

Breakthrough T1D Community Summit: Phoenix

Saturday, October 24, 2026 - Agenda

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	**Check In | Vendor Fair** **Parent/Caregiver Meet-up &** **T1D Adult Connection**	Common Area Dining Room
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	**Welcome** **Keynote Presentation**	Cottonwood
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	**Break | Vendor Fair**	Common Area
10:15 – 11:00 a.m.	**Breakout Session 1**	See topic options
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	**Break | Vendor Fair**	Common Area
11:15 – 12:00 p.m.	**Breakout Session 2**	See topic options
12:00 – 12:30 p.m.	**Lunch | Vendor Fair**	Dining Room | Common Area
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	**Closing Session** **Inspirational Keynote**	Cottonwood

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION – Cottonwood

- **Breakthroughs in Type 1 Diabetes: Where We Are, Where We Are Going**
  Dr. Bithika Thompson, Adult Endocrinologist at MD² Scottsdale and a Supplemental Consultant at Mayo Clinic

  This session will share updates on promising cell therapies, clinical trials, and early detection through antibody screening while breaking down what these advances mean for people living with T1D today. Take a journey with us to understand how your active participation in clinical trials and screening can contribute to advancements in the field.

BREAKOUT SESSION 1:

- **New and Emerging Technologies in T1D –** Cottonwood
  Hannah Pizzato, PhD, Scientist at Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies, University of Arizona
  Caitlin Adamowicz, Nurse Practitioner at Mayo Clinic

  Learn the latest about new and emerging technologies in type 1 diabetes. We will explore newly approved devices and other technology that Breakthrough T1D is funding. Discover how diabetes technology can improve both medical outcomes and quality of life. No matter how long you or your loved one has lived with T1D, there is something here for everyone.

- **Pack Smart, Go Travel –** Ocotillo
  Rachel Calendo, Pediatric Endocrinology Nurse Practitioner, Diabetes Program Manager at Banner Children's
  Nicholas Hahne, Inspirational Speaker

  Traveling with T1D doesn't have to be stressful. Learn how to manage insulin, plan for long flights, and handle surprises so you can focus on the journey—not your blood sugar.

- **Resilience in Type 1 Diabetes for Parents and Caregivers –** Brittlebush
  Dr. Synthia Puffenberger, Pediatric Psychologist at Phoenix Children's

  This session explores the role of resilience in type 1 diabetes. We'll define what resilience means in this context, examine its power to predict outcomes in managing T1D, and share practical ways to help build resilience in your child.

- **TEEN TRACK: Let's Talk T1D Teen –** Desert Star
  Corinne Ciuris, RD, CDCES at Phoenix Children's
  Hana Karaman, T1D Community Champion

  If you're a teen with T1D, this is for you! No Parents, No Judgement, No Guilt. Join other teens for an open discussion about real-life teen topics related to life with T1D and hear from a panel of young adults and Registered Dietitian/Certified Diabetes Educator who have been where you are.

BREAKOUT SESSION 2:

- **Ready, Set, Move! Living Active with T1D –** Cottonwood
  Dr. Oliver Oatman, Pediatric Endocrinologist at Phoenix Children's
  Chris Ronzio, Founder & CEO of Trainual
  Peggy Schapler, Proud Mom of a Type 1 Diabetic

  A practical and interactive session filled with tips to help people with T1D feel prepared and confident for every kind of activity.

- **Real Life with T1D in Adults: Tips, Stories, and Support –** Brittlebush
  Dr. Robert Gonsalves, Pediatric Endocrinologist at Phoenix Children's
  Julie Garcia, President of the Breakthrough T1D Desert West Board of Directors

  Hear real-life stories, learn everyday management tips, and connect with others who understand the challenges and triumphs of living with T1D.

- **Beyond the Food Fight –** Ocotillo
  Dr. Joel Hahnke, Pediatric Endocrinologist at Banner Children's
  Corinne Ciuris, RD, CDCES at Phoenix Children's

  Learn smart nutritional approaches in type 1 diabetes management.

- **TEEN TRACK: T1D: Ready for What's Next –** Desert Star
  Hana Karaman, T1D Community Champion
  Nicholas Hahne, Inspirational Speaker

  A candid panel conversation about life with T1D during high school and the transition to college. Hear firsthand perspectives on independence, new routines, self-advocacy, and balancing T1D with everything that comes next.

CLOSING INSPIRATIONAL SESSION – Cottonwood

- **Stronger Than the Challenge: Cheering Through Adversity –** Cottonwood
  Nicholas Hahne, Inspirational Speaker

  Nick was diagnosed with T1D at just 10 years old, and he learned early in life that challenges don't define us—how we respond to them does. From managing diabetes throughout his childhood to cheering at the University of Notre Dame and building a career at JPMorgan, his journey has been shaped by preparation, resilience, and the decision to keep pushing forward, even when life is so unexpected.

- **Two Lives, One Journey**
  Chris Ronzio, Founder & CEO of Trainual

  Chris has spent more than 30 years navigating two parallel journeys: his life and his life with T1D. Through setbacks, new technology, endurance challenges, entrepreneurship, and ultimately helping fund the search for a cure, he shares what diabetes taught him about curiosity, possibility, resilience, and letting others in.