
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TCHC to co-host Affordable Insulin Roundtable

WADENA, Minn. – Sept. 4, 2019 – Tri-County Health Care, #MNInsulin4All Chapter Leader Quinn Nystrom and Minnesota State Representative John Poston will co-host an Affordable Insulin Roundtable on Monday, Sept. 23, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Tri-County Health Care Browne Family Board Room in Wadena.

People affected with diabetes, healthcare professionals and community members concerned about the issue of insulin affordability are all invited to attend.

Nystrom and Poston will facilitate the event. They will speak about how the insulin affordability crisis began, what is being done about it, and how individuals can get involved. Then attendees will be encouraged to participate in a roundtable discussion so that Nystrom and Poston, who represents Wadena, Todd and Cass counties, can gather personal stories so that they can fight harder for insulin-related legislation at the State Capitol during the 2020 session.

Insulin is a hormone that regulates blood sugar and allows the body to process sugar as energy. If blood sugar rises too high, it can cause serious complications or even death. Diabetes is a condition where the body either can no longer produce insulin (Type 1) or cannot process insulin (Type 2). Those with Type 1 have to inject insulin daily to stay alive, and almost one-third of those with Type 2 must do the same.

According to T1 International, the list price of insulin in the U.S. has increased by 1,123 percent since 1996. As a result, many individuals with diabetes have had to choose whether to buy insulin or other necessities. Some have even gone so far as to ration their insulin, which can have long-lasting or deadly consequences.

“The insulin affordability issue here in America is a human rights crisis that needs to be addressed immediately so that no more lives are lost to insulin rationing,” Nystrom said.

For the past 23 years, Nystrom has shared her story of living with Type 1 diabetes across the nation. She is a speaker, consultant, advocate and author. She recently took charge in several insulin caravans to Canada where insulin is sold over the counter for significantly less than in the U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders joined her on the most recent caravan.

For more information, contact Nystrom at MNinsulin4all@gmail.com.

ABOUT TRI-COUNTY HEALTH CARE

Tri-County Health Care is a private, not-for-profit health care system located in Wadena, Minnesota. It offers care services such as primary health, surgery, cancer care, diagnostic imaging, obstetrics, orthopedics and rehabilitation. Tri-County operates a hospital and medical clinic in Wadena, as well as five satellite clinics and two physical therapy clinics across Wadena, Todd and Otter Tail counties. Satellite clinic locations include Bertha, Henning, Ottertail, Sebeka and Verndale. Visit TCHC.org.

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CLINICS Bertha Henning Ottertail Sebeka Verndale Wadena **HOSPITAL** Wadena

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