

Cyclists stop in Zuni during cross country fundraising journey

Written by Staff Reports
Friday, 30 June 2017 08:10



ZUNI, N.M. – The Journey of Hope South team arrived in Zuni, N.M. this past week.

This overnight stop comes after a 105-mile ride from Lakeside, Arizona, and is the 15th day of a 3,745-mile cycling event from Long Beach, California to Washington, D.C. This group of 28 cyclists and seven crew members is one of three Journey of Hope teams that will directly enhance the lives of thousands of people with disabilities through grant funding and community engagement.

Although there is not one scheduled in Zuni, the team frequently stops at local community sponsors for Friendship Visits. At Friendship Visits, the cyclists will connect with the people they are riding to support as a way of breaking barriers and highlighting the abilities of all people.

These Friendship Visits often include activities like dance offs, games and sports. The team will be staying at St. Anthony Church, who has been providing lodging and serving as a community sponsor for the Journey of Hope since 2015.

The Journey of Hope team consists of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity men from across the country. The

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team will cycle an average of 65 miles per day ending at the National Capitol on August 12. Each cyclist commits to raising a minimum of \$5,500 on behalf of people with disabilities in hopes to enhance their quality of life.

The mission of The Ability Experience is to use shared experiences to support people with disabilities and develop the men of Pi Kappa Phi into servant leaders. The Ability Experience organizes Journey of Hope and two other large service projects each summer and is the national philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi.

Founded in 1977, the Ability Experience is committed to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. Combined with corporate sponsorships, the 2017 Journey of Hope will raise more than \$650,000 for people with disabilities across the nation. The Ability Experience has raised over \$15 million in its 40-year history.

Contact Reed Jones, rjones@pikapp.org, (980) 318-5378, for the most recent updates and any additional information.

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