

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JDRF Greater CT/Western MA Chapter Elects John Cantillon Board President & Elects Six New Members**

**Farmington, CT June 15, 2020** — JDRF, the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes (T1D) research, announces the appointment of John Cantillon as Chapter Board President effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Cantillon, Vice President of Finance & CFO of Military Engines at Pratt & Whitney and the father of a college-age son (Robert) with T1D, assumes the leadership post from Chris O'Connor and will lead the chapters 20 member Board of Directors.

“We want to thank John for his dedication in supporting JDRF and are delighted he is assuming this important leadership role,” said Jon Muskrat, Executive Director of JDRF’s Greater Connecticut & Western Mass Chapter. “We’re confident that John’s skills will provide the strengths needed to help advance JDRF’s goals of improving the lives of families and individuals living with type 1 diabetes as we strive to unlock the science for a cure.”

In addition the chapter elected the following 6 individuals to serve a two-year term on the chapter board: Peter Smith, Carol Goldberg, Bob Jones, Susan Lybeck, Michael Rosenfield, and Samantha Merwin. Board members provide volunteer guidance to the chapter and the local T1D community, playing a vital role in executing fundraising, leadership, and advocacy activities to benefit local families and the 1.6 million Americans who live with this autoimmune disease.

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**About Type 1 Diabetes**

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an autoimmune disease that impacts millions of people around the world. The disease occurs when the body’s immune system attacks and destroys the beta cells in the pancreas that produce insulin, a hormone essential to turning food into energy. Without insulin, glucose from food stays in the blood, where it can cause serious damage to all of the body’s organ systems. It requires constant carbohydrate counting, blood-glucose testing, and lifelong dependence on injected insulin. With T1D there are no days off, and there is no cure.

**About JDRF**

JDRF is the leading global organization funding type 1 diabetes (T1D) research. Our mission is to accelerate life-changing breakthroughs to cure, prevent and treat T1D and its complications. To accomplish this, JDRF has invested nearly \$2 billion since our inception. We are an organization built on a grassroots model of people connecting in their local communities, collaborating regionally for efficiency and broader fundraising impact, and uniting on a national stage to pool resources, passion, and energy. We collaborate with academic institutions, policymakers, and corporate and industry partners to develop and deliver a pipeline of innovative therapies to people living with T1D. Our staff and volunteers in JDRF Greater CT/Western MA, and in more



than 100 locations throughout the United States and our six international affiliates are dedicated to advocacy, community engagement and our vision of a world without T1D. For more information, please visit [jdrf.org](http://jdrf.org).