



Join Breakthrough T1D  
Piedmont Triad

## Hope Runs Wild Gala 2026

Honoring Gisela and Dan Hood

Saturday, February 21, 2026

Koury Convention Center  
Greensboro, N.C.



Coming together to accelerate type 1 diabetes (T1D) breakthroughs.

## Hope for T1D cures is running wild!

In June 2024, JDRF changed its name to “Breakthrough T1D.” This change reflects how our organization, community, and type 1 diabetes (T1D) science have evolved over the 56 years since our founding. Because of the life-changing research, access, and medical breakthroughs championed by the organization—with tremendous support from the Piedmont Triad community—people with T1D are living healthier, longer lives.

Please attend the **Hope Runs Wild Gala** as we honor **Gisela and Dan Hood**. When Dan was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes (T1D) in 1980 at the age of 31, he vowed, “I will never let T1D define me...or hold me back...or keep me from doing anything.” Gisela wholeheartedly agreed.

And so, the Hoods have traveled the world, experiencing many wild adventures.

The Hoods moved to the Piedmont Triad in 1984—even before our local Breakthrough T1D Chapter was founded (in 1995) by **Buff Perry** of Winston-Salem and **Anne Hummel** of Greensboro, whose daughters had been diagnosed with T1D as children. Anne’s husband, **Sam Hummel**, met Dan through Rotary, and encouraged him to get involved with what was then known as JDRF (“Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation”), but Dan resisted, saying that he “wasn’t a ‘juvenile.’” He finally gave in, and he and Gisela have been strong supporters for decades, raising

awareness for type 1 as an autoimmune disease that can be diagnosed in anyone...at any age...regardless of their family history.

To underscore Breakthrough T1D’s roots across the Triad, the Hope Gala alternates between Winston-Salem and Greensboro. Supporters anywhere may take part in the Silent Auction, which will open online to the public on February 16. One lucky person will win an exquisite piece of jewelry through the **Windsor Jewelers Sweepstakes**.



To reserve seats/tables, secure sponsorships, or make a Fund A Cure gift in honor of Gisela and Dan, scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/TriadGala2026](https://tinyurl.com/TriadGala2026).

Our local community has made a tremendous difference in the fight to turn Type One into Type None, including fueling Breakthrough T1D’s recent announcement of **Project ACT (Accelerate Cell Therapies)**, a holistic, strategic effort to place insulin-producing cells inside the body of someone with T1D. These cells replace damaged or non-functioning beta cells, which are the pancreatic cells that produce insulin. Cell therapies could effectively cure T1D. Stay tuned for progress.

With your support, **hope for T1D cures is running wild!**

### Gala Week Highlights

**Monday, February 16**

Silent Auction opens online

**Saturday, February 21\***

**5:30 p.m.:** Reception, Silent Auction, Windsor Jewelers Sweepstakes

**7 p.m.:** Seated Dinner, Live Auction, Fund A Cure

**9:30 p.m.:** After-Party with Souljam

Black Tie Optional

\*Portions of the program will be livestreamed.