



PROGRAM UPDATE 35

Your generosity in action



Brandon and his Mother

Life for a Child supports over 150 young people across Bolivia



Brandon is an intelligent and driven young man. He is just about to graduate as a dentist and has the world at his feet.

Things could have turned out very differently. A delayed diabetes diagnosis and lack of access to insulin nearly took his life.

Brandon's mom recalls his diagnosis, "My son was dying, he couldn't walk....he didn't eat, he did nothing. I had to carry him in my arms. He couldn't move by himself."

Thanks to your donations, Life for a Child was able to help provide Brandon with the insulin, supplies and diabetes education he needed.

"If it did not exist, many children who have diabetes would have just died." Dr. Elizabeth Duarte, Brandon's Doctor, explains how important support from Life for a Child is for young people in Bolivia.

Today, seventeen years on from that original diagnosis, Brandon is looking forward to starting his career as a dentist and wants to continue fighting the stigma around diabetes and be an ambassador for change in his community.

Visit www.lfacinternational.org/brandon to see Brandon, his mother and friends talk about his initial diagnosis and how they feel about the future.



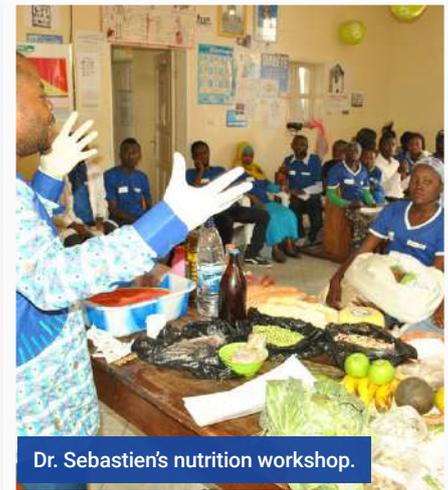
Brandon in his surgery

Education, Fun and Peer Support

Forty young people living with with type 1 attended an activity day at our partner center in Goma in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The camp was organized by Alfred, the dedicated and determined center manager, who scheduled a range of topics to be covered, including nutrition, insulin storage, hypoglycemia and eye health.

Alfred often arranges a day trip to a local park or beauty spot as part of an activity day, however, he said it wasn't possible this time, "Authorities do not allow groupings of any kind because they consider that this could disturb public order."

This didn't stop the group from having a fun and educational day. Alfred said; "Activity days strengthen the knowledge, attitudes and practices of young people faced with the challenge of type 1 diabetes. They help to consolidate friendship between young people and a kind of blue circle is created within our center".



Dr. Sebastien's nutrition workshop.

Musimbwa - Republic of Congo

"Musimbwa was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 5 at the general hospital. His parents lost hope in the kid's future, his father is a merchant and his mother is a nurse. Without Life for a Child it would have been very difficult for them to take care of the boy. Now he is doing well and rarely misses school because of his diabetes. His parents told me that they now want him to grow up normally, get a good education, get medical training and become healthcare professional, and, in the future, to become a father."



Musimbwa

Dr. Charley in the Republic of Congo recently told us about a 12-year-old boy he cares for at our partner center.

Urgently needed insulin reaches Palestine

Thanks to your donations Life for a Child was able to work with Eli Lilly, Direct Relief and the WHO to deliver 4500 vials of insulin for 500 young people in need.

Dr. Younis Abualnour from Diabetes Palestine said, "Words are not enough to express the deep gratitude for these great humanitarian associations. Especially when you see the smile of sick children in need."



Dr. Abualnour and colleagues with the insulin delivery.

Recently Published - Levels of Care Framework

As lower-income countries work towards improving care for young people living with diabetes, it is helpful to have a framework to describe the levels of care being provided.

Recently published in the leading medical journal Pediatric Diabetes, we describe a three-tiered framework for the levels of care being provided. To see the paper visit bit.ly/2FrA4Js



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