



Welcome to Friends for Life® Orlando 2017!

On Being Orange

As you look through the pages of this program, you'll notice many of our youth faculty have type 1 diabetes. Our youth faculty share years — decades sometimes — of wisdom and experience with your children, helping to guide them to rich and fulfilling lives. ★

You will also notice many youth faculty who do not have type 1, but you may not realize how many have brothers or sisters or friends with type 1. Many of our **Orange Bracelet** faculty have come to Friends for Life® Orlando for years, growing up through our youth program as a sibling. They live in a twilight zone of sorts, not having type 1 but knowing full well what that means, always mindful of their brother or sister or friend, wanting to be there if needed but not be intrusive, feeling the weight of unsought responsibility. And just as their **Green Bracelet** siblings and friends do, they come to Orlando every summer, called by a passion to make a difference. ★

We know that children with type 1 grow up quickly. Their brothers and sisters do too. As parents, we are sometimes swept up in the immediate needs of diabetes — checking a blood sugar, treating a low, bolusing for a meal — and can miss the little boy or girl, just out of sight, who needs us too.

Our **Orange Team** is here for these kids, our siblings and our children of adults living with type 1, to ensure that they too feel the incredible bond that is Friends for Life.



So here is to our **Orange Bracelets**, who will always be remembered, our own band of brothers and sisters.



Jeff Hitchcock

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