



# DREAM CATCHER NEWS

## MN Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

### "Catch the Dream" Life Without Diabetes!



[www.mnlionsdiabetes.org](http://www.mnlionsdiabetes.org) [facebook.com/MinnesotaLionsDiabetesFoundation](https://facebook.com/MinnesotaLionsDiabetesFoundation)  
2016 Summer

### Mission Statement

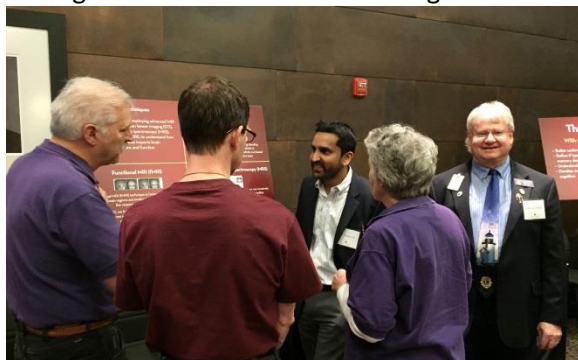
The Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc. (MLDF) is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with diabetes by funding research to cure diabetes, providing education and sponsoring preventive health activities.

### Foundation News

#### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Research Update Recap**

On April 2, 2016, a blustery morning on the campus of the University of Minnesota, The Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, along with fellow Lions, family and friends, once again took part in the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Lions Diabetes Research Update.

Lions were treated to information stations showcasing some of the latest discoveries in diabetes research being conducted at the University. Each station was hosted by a researcher who has generously been supported through the Foundation's research grant.



The event included lunch and presentations by Dr. Bernhard Hering, Bradley Weegman PH.D., and Dr. Amir Moheet.



Dr. Hering shared information on the latest research being conducted in transplantation using both human and pig islets. He described how he and his team are conducting cutting edge research to make porcine islet transplants a widely available cell transplant-based cure for diabetes. Dr. Hering's team was the first to report long-term diabetes reversal after porcine islet transplantation in immunosuppressed monkeys, one step away from humans.

The next presenter, Bradley Weegman, PH.D., is a member of the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation Imaging Lab. Brad described how the Lions Imaging Lab is researching and developing an artificial pancreas which would house insulin producing islet cells. The Lab is using the world's strongest magnetic resonance imaging machine to study oxygen levels needed by the islet cells to survive.

The final presenter was Endocrinologist Dr. Amir Moheet. Dr. Moheet described how both type 1 and type 2 diabetes have been associated with reduced performance on multiple domains of cognitive function including memory. He and his colleagues are using the imaging techniques of the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Imaging Lab to study structural abnormalities in the brains of both type 1 and type 2 diabetic patients. The long term goal is

to determine the impact of diabetes on the brain's structure and function in middle-aged adults.

## Grants

The MLDF approved and presented three new grants at \$25,000 each at the Diabetes Research Update. Hearing from the doctors about the progress they are making on many levels, gives us hope.



MLDF Chair PCC Judy(L) Along with PID Deb Wasserman Presented three checks for diabetes research to Jean Gorell U of M staff.

The U of M will use the grant funds:

- To develop vaccines that will eliminate the need for immunosuppression drugs in a porcine islet transplant.
- To focus on the autoimmune disease that causes diabetes by working to remove the destructive cells.
- To test inflammation reducing drugs and evaluate the role of calcium in insulin. Testing first in animals, to ultimately treat T2 diabetes.

## Lions Golf Tournament in June

Sherburn & Jackson Lions Clubs are sponsoring a golf tournament with proceeds to benefit MLDF. On Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 10AM Registration At Fox Lake Golf Course in Sherburn MN.

For \$40.00 per person includes green fees and steak dinner. Not a golfer come for Social and Steak at 5PM \$20.00. RSVP by May 30<sup>th</sup> to Mark Wohlhuter 507-764-4943 or [mwohlhuter32@gmail.com](mailto:mwohlhuter32@gmail.com)

## Poker Walk Fundraiser



Districts 5M9 and 5M3 held a Poker Walk at their Midwinter Conventions to raise money for diabetes research and education.

## Memorial Cards Available

Are you looking for a special gift for someone? Or a Memorial Card/gift to honor some one? We have Gift cards with mailing envelop for both the recipient and for sending the donation to the MLDF. They are great for clubs to use. Contact your District Trustee to get some.

## MLDF 2017 Calendar "Catch the Dream" - Life Without Diabetes!

Have you requested you spot on the 2017 Calendar yet? Honor someone or an occasion while helping support diabetes research and education. Order form and Trustee contact information is own our web site.

## Mark Your Calendars ----

ADA Expo in Minneapolis is October 15<sup>th</sup> 2016