



# PROGRAM UPDATE <sup>36</sup>

Your generosity in action

## Ibrahim defies the odds

16-year-old Ibrahim was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes last October in Tajikistan. He is the star of his local judo league and was competing in a championship around the time that he was diagnosed.

Like most of the young people Life for a Child supports, the government doesn't provide him with insulin and the cost to buy it is out of reach for many families.

Once diagnosed, Ibrahim attended our partner center in Tajikistan where he was given a meter and blood glucose strips, insulin, and diabetes education.

The good news is, despite being unwell at the time, he still made 1st place in the judo championship!



Ibrahim at the Life for a Child partner in Tajikistan. In the background, you can see a Life for a Child DKA poster in the local language - Tajik.



Anabel, Carminia, Tomás, Paulina at home in Ecuador.

## Anabel's story

Not only does 24-year old mum Anabel live with type 1 diabetes, but so do all three of her young children.

Anabel admits it can be hard. "To stand up with such responsibility is very painful. It is not easy to live with the diabetes of my three children. When I see high blood glucose levels it brings me depression, feelings of guilt.

You can read Anabel's story on the News and Stories page of the Life for a Child website.

## Diabetes in humanitarian crises

Life for a Child is a signatory to The Boston Declaration, which calls for better access to diabetes care in humanitarian crises. The declaration outlines four key targets to work towards over the next three years and provides a framework for life-saving healthcare.

1. Unified and strengthened advocacy for medical care in times of crisis.
2. Universal access to insulin and other essential medicines and diagnostics for glycaemic and blood pressure control in humanitarian crises.
3. Establishment of a unified set of clinical and operational guidelines for diabetes in humanitarian crises.
4. Improved data and surveillance of the prevalence of diabetes, access to care, patient burden, and patient-centered outcomes in humanitarian crises.



Young people living with diabetes in the Democratic Republic of Congo are often faced with the challenge of managing their diabetes amid crises.

### Sadia's story of success

"When I was diagnosed with diabetes people around me said that I wouldn't survive much longer, but with the support of Life for a Child, I have been able to manage my diabetes." Sadia, 21, Bangladesh.

It hasn't always been easy for Sadia. She has faced discrimination and outright hostility because of her diabetes, but she hasn't let that slow her down. Sadia is studying law and wants to help people like herself who have faced unfair discrimination.



Sadia's family are proud of her achievements

Sadia says, "Even though I am a diabetic person, with support from my parents and Life for a Child, I have overcome all challenges and I am moving towards my goal."

### Essential shipments

It has been a busy few months for deliveries, with insulin and HbA1c cartridges being sent to Ghana, Rwanda, Jamaica and the Central African Republic to support 2215 young people living with type 1 across the four countries.

In addition, blood glucose meters, strips, and lancets are on their way to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Liberia to provide essential monitoring supplies for 660 and 197 young people respectively.



Unpacking essential supplies in the Democratic Republic of Congo

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