

Upcoming Events

July 28 – Movie Day

Aug. 28 – Team Captain
Kick-Off Luncheon

Oct. 19 – Halloween Party

Oct. 20 – Walk to Cure Diabetes

Nov. 8 – Gala Sponsor Party

Jan. 19, 2008 – 2008 Hope Gala

Web Site

Our new Web site is live. Please visit www.jdrfmississippi.org for all of the latest news from the chapter.

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discoveries

Tee Up to Cure Diabetes

The 6th Annual Tee Up to Cure Diabetes Golf Tournament was held on May 22, 2007, at the beautiful Laurel Country Club. Howard Industries and the McCoy family were presenting sponsors and Kyle and Cyndi McCoy served as event chairs. The weather was beautiful and the players were very enthusiastic. Community Bank took the traveling trophy award and plans to return to defend their title next year. Thanks to all of the generous supporters of the event, JDRF raised more than \$26,000 to support research to find a cure for diabetes and its complications. If you missed out on the fun this year, be sure to plan to attend in 2008. ●



Save the Date

Oct. 20, 2007

Be a part of the 2007 Walk to Cure Diabetes. Our theme this year is “Claim the Victory” and we are ever closer to the victory of a cure for diabetes. For information on the Walk or to learn how to form a family or corporate team, please call the Mississippi Chapter at (601) 981-1184 or visit our Web site at www.jdrfmississippi.org. You will be glad you did!



Children’s Congress

My name is Shannon Barber, and my son, Batton, was fortunate enough to be chosen as one of two delegates to represent Mississippi at the JDRF Children’s Congress 2007 in Washington, D.C., this past June. My husband, Keven, and I accompanied him on the trip (his first plane ride) and the entire experience was outstanding!

When we arrived at the J.W. Marriott, the very first thing we noticed were all of the kids running around in yellow shirts – the Children’s Congress shirts that all of the delegates would wear all three days. Batton was awestruck to

the fact that all of the “yellow shirts” were just like him; they all had to check blood sugar and take insulin in some way. This really meant a lot to him, as he had never been around another kid with diabetes. Chandler Anthony, the other delegate from Mississippi, was especially nice to him and Batton latched on to him like he was his big brother.

The three days proved to be completely jam-packed. From the meet-and-greet with the other delegates, to singing on the lawn of the Capitol, to the Town Hall meeting, everyone had a great time. It was very moving



Chandler Anthony and Batton Barber

to hear the testimony of the children at the Senate hearing. We were honored to meet with our representative, Congressman Roger Wicker, and the aides to Senators Cochran and Lott. Our greatest hope is that they were inspired

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2007 Walk to Cure Diabetes Sponsors

Thank you to the following sponsors for the 2007 Walk to Cure Diabetes (as of July 24, 2007). We are so very grateful for the generous support of these donors – look for their names on T-shirts, brochures and posters around town, as well as on our Web site at www.jdrf.org. It is not too late to see your name on the T-shirt by sponsoring this great event. Please call the office at (601) 981-1184 for details or download a sponsorship reservation form from our Web site www.jdrfmississippi.org.

Presenting Sponsor
Howard Industries

Gold Sponsors (\$15K)
First Tower Corporation
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Central Mississippi Medical Center
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Charitable Annuity Lead Trust
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Collins & Corbin
Cellular South
Home-Land Title
Horne LLP
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University of Mississippi
Medical Center

Other Sponsors and Friends
MS Band of Choctaw Indians

Annual Meeting

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation's Mississippi Chapter held its Annual Meeting May 8, at the Cedars in Jackson. Nominating Committee Chair Franc Lee welcomed new Board Members Mike Anthony, Phil Burnett, Tyrone Ellis, Jerry Host, Dale Hubbard, Shaun Joyner, Daniel Riche and Lisa Wise. He also thanked retiring Board Members Tommy Joyner, Fleetwood Loustalot, Woody Sistrunk and Becky Vaughn-Furlow for their dedicated service to the chapter. Executive Director Michelle Alexander discussed highlights of the past year, including a record setting success for the 2006 Walk to Cure Diabetes, which raised more than \$505,000; a very successful 2007 Reds, Whites and Tunes Gala, which raised more than \$380,000; and significant progress in JDRF research initiatives to benefit all Mississippians, including the Artificial Pancreas Initiative and complications research. The chapter also announced that Franc Lee will serve as the 2007 Walk to Cure Diabetes Corporate Chair and that Cathy and Joey Havens will serve as 2008 Gala Co-Chairs with Bill and Sara Ray as Gala Honorees. The Betsy Ditto Volunteer of the Year Award was awarded to the Allen Ashcraft family for their ongoing efforts on behalf of the chapter. The evening featured music and a reception along with the business portion of the meeting. ●



Aubrey and Frank Farmer, Allen Ashcraft and Franc Lee



Tommy Butler, Eason Leake, Joey Havens and Danny Riche



Harold Corbin

Children's Congress

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by Batton's and Chandler's plight and the plights of all the others who suffer from type 1 diabetes and vote to renew the Special Diabetes Fund.

It was wonderful privilege for Batton to be chosen for Children's Congress 2007. It was an unforgettable experience and for that we are truly grateful. ●



Chandler Anthony and Jack Reed III



Chandler Anthony and Arnold Donald, JDRF CEO

Family Movie Day

On Saturday, July 28, more than 145 JDRF friends gathered for a private viewing of *Ratatouille* at the Parkway Theatre. Everyone enjoyed the movie, snacks and fellowship! Thanks to our family team chair, Cyndi McCoy, and her committee for making the day a success! Also, thanks to Marlys Myers and Britnee Pearson, Lisa Williamson of Medtronic and Tommy Blair of Roche for their contributions to the event. For those of you who were unable to attend, please call the office to get all of the latest news about the 2007 Walk to Cure Diabetes. ●



Interns

Britnee Pearson

My name is Britnee Pearson, and I am an intern with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. I recently graduated from Delta State University with a bachelor's degree in journalism and speech communication. My brother, Brower Myers, was diagnosed a little over a year ago with juvenile diabetes. After seeing Brower's daily struggles, I realized that I needed to be a part of an organization that was winning the fight and finding a cure for this disease. I am looking forward to my role as a member of the JDRF family.



Britnee Pearson

Ivy Settlemires

I am a senior at Millsaps College, where I participate in varsity cross country and varsity golf. I graduate in December 2007 with a bachelor of science in psychology and plan to go on to graduate school and become a nurse anesthetist.



Ivy Settlemires

I am very interested and concerned about diabetes in the U.S., particularly childhood diabetes, because I feel that although some causes of diabetes are genetically based, some are also very preventable. I want to help inform people about JDRF and help them understand that although their donations may be small, their impact is very large in helping to fund education for those families with children who have been diagnosed with diabetes.

Ivana Ventic

Having recently graduated from Millsaps College with a degree in

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Running For a Change

J.P. Watson is a resident of Philadelphia, Miss., who would rather run races than gamble! J.P. runs to help raise money for various organizations, one of those being JDRF. See his Web site at www.runningforachange.com if you'd like more information or would like to join the organization.



Jack Reed III Mississippi Native, Interns

*With JDRF Government
Relations Department
in Washington, D.C.*

Jack Reed III, 25, will be in his second year at Ole Miss Law School this fall. He grew up in Tupelo and then went to Vanderbilt University, where he majored in English and Spanish. He then spent a year as a production editor at the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville, Tenn. He was diagnosed with type 1 in 1999 when he was a sophomore in high school, and is currently on the pump. In his spare time, he enjoys playing the guitar, as well as tennis and soccer. Here are a few thoughts from Jack on interning with JDRF:

As an intern at JDRF Government Relations this summer, I do a wide range of activities – from tasks like compiling information about our JDRF advocates and scouring newspapers for diabetes-related issues to attending and reporting on Congressional hearings or researching Presidential candidates' stances on issues like stem cell research. I've really enjoyed seeing how JDRF mobilizes its thousands of advocates around the country to encourage their representatives and senators to support diabetes research and funding. The Government Relations team works tirelessly and is amazingly successful in achieving its legislative goals, but being able to witness first-hand the effect of advocates urging their representatives to support JDRF issues is really inspirational and humbling, and it shows just how important JDRF volunteers and advocates are to fulfilling our mission of finding a cure.

Will You Promise?

400 Meetings,
\$1 Billion for Diabetes Research,
Moving Closer to a Cure: Priceless

Promise to Remember Me 2008

Share your story of living with diabetes with your legislators and encourage them to vote "yes" on additional funding for type 1 diabetes research.

Who: Advocates and families just like you!

What: A meeting with your congressmen in your local community to share your story and to get your legislator to "promise" to support funding for type 1 diabetes research.

When: Aug. 1, 2007 through May 2008

Why: \$1 billion for type 1 diabetes research is on the line.

How:

1. Sign up to participate by sending an e-mail to advocacy@jdrf.org or calling the Mississippi Chapter at (601) 981-1184.
2. A campaign coordinator from our area will contact you.
3. Share your story with your legislator at a local meeting.
4. Submit photos and stories of your meeting to win prizes that will include pins, certificates and recognition on the Promise Web site.

Cruisin' for a Cure

By Valencia Lloyd

On June 7 of this year my family took our first fundraiser cruise to cure diabetes. This was a great trip. We went on vacation and raised money to cure diabetes at the same time! We had so much fun. We took the Carnival Fantasy out of New Orleans, La., to Cozumel, Mexico. Thirty-one (31) people cruised with us and Carnival Cruise line donated \$40 per person to JDRF via Valencia's Orange Crushers. My friends and I had a great vacation and at the same time we were able to support JDRF. I had an opportunity to go snorkeling. That was a lot of fun. The water was crystal clear; I have never seen water so pretty and blue. There were activities on the boat for children and teens. We spent most of our time in the pool. We ate all kinds of different foods and had plenty of pizza. Ms. Michelle Colon from JDRF went with us and was able to talk to our group about the importance of JDRF and its goals to help kids like me. I'm looking forward to our next cruise on June 8, 2008, to Jamaica. I hope you will join us! ●



Cruisin' for A Cure

Interns

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psychology, I was looking to gain knowledge of everyday operations of a non-profit organization. JDRF was the perfect fit for my needs. Its small size allowed me to get hands on experience on various activities provided by the organization. Every day I work is meaningful as I am able to make a difference in the fight against juvenile diabetes whether it is by raising awareness, gaining monetary funds or providing support to the families affected by it. ●



Ivana Ventic