

## Family Network Events

- Spring** Sugar Show
- Summer** Family Picnic at the Zoo
- Fall** Halloween Party



The JDRF Mississippi Chapter was established in 1998. The Mississippi Chapter is one of over 100 chapters and affiliates across the United States and around the world. Since its inception, JDRF has provided more than 900 million to diabetes research worldwide.

For more information about JDRF and the Family Network, please visit the website at [www.jdrf.org](http://www.jdrf.org)

You will also find more information about ongoing research, volunteer opportunities and upcoming events as well as a photo album of recent JDRF events.



*dedicated to finding a cure*

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# Juvenile Diabetes Family Network

Family Support for the Newly Diagnosed  
by Trained Volunteers



Finding out your child has type 1 diabetes can be overwhelming. Once the initial shock passes, the intense education process begins. It's a new way of living, and there is so much to learn; nutrition, ketones, glucose levels, monitors, carbohydrate counting, highs, lows, insulin dosages... the list seems to go on forever. The fears and questions may seem to also. You receive so much information from your doctors, diabetes educators and dietitians; but then the time comes when you and your child go home and "do it alone". **But you are not alone!**

The Juvenile Diabetes Family Network was formed by families living with type 1 diabetes to help families with a newly diagnosed child or adolescent cope with this new way of living.



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## Please Join Us!

A family interested in being connected with the Network will meet other families at quarterly get-togethers, walk together at the Walk to Cure Diabetes, and other activities coordinated by members. The Network is about sharing, helping, listening, and new friendships with people who understand your fears, questions, and yes, even your tears. We are not professionals, but concerned parents who have been where you are.

All families living with type 1 diabetes are welcome to be a part of the Family Network. The Network works through the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, but all activities are organized and coordinated by volunteers. There is no cost to be connected to the Network.

To register your family contact Michelle Alexander at (601) 981-1184. You will be introduced to volunteer parents familiar with the challenges of type 1 diabetes.

## Family Connections Coffees/Support Groups

JDRF has recognized the need to form a formal network that:

- Introduces families with children of similar ages
- Encourages information exchange
- Offers an environment of social support that might not be available from family, friends or neighbors
- Provides a learning forum exposing members to new channels of diabetes education that compliments their professional medical treatment

Meetings are held quarterly. These meetings will be an opportunity to get together for a few hours and meet other families dealing with similar issues. Some meetings will have guest speakers who will speak on such topics as: nutrition, insulin pump therapy, and research. Our goal is to include in this Network as many of the esteemed clinics, providers and organizations involved in diabetes care in this region.



JDRF Mississippi Public Outreach Committee

## From Research to Reality

### The Campaign to Accelerate the Cure for Diabetes

#### Cure Therapeutics: The Six Fastest Paths to Our Destination

1. Perfecting islet transplantation – without chronic immunosuppression – to permanently restore normal blood sugar levels in people with type 1 diabetes
2. Creating safe, stable, and widely available “universal donor” sources of insulin-secreting cells for transplantation and research to develop safe, human-compatible islet cells from animal sources
3. Regenerating the body’s own beta cells without islet transplantation – and simultaneously inducing immune tolerance to restore normal blood sugar levels;
4. Perfecting a closed-loop artificial pancreas
5. Creating novel approaches and therapeutics for predicting, preventing and reversing complications
6. Preventing type 1 diabetes by maintaining or restoring immune tolerance in new-onset patients.