

## Connect for a Cure

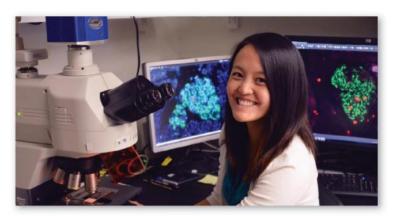
November 2019 Newsletter

### The Word is Getting Out: Exciting New Research Updates!

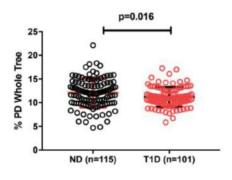
"Congratulations on the record number of submissions, word is spreading, attesting to your great work funding important projects driven by junior investigators in the T1D space."

Holger Russ, Ph.D., Barbara Davis Center For Diabetes, School of Medicine, University of Colorado.

We had a record number of early career scientists submit their research project proposals for funding this year. You can view the new projects in early 2020. We continue to see early career-scientists go on to do amazing things. Wendy Yang, Ph.D., was published for a second time, in the US National Library of Medicine National Institute of Health and as a result her DRC funded project is getting more exposure. Peter Thompson, Ph.D, one out of 20 early career-scientists DRC has supported was just given the opportunity to start his own lab in Canada!







Youjia Hu, Ph.D., at the Yale University Diabetes Center provided an update for his project, A Bacteria in the Gut May Predict Type 1 Diabetes (T1D). "I want to update you on the first three months of progress for this project. Our results not only support the recent findings by other investigators using fecal samples, but also our results support our hypothesis that oral microbiota might be used as a predictive biomarker for human T1D. We are currently further analyzing the sequencing data (~3 million) and we are confident that we will have interesting findings in the next progress report."

Recognized in *A Sweet Life: The Diabetes Magazine*, as one of the 6 Diabetes Research Studies to Watch in 2019 is Marika Bogdani, MD, Ph.D., of the Benaroya Research Institute's project, "Offensive 'Blocking' to Defeat T1D Before it Strikes!" This project seeks to uncover changes taking place in human islets that will indicate how to block diabetes before at-risk patients begin to exhibit symptoms.



Wendy Yang: (pictured top right), Peter Thompson (pictured second top right), Marika Bogdani (pictured above right)

Join the DRC family and gain access to the most current news about innovative T1D research

Sign up for our e-newsletter at https://diabetesresearchconnection.org/join-us/



We had approximately 350 guests dance the night away with us at our 2nd annual Del Mar Dance for Diabetes! This event was such a success because of everyone who joined us in connecting for a cure. In fact we raised close to \$400,000! This means DRC can fund even more research and continue building a pipeline of new T1D scientists. You can view a recap video with the photos of the event on our website under "Dance for Diabetes."



Do you want to be a part of planning the 2020 event or other **volunteer** opportunities? Please contact our Director of Development directly at cdavis@diabetesresearchconnection.org.

## **November Happenings:**



#### **National Diabetes Awareness Month:**

Tiffany and Philip Rivers' eldest son, Gunner, was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when he was just five years old. Hermoza will host The Change the Game campaign that will raise funds through sales of t-shirts by donating a percentage to DRC. Each individual who purchases a t-shirt/hat will be entered into a giveaway to win end-zone field seat tickets to the Oakland Raiders/Los Angeles Chargers game on December 22, 2019.



#### **World Diabetes Day:**

Are you local and want to do a hike or walk with other DRC supporters and then eat a great meal together? Pacifica Del Mar is donating a percentage of all food and drink sales on November 14th to DRC and you are invited to join us!

# BECOME A FAMILY

We will be wrapping up this year focusing on the stories of those in the DRC family. DRC's partners work hard to advance our mission by the giving of their time, energy and resources as committee members, board members, volunteers and supporters.

#### **Tarson Family:**

"The reason we support the Diabetes Research Connection is that it is the only organization I know of where innovative research unlikely to be funded in traditional ways is vetted and carefully selected by the most qualified diabetes experts in the world, and then funded by people like me who want to select the research we support and follow its progress." - Amy Adams.



#### Rosie:

"It was such a wonderful experience being a part of this amazing and worthwhile event. Just working with you all was a great experience!"

- Rosie Davies

Rosie is a supporter of DRC and served as a volunteer for our 2nd annual Del Mar Dance for Diabetes. She secured so many silent auction items, like the signed guitar from Carlos Santana's personal collection shown in the photo. Thank you for all of your hard work Rosie!



The Tarson Family has been partnering with DRC for years now! Tarson Investments was our DRC Benefactor sponsor of the 2nd annual Del Mar Dance for Diabetes. At the event, we announced publicly for the first time that the Tarson family came together to raise \$50,000 and fund a Research Project. It will be named after Matt Polakow, beloved son, nephew and grandson who has T1D. We are grateful for this family's incredible generosity and support of DRC!

**Diabetes Research Connection** 

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