



Media Release

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Boral hits \$2 million milestone for type 1 diabetes research

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) is proud to award Boral with the 2008 Freedom Award, recognizing the greatest contribution to fundraising programs from a single supporter.

Boral's combined staff and corporate donations of nearly \$450,000 in 2008 have been invested into the best Australian medical research programs that seek a cure for type 1 diabetes and its complications.

The 2008 Freedom Award caps a productive eight year partnership that has seen Boral reach an extraordinary \$2 million in contributions to JDRF.

JDRF CEO Mike Wilson said "We are very grateful for the strong support from Boral, which has been a critical part of our ability to fund 44 research programs across the country."

"This fantastic achievement reflects a broad-based involvement from Boral staff across the country, led and guided by the input and example of Boral CEO and Managing Director Rod Pearse."

Mr Pearse said "I am extremely proud that through our unique partnership with JDRF, which has spanned eight years, the Boral team has now contributed \$2 million to JDRF, with Boral employees enthusiastically raising \$1.65 million of this total amount."

"There is an endless number of worthy causes that we could support, but by focusing our efforts on achieving a common goal, we can clearly see that we are making a real difference to the lives of people with type 1 diabetes and that we are moving closer to finding a cure."

Mike Wilson explained that through the partnership Boral has helped JDRF communicate the facts about type 1 diabetes to Australians.

"Unlike type 2 diabetes, the causes of type 1 are not related to everyday diet or lifestyle. Factors in our environment that are not well understood are causing the numbers of new cases of type 1 diabetes in Australian children to rise every year by 3%."

"JDRF is working hard to find a cure so that children and adults with type 1 diabetes no longer have to endure multiple daily injections, life threatening 'hypos' and the fear of developing serious complications."

"Scientists are confident that a cure will be found for this disease with continued investment in research."
Ends.

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation is the world's largest not-for-profit supporter of diabetes research, investing more than \$130 million in the search to find a cure for type 1 diabetes each year. The mission of JDRF is constant: to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the support of research.

Type 1 diabetes affects 140,000 Australians and the number of new cases is increasing every year. Typically striking young people, it causes the destruction of insulin-producing cells in the pancreas, resulting in a daily regime of painful injections and finger-prick tests and an increased risk of health complications. Australia has one of the highest rates of type 1 diabetes in the world.

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