The Neal Family Pediatric Diabetes Fund serves Marshfield Clinic pediatric type 1 diabetes patients whose families are experiencing financial hardship due to their child’s diagnosis and need for ongoing diabetes management and care. Type 1 diabetes is a chronic autoimmune disease that destroys the body’s ability to make insulin, a hormone used to breakdown and store energy in the form of glucose from foods. Lifestyle changes cannot prevent or cure type 1 diabetes.

The Fund aims to help children diagnosed with type 1 diabetes live the life they want despite the challenges of the disease by sending them to diabetes camp, providing them with fun and stylish ways to carry their diabetic supplies and devices that help them manage their diabetes, and helping them and their families attend diabetes support groups or conferences. The Fund will also cover expenses related to travel to Marshfield Clinic, such as gas cards, meals, and lodging, when financial hardship is a barrier to obtaining ongoing diabetes care and treatment for their child.

John Neal and Dara Luangpraseut, along with their daughters, Uma and Fiona, started this Fund in tribute to Fiona’s diabetes journey.