

# Big Shots Resident Camp



June 19, 2009

## Media Advisory

Contact Person: Susan Harms  
419-887-8740  
susan@dys4kids.org

### Photo Opportunities

Call DYS office at 419.887.8739

Dates: Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>  
Location: Camp Libbey  
Defiance, Ohio

***Diabetes Youth Services brings world-class Olympic athlete, Kris Freeman, who has type 1 diabetes, to this year's "Big Shots Resident Camp" for kids age 10-15 who have Type 1 diabetes.***

Toledo, Ohio: June 19, 2009 – For the 16<sup>th</sup> year, Diabetes Youth Services is holding a 6 day resident camp for 10- to 15-year-old children struggling with type 1 diabetes. **Big Shots Resident Camp will be held at Camp Libbey in Defiance, Ohio during the week of June 21-26, 2009.** On June 24<sup>nd</sup> from 9-10 AM, the **World Class Olympic Cross-Country Skier, Kris Freeman** will speak to the campers. Eli Lilly, the pharmaceutical company that developed the type of insulin treatments that allow him to compete, is the sponsor bringing Mr. Eldridge to our camp.

Kris, 22, has type 1 diabetes and needs insulin injections. He has become the first person with diabetes to successfully compete at an international level in an endurance sport like cross country skiing. He was diagnosed in September of 2000, but that didn't stop him from training for the 2002 Olympic Games in Salt Lake City. Freeman, who has become a spokesman for Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals, is getting ready to head back to Park City to begin training with the national ski team.

Kris will be an inspiration to the teens at camp. The teenage years are tough enough even when they don't have diabetes! Big Shots Resident Camp, which is staffed by experienced diabetes educators and physicians, helps teens fine-tune their self-treatment, and teaches them the skills needed to confidently deal with this chronic disease as they mature. And the teens still participate in all the activities that characterize any other camp, like horseback riding, ropes course, and of course, swimming.

Diabetes Youth Services is an independent nonprofit organization that provides educational and supportive services for young people with diabetes, their families, schools, and communities throughout Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. For information on Diabetes Youth Services' Resident and Day camps and other programs for children who have diabetes, visit [www.dys4kids.org](http://www.dys4kids.org).

###