

Thanks to our major donors!

The Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation (DRWF) has made a major contribution to Spring Point Project, and to acknowledge this \$6.2-million gift, the animal facility is named "DRWF Islet Resource Facility, Home of Spring Point Project." DRWF, based in Washington, D.C., is a worldwide network of nonprofit foundations dedicated to finding and funding the cure for diabetes. The foundation is the publisher of *Diabetes Wellness News*, a monthly newsletter read by over 25,000 diabetic consumers nationwide, and *Diabetes Weight Loss System & Diabetes Danger* books.



As you know, the facility was designed and built by commercial real estate and construction giant Ryan Companies US, Inc., which currently is led by third-generation family members and cousins Pat and Jim Ryan. Pat and Ann Ryan, and Jim and Colleen Ryan have made major gifts to Spring Point Project, along with major contributions by the Ryan Companies and its employees for which we are very grateful!

Mack Traynor named CFO

We increased our staff with Mack Traynor, effective June. Mack brings strong experience in management functions in small and start-up companies. He will serve as Chief Financial Officer, and work mainly in fund-raising, financial aspects, and communication.

First Pigs at DRWF Islet Resource Facility



In mid-February, after thorough cleaning and decontamination, we brought our first piglets into the facility. The animals originated from our animal unit in Huron, South Dakota, a unit that we operate together with the Hutterian Brethren Riverside Colony under the leadership of John Waldner. Diagnostic tests showed that these healthy pigs delivered were free of infectious pathogens and disease. We are grateful to the dedicated team under the leadership of Mike Martin (Director Facility) and Adrienne Schucker (Director Veterinary Medicine) at the facility for their impressive work to make this possible so shortly after the opening.

Since that time, a number of animal groups have been delivered. By the end of June there were about 60 animals in the facility, healthy and disease-free. Thus, we are well on track in our pig production program to have donors available for islet cell transplants in two years!





Islet Resource Facility Grand Opening

The Grand Opening held February 7 was a great success. We were very pleased to see so many friends and supporters of Spring Point Project come to New Richmond on this rather ice-cold day to celebrate this event with us. Also, there was much

attention from the media, including Jeff Passolt from Fox 9 News. The official opening was done by our President Tom Cartier together with Mike Gretschel, Volunteer President of the Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation.

Pigs to Human Islet Transplant Summit a Success

Work at the Diabetes Institute for Immunology and Transplantation at the University of Minnesota, under the leadership of Dr. Bernhard Hering, is progressing in the best way possible, thanks to grant support by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Work has been presented at various meetings and is very well received. For instance, earlier this month Bernhard Hering and Henk

Schuurman participated in a "Pig-to-Human Islet Transplant Summit" held at the Nobel Forum in Stockholm, Sweden. Many experts in the field gathered, and the group from Minneapolis was acknowledged as a leader in the field, both regarding the science and the infrastructure of the partnership between Spring Point Project and the University.

Thanks to you

This work would not possible without the financial support of many donors. We are most grateful for all of the generous financial backing from individuals and foundations.

With some of our donors we had very emotional experiences. Here is the story of Jake, a 10-year old boy with diabetes since he was 5. He went on a personal campaign to raise money for SPP. He went to friends and family and raised \$450. Together with his mother, his younger brother and sister, he came to Tom Cartier's office to bring his donation and thank us for trying to cure his disease. Not only are we grateful for this donation, but also moved by the enormous trust and confidence of even our youngest donors in that Spring Point Project in partnership with the Diabetes Institute will generate the answer to the cure.



With your continued support and friendship, we will continue our work along the path to find the cure for diabetes!

Please visit our Web site, springpointproject.org, to see our regular updates. If you would like us to send you regular updates of our progress, send your e-mail address to info@springpointproject.org.

**On behalf of all in the Spring Point Project family,
we thank you for your interest and support!**

