

Dear Lions Clubs of District A-15,

A diabetes diagnosis is unlike any other. Living with type 1 diabetes is a lifelong balancing act, requiring constant monitoring of blood sugar levels, careful meal planning and regular insulin. But the impact goes beyond the daily routine, often leading to severe health complications if not managed well.

In the three minutes it might take you to read this, another person in Canada will be diagnosed with diabetes.

Diabetes rates are increasing in Canada. Currently it is estimated that more than 400,000 Canadians live with type 1 diabetes, and 29,000 are kids aged 1–19. Having type 1 diabetes can feel very lonely. You never get a day off. And not many people really understand what it's like to manage such a complex condition.

I kindly ask Lions Clubs of District A-15 to review the following overview of Diabetes Canada's D-Camps program. D-Camps is dedicated to continuous improvement and finding innovative ways to offer educational engagement for kids living with type 1 diabetes. We hope you will consider donating to ensure sustainability of D-Camps to empower and enrich the lives of children in your district who are affected by type 1 diabetes. **Help kids living with diabetes connect with other kids like them!**



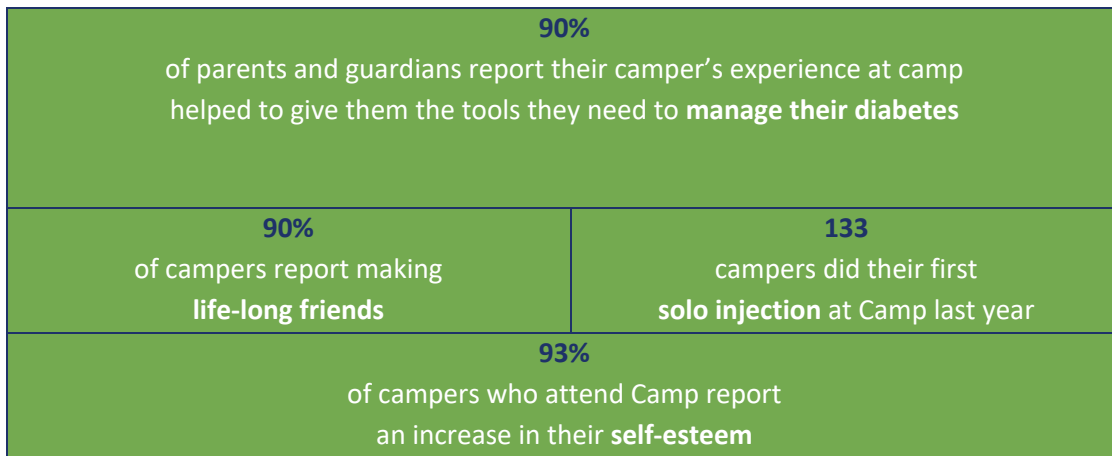
Diabetes Canada is the **only** registered national charity that provides camping program throughout the year for children, youth and families affected by the disability of type 1 diabetes (family camp, summer camp, leadership and virtual). Kids with type 1 diabetes often report feeling different and isolated because of the mental and physical challenges of managing this complex condition. On average, there is only 1 kid with type 1 diabetes in a school.

D-Camps benefits those who attend in many ways: children and youth become part of a community outside of their family, become more independent in managing their diabetes, exercise choice about their activities and learn to develop, lifelong skills. They also focus on mental health and diabetes education in a nonclinical setting.

The benefits extend to the camper's family. Type 1 diabetes requires vigilant around the clock attention and support by a child or youth's primary caregiver. For many families, the one or two-week period their child is at camp is the only respite they have from midnight blood testing, measuring/weighing food, and generally worrying about the safety of their child. Respite is an integral part of maintaining the long-term quality relationship of a family affected by type 1 diabetes. Everyone deserves a chance to 're-charge batteries' and for many families in the type 1 diabetes community, camp is the only opportunity to do so.

We have a proven track record of achieving these goals.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF KIDS WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES



We invite Lions Clubs of District A-15 to be a part of D-Camps future and help bring independence to more children and youth living with type 1 diabetes, there are approximately 43 children and youth from our district who attended D-Camp this summer. A one-week program has a cost of \$2500 to Diabetes Canada and your donation will ensure support for the continuation of this much needed program. Thank you, Lions Clubs of District A-15, for making children with type 1 diabetes a priority.

Sincerely,
Lion Trudy Carter
Diabetes Chair A-15

Tony Orangis
Diabetes Canada Coordinator

For more information, contact:
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PS – Enclosed is a Diabetes Awareness Pamphlet that includes more information about Diabetes Canada’s other key programs and our **NEW** Patch Program!