

dLife Top 10 Awards Honor Those Making a Difference in Diabetes

WESTPORT, Conn., Jan. 10, 2011 — Who made the biggest difference to people living with [diabetes](#) over the last year? dLife is asking the [diabetes community](#) to cast their votes in the [dLife Top 10 Awards](#) for the nominee of their choice. The winner will earn a special guest appearance on *dLife TV*, a nationally broadcast show on CNBC, as well as exposure and recognition on dLife.com, the number-one [diabetes Website](#).

“Every day we hear amazing stories of people making a difference in diabetes. dLife wanted to acknowledge and honor these efforts by recognizing 10 who have made a creative and profound impact on the diabetes community this past year,” says Paula Ford-Martin, editor-in-chief of [dLife](#).

The nominees include:

- **Crystal Bowersox**, is a singer-songwriter who gained notoriety as runner-up in the ninth season of Fox network’s American Idol despite battling blood sugars that skyrocketed to 400 during competition. She now advocates for government policy changes for people who cannot afford to pay for their diabetes supplies.
- **Angie Stone** is an acclaimed R&B, neo-soul singer who was diagnosed 10 years ago with type 2 and works with African Americans on preventative diabetes care.
- **Brandon Morrow** is the Blue Jays right-handed pitcher who has been living with type 1 since high school and never lets diabetes slow down his game. Last year he pitched a near no-hitter, making him the sixth man in the Major Leagues to accomplish this feat.
- **Insulindependence**, is a non-profit organization that strives to “revolutionize diabetes management” among youths and adults with diabetes through extreme outdoor experiences such as hiking the Andes Mountain in Peru.
- **Michelle Page-Alswager**, whose son, Jesse, lived with diabetes for 10 years before he died unexpectedly at 13. Michelle honors his memory by raising awareness and helping other families every day. In addition to her advocacy, she is an active member of JDRF and founded Triabetes, the only triathlon club for people with diabetes, as well as Jessapalooza, a rock concert in her son’s honor.
- **Dr. Marguerite de Clerk** is a Belgian doctor and nun, who specializes in diabetes care and is revered for 55 years of missionary work in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Noah the Diabetes Dude (Noah Brokmeier)**, is a nine-year-old, who was diagnosed with type 1 at six, and began a campaign, “The Flamingo Flock,” to help raise money for the American Diabetes Association.
- **Ron Raab** has been living with diabetes since six, and founded the non-profit, Insulin For Life, to give unused diabetes supplies to people who can’t afford them in developing countries or in crisis. Ron’s organization has helped thousands in need including earthquake victims in Haiti.
- **Tre Porfirio & Dr. Camillo Ricordi** were brought together when Tre was wounded during gunfire in Afghanistan and damaged his pancreas. Dr. Ricordi guided surgeons in Afghanistan via the Internet to isolate the insulin-producing islet cells from Tre’s pancreas and transplant the cells into his liver to prevent him from developing diabetes. This was the first successful surgery of its kind. Sadly, Tre has since passed but is missed and remembered for his bravery.
- **Cherise Shockley** is an army wife and mother who was diagnosed with latent autoimmune diabetes in adults (LADA). She has taken her diabetes voice to Twitter where she has almost 1,500 followers and created the Diabetes Social Media Advocacy (DSMA) chat with over 500 followers.

The winner will be determined based on the final number of votes received on [dLife.com/top10](#) at the end of January. Voting will be online and participants can vote as many times as they like for as many nominees as they like.

About dLife — For Your Diabetes Life

[dLife](#) is the number-one community network and resource for people living with [diabetes](#) and caregivers, providing information, inspiration and connection via a diverse array of exclusive media channels and services. With over 1.2 million registered members, [dLife](#) uniquely engages this growing population in positive and proactive self-care. Its award-winning media outlets include dLife.com, the leading online [diabetes](#) destination attracting over one million unique visitors each month and featuring the widest and deepest variety of original content and resources anywhere; [dLifeTV](#), the only TV series dedicated to people with [diabetes](#) with almost half a million viewers, airing every Sunday on CNBC (7 p.m. ET, 4 p.m. PT), [dLife](#) Mobile applications, and other consumer and professional programs driving proactive [diabetes self-management](#) with improved health outcome.