

November 11, 2009

Dear Spring Point Project Supporter:

As we approach the end of 2009, I want to report to you the incredible progress Spring Point Project has made since our founding five short years ago. The building of the Diabetes Research and Wellness Islet Resource Facility, and the population, breeding and maintaining of medical-grade pigs as a source of donor islets has indeed been a huge and unprecedented accomplishment—an accomplishment we could not have done without your support.

Our long relationship with the University of Minnesota's Schulze Diabetes Institute and Dr. Bernard Hering has been very rewarding and I am now very excited to tell you about a new collaboration with the Minnesota Medical Foundation.

The Minnesota Medical Foundation (MMF), founded in 1939, is an independent nonprofit organization which supports the advancement of health-related education, research and service at the University of Minnesota. It is governed by a volunteer board of trustees. I have been invited to become a board member. In 2008, MMF raised more than \$125 million in pledges and future gifts.

Under the new collaboration, Spring Point fundraising will be coordinated by MMF so Spring Point will be better able to focus on the science and research associated with pig islet cells and to prepare for the anticipated expansion of DRWF facilities to handle the expected demand for pig islet cells.

This change will provide a more coordinated fundraising effort in pig islet cell transplantation research at the University of Minnesota. We feel this new relationship with MMF is a logical and a natural extension of our partnership with the Schulze Diabetes Institute and the University of Minnesota. It began when my wife Patty and I became involved over 10 years ago, following the diagnosis of our son, Cory, with type 1 diabetes. Since that time a mighty group of board members, donors and supporters, all with a passion for finding a cure to diabetes, have joined our efforts and made our accomplishments possible.

We are extremely grateful for your commitment and generosity to Spring Point Project, and sincerely hope you will continue your support and advocacy of our efforts.

Sincerely,



Tom Cartier
Chairman

