
[Rally For Medical Research](#)

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Last week, a nationwide coalition of nearly 400 medical research advocacy organizations representing millions of Americans gathered on Capitol Hill to thank lawmakers for their longstanding support of NIH and to urge Congress to provide a robust funding increase in Fiscal Year 2026 to safeguard the future of lifesaving medical research.



For **Janelle Tobias PhD**, a postdoctoral fellow in [Parent Lab](#) at UCSF Diabetes Center—who was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when she was 13 years old—the current tenuous climate of funding is more personal than ever. An opportunity sponsored by UCSF's [Office of Community and Government Relations](#), and selected from a competitive field of applicants across UCSF, she was proud to represent Diabetes Center and personally meet with multiple local California House of Representative Members and share her research and the impact of NIH funding.

“A decade ago, I relied on multiple daily insulin injections and finger pricks to manage my diabetes, now I can control my continuous glucose monitor and insulin pump from my phone. NIH funding has improved access to advanced diabetes technology that eases the burden of managing my disease,” said Tobias. “As a scientist, NIH investment in my career at the pre- and post-doctoral level through the T32 program has allowed me to advance diabetes research and communicate this science at both local and international conferences.”

Decades of NIH funding have already saved millions of lives and changed the course of our deadliest diseases, including Diabetes. Between 2009 and 2017, new diagnoses of diabetes dropped by 35%, while NIH-supported advances such as glucose monitors and insulin pumps are transforming how millions manage the disease and live longer, healthier lives. UCSF Diabetes Center considers this news with temperance, for there is still a long way to go.

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