

Volunteers plan 9th Annual Blair County Diabetes Walk

By JULIE WHITE

Staff Writer

Volunteers have been hard at work preparing for next Saturday's 9th Annual Blair County Diabetes Walk at the Foot of Ten Elementary School in Duncansville, beginning at 11 a.m.

Organizer Lisa Treese said that this year about 20 families will participate in the event, with a goal of raising between \$5,000 and \$10,000 to benefit the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation, hoping for a cure for Diabetes.

Treese's son was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D) several years ago, which requires multiple blood tests throughout the day, and several shots or infusions of insulin throughout the day, while also counting all carbohydrates eaten, in order to balance those with the necessary insulin. T1D results in essentially shutting down the function of the pancreas, so the body no longer produces its own insulin, which is necessary in order to process sugars and carbohydrates in the body.

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T1D cannot be avoided, as it is an autoimmune disease that comes on, often in childhood (it used to be known as Juvenile Diabetes). Though the onset cannot be avoided, thanks to giant leaps in research, T1D may no longer be a life sentence. It's a very exciting and hopeful time for those who are parents of children with T1D, to hope that they may not have to deal with the disease for their entire lives. Much of the research is made possible through donations raised from walks, such as this one.

The event will have a carnival-type atmosphere, with food,

music, games, raffles, a bounce course, and more. Treese said that Ralph Baker from R&B Productions will be donating DJ services, Kevin Schraff will provide food, and Aaron Saylor will do an Eagle Scout project as part of the event. "He has tons of games and prizes," Treese said. The bounce course is provided by 814 Party.

For additional information, please see the ad on page 24 in today's edition.

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