



*Driven to Find a Cure* is racing in the Rally America National Championship series, hoping to raise \$50,000 for the JDRF.



At each event, the Driven team hosts ride-alongs for donors and media to help promote the JDRF mission to end Type 1 diabetes.



Dr. Todd McAllister is the driver of car #39. He is also the CEO of Cytograft Tissue Engineering, and a lifelong diabetes researcher.

**Impact of Diabetes:** Few among us are not affected by diabetes. More than 26 million Americans have some form of diabetes, with 1.5 million new cases diagnosed each year. Type 1 diabetes, or insulin dependent diabetes, affects 1.5 million Americans. Diabetes and its complications cost the U.S. more than \$245B in healthcare costs each year. Despite these staggering statistics, diabetes research has been relatively poorly funded at the federal level. HIV/AIDS, for example, receives more than 50 times the research funding on a 'per patient' basis.

**Impact of JDRF Funded Research:** Non-profits such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) help to fill this funding gap. The JDRF, fueled largely by volunteers and individual donors, provides more than \$100M in research grants annually. This equates to ~10% of the funding that the entire federal government spends on diabetes research. The impact of JDRF-sponsored research has been profound. Thirty years ago, diabetes care was limited to urinalysis to approximate blood glucose levels, and a daily shot of long-acting insulin. Today, patients have access to continuous glucose monitors and wearable insulin pumps capable of delivering hundreds of doses of insulin each day. More incredibly, advances in cell biology have introduced the possibility of a cure for diabetes via transplanted islet cells. The JDRF is at the center of these innovative research programs.

**Driven to Find a Cure:** The *Driven* team is participating in the Rally America National Championship Series, the premier stage rally pro racing series in the U.S. ( [www.rally-america.com](http://www.rally-america.com) ). The races are televised by the NBC Sports Network, which provides a nationwide platform to reach out to both private and corporate donors. The series features high powered, all-wheel drive cars, racing down punishing gravel and dirt roads. Stage rallies are unique in that the drivers have little opportunity pre-run the course, and essentially race 'blind'. Assisted by a navigator that calls out detailed turn-by-turn instructions, the team covers hundreds of stage miles and reaches speeds in excess of 130 mph. Each race provides a fundraising platform to benefit local JDRF chapters. The team is comprised almost exclusively of individuals whose lives have been touched by diabetes, which provides a deeply personal education and outreach opportunity in the communities hosting the Rally America events. Among other opportunities for donors, the largest donor at each event will be given an opportunity to ride along with one of the team drivers, at speed, immediately before or after the event. Visit our webpage at [www.DrivenToFindACure.com](http://www.DrivenToFindACure.com) for more detailed information on the team, our race schedules, and specific fundraising links.

Please support our efforts to help fund JDRF research by donating to the St. Louis Chapter at [www.jdrf.org/driventofindacureMO](http://www.jdrf.org/driventofindacureMO). Join us on Feb 27-28<sup>th</sup> in Salem, MO at the 100 Acre Wood Rally to see the team at speed!

