

## When Matthew was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at age five, where did he and his family find the care and support they needed? The Diabetes Research Institute.

1

Matthew's first symptoms were extreme thirst and frequent urination. Taken to a local hospital emergency room, he was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.



2

His mother, Crystal Blaylock Sanchez, felt that her family needed more information and support. Then she heard about Luigi Meneghini, M.D., and the Diabetes Research Institute (DRI).

**Matthew Sanchez** was diagnosed with diabetes at age five. With the help of the Diabetes Research Institute, he is effectively managing his own condition while providing inspiration and encouragement to patients with diabetes and their families.

3

Dr. Meneghini and the Patient Education Center at the DRI have helped Matthew and his family manage his diabetes ever since. He's even showed up at Matthew's baseball games to help "coach" him on optimizing his blood glucose control.

4

Matthew, now 13, has taken the DRI's "Mastering Your Diabetes" class and shares his knowledge and experience as a "Diabetes Diplomat" with others learning to cope with the condition.

5

"The support our family has received from the DRI is phenomenal," says Crystal. "The DRI has given Matthew the tools to be his own advocate."



The Diabetes Research Institute brings together multidisciplinary teams of researchers and collaborators to develop novel treatments and a cure for diabetes. The DRI provides clinical and outreach services that draw people from around the world and has made significant progress in translational, cure-focused diabetes research over the past two decades. Dr. Luigi Meneghini (at left) and the DRI's Patient Education Center help patients like Matthew (shown here with his brother Cameron and his mother) to find the support and guidance necessary to help manage his diabetes, so he can get back to hitting home runs.