Every person with T1D must become actively involved in managing his or her
disease.

T1D is identified in children and adults as they show signs of the following symptoms: frequent urination,
increased thirst, dry mouth, itchy or dry skin, increased appetite, unexplained weight loss, yeast infections.

Type 1 diabetes is different from type 2 diabetes. Type 2 diabetes (T2D) is a metabolic disorder in which a
person’s body still produces insulin but is unable to use it effectively. T2D is often diagnosed later in life and
can be due to genetic predisposition or behavior. It can often be managed with diet and exercise or
medication. More serious cases may require insulin therapy. Though they share the name “diabetes,” the two
diseases are quite different.

About JDRF Game2Give:

JDRF has teamed up with video game players and developers to raise money to fight T1D. We aim to bring
together all types of people affected by type 1 diabetes who like video games, and to mobilize this community
to fundraise for diabetes research. Our first Twitch streaming event in November 2019 had more than 60
participants, most of whom have T1D or a T1D connection. People who want to get involved can visit:
http://www.jdrf.org/gaming

JDRF has a Twitch channel. Visit http://www.twitch.tv/JDRF for interviews with members of the T1D
community, hosted charity streams, virtual JDRF events, and more.