'Meter Boy’ by Yani, age 11, Ecuador

IN THIS UPDATE:

My Life with Diabetes competition for children and youth supported by LFAC: winners announced
The My Life with Diabetes competition was open to young people supported by the IDF Life for a Child Programme. There were three categories - visual, written, video - and three age-groups in each category. A total of 334 entries were received from 20 countries: Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Burundi, Dem. Rep. Congo, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Rep. Congo, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Tajikistan.

A panel of judges with various medical and diabetes expertise judged the competition, with the two highest placed entries in each category receiving a cash prize and the 3rd to 10th placed receiving a certificate. Some of the winning entries were displayed at the ISPAD Conference in Brisbane in October, and at the IDF World Diabetes Congress in Vancouver in December (sponsored by Eli Lilly). The winning entries are currently being posted on the LFAC Facebook page (www.facebook.com/lifeforachildIDF) and will be published on the LFAC website (www.lifeforachild.org) shortly.

I find it difficult to take leave often from work. I am not able to tell my condition even to my friends.

India

It was when I was in primary school and 12 years old that it started and it was just like a joke. It started coming through urine until it became very critical. After some months in the hospital they taught me how to inject myself and immediately I learnt and we went back home.

Awayo, age 19, Nigeria

After a period of illness when I was seven I was finally labelled with type 1 diabetes. Me and my family were shattered, life stood still. There came a time when I started praying to God to put a stop to my life. My family is not financially strong, on top of that there are the expenses for insulin, meter strips, lancets and managing hypoglycaemia.

Finally there came this project, “Life for a Child” from IDF. I would rather call it “Life saving mission for a child type 1 diabetes.” We got the strength to live life happily.

Shirin, age 17, India

No child should die of diabetes

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The IDF Life for a Child Programme thanks its major donors:

LFAC Programme Steering Committee: Prof Martin Silink (Chairman), Dr Graham Ogle (General Manager), Mr Sturt Eastwood (Co-Chairman and CEO, Diabetes NSW), Dr Lilian Jackson (retired, ex Diabetes NSW).

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