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Olympic Athletes, Mountain Climbers, Famous Actors, Scientists;

And—Now: “EVEN SUPERHEROES GET DIABETES”

Diabetes is a serious disease that is striking hard at 21 million people in the U.S. It knows no professional boundaries...just ask Olympic athlete Kris Freeman, mountain climber Greg Cummings, actress Halle Berry or, if you could, scientist Thomas Edison.

Diabetes also knows no age boundaries...it can strike at any age.

The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation states that in the U.S., three million people have type 1 diabetes. Every year, another 13,000 are newly diagnosed, as early as infancy. Type 1 diabetics are insulin dependent for life.

And, while type 2 diabetes has been called ‘adult onset,’ cases among children and teens are disturbingly on the rise. Doctors are now seeing patients with type 2 as young as 9 years old.

Diabetes is especially hard on kids. Aside from the emotional implications, an early diagnosis in children means that complications, such as heart and kidney problems, blindness, and nerve damage, can occur sooner than with an adult diagnosis of the disease.

How can parents of diabetic children allay their own fears about this threatening disease and transfer a message of hope and strength to their children in the face of this illness? Sue Ganz-Schmitt hopes that her new book “EVEN SUPERHEROES GET DIABETES” will help families cope.

“EVEN SUPERHEROES GET DIABETES” is the story of a boy named Kelvin who loves superheroes. His childhood days are spent in imaginative play—saving the day. One day, his fantasies are interrupted by the reality of getting diabetes...the incessant finger pricks, shots, and the constant doctor’s appointments. When a mysterious doctor discovers that Kelvin has superpowers, the story reveals itself as the genesis of a new kind of superhero. Kelvin takes a superhero oath as “Super K” and uses his superpowers to help other kids with diabetes.

The comic book-style illustrations by Micah Chambers-Goldberg beautifully connect children and parents to the world of diabetes. The book includes a kid-friendly diagram that explains type 1 diabetes and definitions that discuss both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

One-third of net profits from the sale of her book will go to support diabetes-related organizations and causes.

EVEN SUPERHEROES GET DIABETES is now available on the author's website www.evensuperheroes.com, at www.amazon.com and other online retailers.

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