

STAMP

news & notes

New Stamp Encourages Diabetes Awareness

(NAPSA)—A new postage stamp is encouraging the nation to know more about diabetes, a disease that kills one American every three minutes.

The United States Postal Service has launched a year-long diabetes awareness campaign along with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, the American Diabetes Association, the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Association of Diabetes' Educators.

Some Diabetes Facts & Figures

Diabetes is a chronic, genetically determined disease affecting every organ system. Insulin is not a cure, merely a life support. There are two major types of diabetes: Type 1 (juvenile) and Type 2 (adult onset). Anyone at any age can get diabetes, including children. Though there is no cure for the disease, there is hope through research.

Diabetes is a leading cause of blindness, amputation, heart attack, stroke and kidney failure—and it accounts for more than \$105 billion of annual U.S. health care costs. In fact, one of every four Medicare dollars goes to pay for health care of people



The diabetes postage stamp is the newest commemorative to highlight Postal Service's social awareness issues.

with diabetes.

Since the mid-1950s, the Postal Service has issued stamps that highlight special awareness issues. Recent social awareness stamps include Breast Cancer Awareness, Organ and Tissue Donation, Prostate Cancer Awareness, Hospice Care and Adoption.

To see preliminary designs of the 2001 stamps and stationery, visit the Postal Service Web site. All current stamps and other philatelic items, as well as a comprehensive catalog, are available by calling the U.S. Postal Service toll free at 1-800-STAMP-24. A selection of stamps and stamp products are also available in the new Postal Store at www.usps.com.