

FELLOWS PROGRAM

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Why Apply for the FFL Fellows Program?

Fellows participating in the Friends for Life Fellows Program will be exposed to real families living with type 1 diabetes throughout the course of their five or six days at Friends for Life Orlando. Friends for Life Orlando is the largest conference for families and people living with type 1 diabetes in the world. Typically, there are between 2,000-3,000 attendees on site in Orlando for Friends for Life. The attendance is usually split between about half adults with diabetes and half children with diabetes and their families.

They will have the opportunity to learn through hands-on experience with vendors, including having the chance to wear a Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) and an insulin pump or pod. Fellows will be able to present their research on the Friday Night Dessert with the Faculty to the families and other faculty present at Friends for Life. The fellows will be able to form relationships with each other, with the world-renowned faculty present at the conference, and the families throughout the conference.

Personal accounts from past FFL Fellows:



Jessie Jong-Chee Wong, PhD, Diabetes Psychologist

"The FFL fellowship is an incredible opportunity to advance your understanding of diabetes and how to provide state-of-the art, patient-centered, and multidisciplinary diabetes care. It allowed me to connect with and learn from so many different people from world-renowned diabetes experts to families from all over the country to professional peers with diverse backgrounds who shared my passion for forging a career in this area. The lessons I learned and relationships that I made during the fellowship program have supported my professional development more ways that I could have imagined."



Arkadiusz Michalak, MD

"Friends for Life 2022 was a wonderful experience on many levels. As a physician, I had a valuable opportunity to interact with an incredibly-diverse type 1 diabetes community and witness their involvement with diabetes in real life, as well as earn some hands-on experience with various technologies. From a research perspective, the conference offered a thorough update on the current scientific advancements - and proved a great hub to meet other, more experienced scientists. And finally, being a person with type 1 diabetes myself, I am grateful that I was able to experience this unique family-like atmosphere and meet so many like-minded people who might become my friends for life. I am immensely grateful for the JENIOUS-CWD Partnership that made all of this possible."

Requirements for Participation

Applicants should be current fellows in an accredited program who are interested in pursuing a career in endocrinology with a focus on diabetes. The program can be for fellow physicians, nurses, diabetes care and education specialists, pharmacists, or psychologists. Participants will need to be in Orlando for the duration of the program, listed below. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, we will also require participants to send proof of vaccination to CWD prior to acceptance into the program. Additionally, participants will need to abide by the COVID-19 guidelines throughout the conference.

Upon completion of the FFL Fellows program, participants will prepare a brief document providing insight into their experience at FFL Orlando. The document should include what will have the most impact on clinical care, what was learned throughout the program, and what aspects were helpful in the experience. Additionally, if there are any suggestions on how to improve the program for the following year, we would appreciate the feedback.

2023 Friends for Life Fellows Program Schedule

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

- Meet for breakfast with CWD leadership and selected staff at Rix at 8:00 am
- Meet with Fellows Sponsors for device and drug training sessions
- Accompany CWD leadership and staff to the CWD Staff Reception and off-site event from 5:30 to 9:00 pm. Buses to Disney Springs depart at 5:30 pm from Coronado Foyer; return transportation using Disney Shuttle buses at your convenience

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

- Meet for breakfast with CWD leadership, selected staff, and CWD Fellows sponsors at Rix at 7:30 am
- Participate in FFL conference sessions with CWD Fellows

Thursday, July 6, 2023

- Keynote Breakfast in Coronado HJK beginning at 8:00 am
- Participate in FFL conference sessions with CWD Fellows
- Participate in the evening's Family and Friends Banquet beginning at 6:30 pm in Coronado HJKL

Friday, July 7, 2023

- Meet for breakfast at Rix at 8:00 am
- Participate in FFL conference sessions with CWD Fellows
- Meet for reception with CWD leadership, selected staff, and CWD Fellows program sponsors at 5:30 pm in Jeff's Suite
- Participate as faculty with scientific posters in Friday evening's Dessert with the Faculty from 9:00 - 11:00 pm in the Veracruz Foyer

Saturday, July 8, 2023

- Meet for breakfast with CWD leadership, selected staff, and CWD Fellows program sponsors in Rix at 9:00 am for conference review and closing discussions
- Participate in Saturday evening's Family Fun Night, beginning at 7:00 pm in Coronado H

Sunday, July 9, 2023

- Enjoy the Farewell Breakfast from 8:00 – 10:00 am in Coronado HJ (Optional)

2023 Friends for Life Fellows Learning Objectives

By the end of the time at CWD's Friends for Life Orlando conference, participants in the Fellows Program should be able to:

1. Differentiate the impact that type 1 diabetes has on different family members, including parents, siblings, grandparents, significant others, and children, if applicable
2. Recognize the challenges associated with mealtime choices, including carbohydrate counting unfamiliar foods, determining insulin dosage, and insulin dosage timing to minimize post-meal glycemic excursions
3. Examine how children and adults of all ages with type 1 diabetes use advanced technology, including insulin pumps, continuous glucose sensors, and remote data display, in their daily lives
4. Identify the current state-of-the-art care practices for type 1 diabetes, as presented by conference faculty
5. Describe the impact that the psychosocial aspects of living with type 1 diabetes has on glycemic outcomes, quality of life, and family cohesiveness
6. Explain the state of cure- and treatment-related research, including biological research and technological research
7. Review the various diabetes care products and services available to families living with type 1 diabetes, including new insulins, medications, and diabetes technologies
8. Discuss the advocacy-related issues that are important to families living with type 1 diabetes
9. Define the barriers in achieving glycemic goals that families and people with diabetes experience including social determinants of health, challenges with navigating the healthcare system, and the normal developmental changes experienced by youth with diabetes
10. Evaluate current diabetes technologies based on experiences at the conference, data presented by faculty, as well as feedback from conference attendees

Apply today at fll.is/fellowsprogram. Applications are due May 15, 2023.

Questions? Please contact CWD Clinical Director, Marissa Town, RN, BSN, CDCES at marissatown@childrenwithdiabetes.com.