



1/15/2014

Dear Nerac Earth Cycling,

Last spring I contacted you in regards to The Seven Lakes Ride “Pedaling for Patients” an inaugural event held on June 30, 2013. I asked the club to assist me with developing this charity cycling event for patients at the John DeQuattro Cancer Center in Manchester, Ct. where I work as a Radiation therapist.

I would like to update you about the event, its outcome and the affect it has had on my patients who were in need of assistance.

The event was held on June 30, 2013 a beautiful summer day. There were 200 cyclists that attended and 193 of them completed the courses that meandered through the quiet rural countryside in northeast Connecticut and Massachusetts. Thirty people also volunteered their time at the event as well. At the end of the ride participants and volunteers feasted on a lunch donated by Coyote Flaco, a local restaurant in Mansfield, Ct.

Although we had numerous raffles to raise extra funds many cyclists also made donations in addition to the registration fee.

After expenses we raised enough money to assist at least seventy five patients with basic necessities such as medications, food and gas. As I write this update we have helped thirteen patients. Five with food, three with gas, two with medications, two with transportation and one with home heating fuel. The response I got from these people was overwhelming. Typically a handshake or hug followed by a “thank you so much” with tears in their eyes. It is one of the most touching things I have witnessed in my tenure as a therapist.

All of this would not have been possible without the generosity, support and commitment from Nerac Earth Cycling members who volunteered their time before, during and after the event. Your selflessness is truly amazing. I always take the time to tell my patients how I raised the funds, who the sponsors were and how so many people from our club volunteered. They will comment on how in today’s tough global economy there are still companies and people who take the time to consider helping people who are trying to battle a crippling disease and fighting to survive.

I would like to thank you as well, on behalf of my patients, for making The Seven Lakes Ride “Pedaling for Patients” a success. Thank you for having the consideration, sensitivity and thoughtfulness to help those who are less fortunate. Thank you for helping touch the hearts and souls of my patients, whom I care so deeply about. And finally thank you for helping me make my dream of this cycling event come true.

Kind Regards,

Peter LaValley
Founder/Director
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