



## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 15 August 2008

### NEW WEBSITE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DIABETES – myD.net.au

Diabetes Australia today launched a new online and interactive resource for young people with diabetes.

The new website delivers information that specifically targets the online information needs of young people aged 16-25 years who are living with diabetes.

The National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS) funded *Young people with diabetes needs analysis* project, completed in April 2007, found that 77% of the participants involved said the internet was their preferred way to access information.

Until now, Diabetes Australia did not cater online information specifically towards young people.

This website incorporates some of the major themes that emerged from the study including the need for more information on how to access psychosocial support, the need to develop strong support networks with other young people living with diabetes and improved access to more specific information, more resources for young women with gestational diabetes.

myD was designed and written with the help of young people with diabetes to provide information that is targeted specifically designed for people with type 1, type 2 and gestational diabetes.

The website also deals with a number of topics that are particularly important people during this stage of life, such as nutrition, travel, physical activity, exercise, relationships and sexuality, pregnancy, leaving home, the transition from paediatric to adult care, drug and alcohol use, mental health and depression information, information on body image and eating disorders and advocacy topics such as legal rights at work and at school.

The website was funded through the Strategic Development Grant program, under the NDSS, which is an initiative of the Australian Government administered by Diabetes Australia.

The NDSS delivers diabetes-related products at subsidised prices and provides information and support services to people with diabetes. Registration is free and open to all Australians diagnosed with diabetes.

Diabetes Australia is committed to turning diabetes around through awareness, detection, management and a cure.

**\*\*END\*\***

#### CONTACT

Dr Gary Deed, National President, Diabetes Australia 0411 171 790

Tara Ryan, National Marketing and Communications Manager 0437 472 011