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Use Your Old Car to Drive the Cure for Diabetes

February 7, 2011 – WASHINGTON – Tired of looking at that '02 Ford in your driveway? The Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation (DRWF) can help you clean up your yard and provide a nice tax deduction at the same time. The DRWF is seeking vehicle donations to help fund vital research to help cure Type I diabetes and your used sports car, van or Jet Ski could give hope to nearly three million Americans living with this disease.

“Funding research is the key to a cure,” says Mike Gretschel, volunteer president of the Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation. “And it’s closer than you think. In partnership with the University of Minnesota’s Schulze Diabetes Institute and the Spring Point Project, we’re convinced we’re on the verge of a cure that is affordable and accessible for everyone.”

In the past decade, researchers have seen significant advancements in the treatment of diabetes, and cell transplants have proven particularly effective at kick-starting the body’s insulin production.

Type 1 diabetes occurs when the immune system destroys specific cells – called beta cells – in the pancreas. Beta cells produce insulin, a hormone that helps circulate glucose (sugar) from ingested food throughout the body to be used for energy. With the absence of insulin, glucose remains in the bloodstream, causing high blood sugar and, along with it, many life-threatening complications – including heart, nerve, kidney and eye disease.

The Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation and the Spring Point Project rely on private donations. To donate a vehicle to help fund diabetes research, please call 1-877-604-9435. For more information on the Diabetes Research and Wellness Foundation, please visit www.diabeteswellness.net and the Spring Point Project at www.springpointproject.org.