

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bicyclists begin 3,300-mile ride across America

Healthcare activists ride to promote domestic and global health awareness

COLUMBUS, Ohio – One-third of the world’s population is infected with tuberculosis. An estimated 2.5 billion people, half the population of the developing world, lack access to adequate sanitation. Twenty-five bicyclists from across the United States are on a mission to change these and other health problems affecting billions of people around the world. On March 30, 2010, these bicyclists, as part of the non-profit organization Ride for World Health (R4WH), will embark on a 3,300-mile bicycle journey through 47 cities from San Diego, California to Washington, D.C., concluding on May 25. Their goal is to promote domestic and global health awareness as well as to raise funds for aid organizations working to improve access to healthcare in the poorest communities of the world. Among the bicyclists are medical students, public health professionals, researchers, a Peace Corps alumna, and a Teach for America alumna.

Along the route, national “Global Health Days” are scheduled for major medical centers in Tucson, Arizona; El Paso, Texas; Memphis, Tennessee; Cincinnati, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio and Washington, D.C. to facilitate and ignite conversation as part of Ride for World Health’s “Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series.” These lectures will address topics such as healthcare, poverty and illness, HIV/AIDS and women and children’s health issues. They will also feature keynote speakers who are renowned figures in global health and who will share their expertise and experiences providing health care services to the underprivileged. Lectures from the “Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series” are also scheduled in medical clinics, schools, churches and community centers along the route.

“Ride for World Health 2010 is making some big changes this year – changes which we know will ensure the success of Ride for World Health for many years into the future,” said R4WH CEO Libby Huffman. “[We] stand together in our passion for one thing – improving access to quality and necessary health care for all citizens of the world.”

Solidarity Rides and fundraising events are also planned to promote community support and to raise funds for the organization’s 2010 beneficiaries, HEAL Africa and World Bicycle Relief. The 2009 ride was highlighted by the donation of \$80,000 to two incredible beneficiaries – Village Health Works and Esperança

(more)

Health care activists gear-up for cross-county bike ride

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Ride for World Health 2010 is sponsored by local and national organizations including The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Roll: bike shop, the Pediatric Academic Association, RoadID, PowerBar, Einstein Bros Bagels, Nationwide Children's Hospital and numerous private donors.

About Ride for World Health

Ride for World Health, a national non-profit organization, was founded in 2004 by a small group of Ohio State University medical students as a reaction to the state of domestic and global healthcare. Those students decided to take a proactive role in addressing the problem, so they each placed \$200 of their own money into a jar and Ride for World Health was born. This April and May will be the fifth annual cross-country ride. The goal is to raise awareness of global health issues and promote change within society through education, advocacy, fundraising and dialogue. For more information please visit <http://www.rideforworldhealth.org>.

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Ride for World Health 2010 Route - April

DAY	DATE	ORIGIN	DESTINATION
Tues	03/30/10	San Diego Event Day	
Wed	03/31/10	- off day -	
Thu	04/01/10	San Diego, CA	Julian, CA
Fri	04/02/10	Julian, CA	El centro, CA
Sat	04/03/10	El centro, CA	Yuma, AZ
Sun	04/04/10	Yuma, AZ	Dateland, AZ
Mon	04/05/10	Dateland, AZ	Buckeye, AZ
Tue	04/06/10	Buckeye, AZ	Phoenix, AZ
Wed	04/07/10	Phoenix, AZ	Pichacho Peak State Park, AZ
Thu	04/08/10	Pichacho Peak State Park, AZ Tucson Global Health Day	Tucson, AZ
Fri	04/09/10	- off day -	
Sat	04/10/10	Tucson Solidarity Ride Tucson, AZ	Wilcox, AZ
Sun	04/11/10	Wilcox, AZ	Lordsburg, NM
Mon	04/12/10	Lordsburg, NM	Deming, NM
Tue	04/13/10	Deming, NM	Las Cruces, NM
Wed	04/14/10	Las Cruces, NM El Paso Global Health Day	El Paso, TX
Thu	04/15/10	- off day -	
Fri	04/16/10	El Paso, TX	Guadalupe National Park, TX
Sat	04/17/10	Guadalupe National Park, TX	Carlsbad, NM
Sun	04/18/10	Carlsbad, NM	Hobbs, NM
Mon	04/19/10	Hobbs, NM	Lamesa, TX
Tue	04/20/10	Lamesa, TX	Sweetwater, TX
Wed	04/21/10	Sweetwater, TX	Abilene, TX
Thu	04/22/10	Abilene, TX	Ranger, TX
Fri	04/23/10	Ranger, TX	Fort Worth, TX
Sat	04/24/10	- off day -	
Sun	04/25/10	Fort Worth Solidarity Ride Fort Worth, TX	Greenville, TX
Mon	04/26/10	Greenville, TX	Paris, TX
Tue	04/27/10	Paris, TX	New Boston, AR
Wed	04/28/10	New Boston, AR	Magnolia, AR
Thu	04/29/10	Magnolia, AR	Arkadelphia, AR
Fri	04/30/10	Arkadelphia, AR	Hot Springs, AR

Ride for World Health 2010 Route - May

DAY	DATE	ORIGIN	DESTINATION
Sat	05/01/10	Hot Springs, AR	Little Rock, AR
Sun	05/02/10	- off day -	
Mon	05/03/10	Little Rock, AR	Marvell, AR
Tue	05/04/10	Marvell, AR	Memphis, TN
Wed	05/05/10	Memphis Global Health Day	
Thu	05/06/10	Memphis, TN	Bells, TN
Fri	05/07/10	Bells, TN	Waverly, TN
Sat	05/08/10	Waverly, TN	Nashville, TN
Sun	05/09/10	- off day -	
Mon	05/10/10	Nashville, TN	Ready, KY
Tue	05/11/10	Ready, KY	Louisville, KY
Wed	05/12/10	Louisville, KY	Rising Sun, IN
Thu	05/13/10	Rising Sun, IN Cincinnati Global Health Day	Cincinnati, OH
Fri	05/14/10	Cincinnati, OH	Columbus, OH
Sat	05/15/10	- off day -	
Sun	05/16/10	Columbus Solidarity Ride	
Mon	05/17/10	Columbus Global Health Day	
Tue	05/18/10	Columbus, OH	Athens, OH
Wed	05/19/10	Athens, OH	Harrisville, WV
Thu	05/20/10	Harrisville, WV	Elkins, WV
Fri	05/21/10	Elkins, WV	Petersburg, WV
Sat	05/22/10	Petersburg, WV	Fort Royal, WV
Sun	05/23/10	Fort Royal, WV	Washington, DC
Mon	05/24/10	Washington, DC Global Health Day	
Tue	05/25/10	Washington, DC	Bethany Beach

Ride for World Health 2010 Information

Ride for World Health

Ride for World Health (R4WH) is a non-profit organization that was founded by medical students in November 2004. Today, the organization consists of many members of the medical community, including physicians, medical and nursing students, and other professionals who participate in an annual 3,300-mile coast-to-coast bike ride and lecture series. From San Diego, California to Washington, D.C., R4WH initiates meaningful dialogue about global health with communities along the way. This year, the ride begins March 30 and runs through May 25. The mission is to address global health disparities by focusing on education, advocacy and fundraising. The goal of R4WH is to raise significant funds for non-profit organizations that provide health care for developing communities across the globe. The 2010 beneficiaries are HEAL Africa and World Bicycle Relief. R4WH also strives to raise awareness about global health issues and empower individuals to become informed, active global citizens.

Solidarity Rides

Ride for World Health will be holding three “Solidarity Rides” during the 2010 Ride. Solidarity Rides are single-day public bike riding events with the dual purpose of promoting community interest in global health issues and involving the community in raising funds to benefit global health organizations. The three 2010 Solidarity Rides will take place in Tucson, Arizona on April 10, in Fort Worth, Texas on April 26, and in Columbus, Ohio on May 16. Community cyclists will join the R4WH National Team riders on pre-planned routes varying in length from 20-40 miles. Each ride has a small minimum fundraising contribution to participate. Rounding out each Solidarity Ride event will be an opening ceremony with introductory comments by the R4WH bikers, refreshments following the ride and awards to top fundraisers.

Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series

Ride for World Health has prided itself on its innovative Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series since its initial cross-country journey in 2006. The updated 2010 Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series features several new lectures that provide an overview of the basic concerns in global health. Each lecture is targeted to a specific level of education and contains interactive components. It is R4WH’s goal that this approach will enable the riders to deliver an age appropriate, effective, and interesting lecture to every audience they visit. In addition to its classic lecture series, R4WH 2010 will continue its education curriculum with its journal club series, interactive learning sessions and online education modules. Topics discussed in R4WH’s educational curriculum include poverty and health, HIV/AIDS prevention, women’s health and access to childhood immunizations.

Event Days

Ride for World Health speaks at a variety of locations along the route, hosting both major and minor event days. Minor events are held most days of the ride and consist of talks at venues such as schools, community centers and churches. Talks are given by the R4WH National Team Riders and feature R4WH’s Coast-to-Coast Lecture Series. Major event days, also referred to as Global Health Days, are held at major medical centers along the route. Typical schedule of

events during Global Health Days include a “Ride In” of the riders with a welcome ceremony, an education curriculum with specific lectures geared for the particular site and keynote speakers from R4WH’s beneficiaries who will share their expertise and experiences in global health. Ride for World Health 2010 will be hosting Major events in San Diego, California; Tucson, Arizona; El Paso, Texas; Memphis, Tennessee; Cincinnati, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; and Washington, D.C.

HEAL Africa

HEAL Africa is based in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo, a devastated region of central Africa, where war has claimed over six million lives in the past fifteen years. Formed in 1996, HEAL Africa is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide holistic care for the Congolese people through developing medical, social and economic initiatives, such as training health professionals, strengthening social activists and providing physical, spiritual and social healing.

HEAL Africa began as a hospital with the goal of training Congolese medical professionals in orthopedics and fistula repair, but they recognized that many health problems were products of larger societal causes. They have since increased their reach to local communities to develop HIV/AIDS programs, training programs for rural healthcare professionals, public education about the law and human rights and numerous other programs to benefit the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Through these mechanisms, HEAL Africa strives to provide holistic care for a greater community.

World Bicycle Relief

Founded in 2005 in response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami, World Bicycle Relief is a non-profit organization specializing in large-scale bicycle programs dedicated to providing access to independence and livelihood through “The Power of Bicycles.” Compared to walking, bicycling represents an enormous increase in productivity and access to healthcare, education and economic development opportunities.

Since its inception, World Bicycle Relief has worked with many different projects, providing more than 50,000 bicycles to help empower and increase the livelihood of global citizens. Their projects have ranged from Project Tsunami, through which they aided recovery after the devastating tsunami in 2004, to Project CHAI and Project Zambia through which they provided bicycles to healthcare workers, mentors working with vulnerable children and educators of disease prevention in six African countries. World Bicycle Relief is also working to increase access to school for children in rural Zambia who are at risk for extreme poverty and high HIV/AIDS infection rates. Their overall mission is to provide simple, sustainable transportation to provide disaster assistance and poverty relief.



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Ride for World Health 2010 Biographies

Buller, Megan

Co-Director of Logistics and National Team Rider

Megan grew up in Michigan but graduated from the University of Notre Dame with an undergraduate degree in Spanish Literature and Arts & Letters Pre-professional Studies. After graduation, she traveled to the Caribbean where she spent a year doing volunteer work in Puerto Rico. During her time volunteering, she met incredible people who opened her eyes to extreme health care problems that these citizens face - especially the homeless population.

When she returned home from her life-changing trip, she began medical school at The Ohio State University and decided she wanted to get involved in global health. She became an officer in the International Health Interest Group and volunteered at the Latino Free Clinic. Megan recently returned from a clinical rotation in Peru where she was able to experience a unique health care system.

After Megan finishes medical school, she will pursue a career in combined internal medicine and pediatrics and wherever else global health may take her.

Croft, Peter

Director of Major Events and National Team Rider

Peter grew up in Reading, Massachusetts just north of Boston and attended the University of Virginia where he majored in English. He has always been an avid athlete, playing baseball in Virginia as well as many other sports in his spare time. After college, Peter went on to medical school at The Ohio State University. Medical school has opened his eyes to the possibilities of helping those around the world. When he is not studying or playing sports, he volunteers at local charities that help the underserved in his community.

After graduating from medical school, Peter plans to pursue a career in emergency medicine.

D'Ardenne, Chris

National Team Rider

Chris grew up in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains outside of Denver, Colorado. He had an active childhood and participated in many sports and outdoor activities. He attended Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio where he swam for their thirty-time national champion team and earned a Chemistry degree at the same time. During his undergraduate years, Chris lived in Costa Rica and realized that he wanted to advocate for international healthcare as a physician.

Chris is now finishing school at Boston University School of Medicine, and will be taking a short break from the ride to graduate in May. During medical school, he has found a multitude of opportunities to experience providing services with international healthcare groups, but has noticed little exposure in the form of advocacy. The advocacy and education delivered through the vehicle of cycling are what inspired him to join Ride for World Health.

Chris knew Ride for World Health was something he wanted to be involved with as soon as he started following their blog from 2009's trip. Chris is excited about R4WH, what he considers, "the perfect combination of 3,300 miles of activity, advocacy, fundraising and teamwork."

Dishong, Brian

Director of Finance and National Team Rider

Brian was born and raised in Liberty Center, a small town in northwest Ohio. After he graduated from high school, he enrolled at Miami University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Zoology. After completing his undergraduate education, Brian started medical school at The Ohio State University. Brian found out about Ride for World Health during his first year after seeing some water bottles with the R4WH logo on them. When he learned more, he decided he wanted to be a part of spreading awareness of international health issues as well as raising money to support health programs abroad.

Brian feels that the best way to change the world is to get outside, get to work and share what you're doing with others and R4WH is a the perfect opportunity to do just that.

After finishing medical school in June, Brian plans to pursue a career in anesthesiology.

Fujii, Jeffrey

Director of Marketing and Public Relations and National Team Rider

Jeff grew up in Nevada City, California, a small town near Lake Tahoe. He attended the University of California, Davis for his undergraduate education where he majored in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. During his undergraduate education, Jeff traveled to Uganda to work with the Batwa (Pygmies) and also volunteered many hours in the Davis community.

Jeff is now in his fourth year at The Ohio State University College of Medicine and has continued to pursue health care for the underserved. He strives to volunteer his time in various communities to provide health care for those with limited access and he continues to be an advocate for people in need. In the 2007-2008 school year, he was one of nine student directors of the Columbus Free Clinic where he helped provide health care for the underserved and uninsured in the Columbus, Ohio area.

"I have been interested in medicine for as long as I can remember because I love science and wanted to do something that would make a significant impact in the lives of others," said Jeff. "I am incredibly excited about Ride for World Health and I look forward to sharing my passion with a nationwide audience."

Jeff plans to pursue a career in anesthesiology when he graduates from medical school this June.

George, Roshan
National Team Rider

Roshan George is originally from Bangalore, India but currently resides in Richmond, Virginia. He graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering. Roshan has studied abroad in countries such as Spain, England, Morocco and Costa Rica. Additionally, he has participated in an alternative spring break where he volunteered to help displaced families after Hurricane Katrina. Roshan has also helped to build homes for impoverished families and worked with mentally disabled children. Through his volunteer work, he has learned to value and appreciate his own life while helping those who are less fortunate.

While growing up, Roshan always had an interest in medicine and travel. He believes that Ride for World Health will challenge him and help him gain insights on healthcare and medical hardships around the world.

Gollogly, Heidi
National Team Rider

Heidi was born in Vienna, Austria, but spent most of her childhood in a small agricultural community in Northern Ireland. Hard working families in the community, like her own, lived together with adults with Down syndrome and autism and cared for them. As a child, she did not differentiate between those with disease and those without; to her, each member of the community was equally unique and deserved love, care and respect.

When Heidi was 13, her family relocated to rural Colorado and then to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Later, she studied religion at Brown University, focusing on how religious beliefs affect medical decisions. She has backpacked through Europe, relearned German from her grandmother in southern Austria, toured Australia and New Zealand and worked with children in a surgical clinic in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from April 2006 to March 2009. She was also a founding member of a student-run glaucoma screening program through Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation.

Heidi is now a fourth year student at New York Medical College and plans to become an ophthalmologist.

“I look for ways to share my passion for medicine and dedication to positively affecting the lives of others and I see this cross country journey doing just that,” wrote Heidi.

Grace, Travis
National Team Rider

Travis completed his undergraduate studies at the Florida State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry. He has always had a strong interest in helping others and has spent many hours teaching general chemistry as a teacher’s assistant and volunteering at a skilled nursing home. Upon graduating, he decided to stay at FSU for medical school and he is currently in his final year, living in Ormond Beach, Florida.

Travis is interested in emergency medicine because he loves seeing the initial presentation of patients and being the first to care for them. He has practiced his passion of helping others

throughout his life and he is proud to be part of a profession where he can continue doing just that.

“I am very excited about Ride for World Health and the impact I hope it will have,” said Travis. “Not only do I hope to [teach] the issues of healthcare to audiences across the country but I hope to inspire those very people to advocate change for those who are less fortunate.”

Haveman, Lauren

Director of Advocacy and National Team Rider

Lauren Haveman grew up in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She attended Pepperdine University in Malibu, California to earn her degree in International Studies and Spanish as preparation for a career in global health. While attending Pepperdine, Lauren kept busy by teaching English as a Second Language classes to adult immigrants from all over the world. She was also the Panhellenic President of Sororities at Pepperdine and a Resident Advisor in the dorms. Also during her undergraduate years, Lauren studied abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Quetzaltenango (Xela), Guatemala. Her experiences taken from these places have helped to fuel her passion and excitement for Ride for World Health.

After finishing at Pepperdine, Lauren chose to attend medical school at The Ohio State University. She says that Ride for World Health was definitely one of her reasons for attending OSU. While attending medical school, Lauren has focused on the combined fields of internal medicine and pediatrics because she likes taking care of patients from all ages and walks of life. Focusing on medicine and pediatrics will allow Lauren to practice community based medicine and take care of critically ill patients, all while preparing her for a future career in global healthcare.

“I’ve been passionate about medicine and working with underserved populations for as long as I can remember...” wrote Lauren. “I am really excited for the opportunity to be involved with this amazing cause while teaching others about the importance of global health care on our way across the country.”

Hepker, Justin

National Team Rider

Justin was born and raised in Maquoketa, Iowa and attended the University of Iowa for his undergraduate degree. He is now planning to pursue emergency medicine as he finishes his fourth year at The Ohio State University College of Medicine.

Justin has participated in a number of Olympic distance triathlons, as well as bike rides like Pelotonia, benefiting the James Cancer Hospital at the Ohio State Medical Center. Being a biker for a number of years, he is a big fan of Lance Armstrong. In addition to his passion for bike riding, he believes that “Ride for World Health is a very powerful tool, [because] much change can be brought about in 3,300 miles by a group of motivated and passionate people.”

Huffman, Libby

Chief Executive Officer and National Team Rider

Libby was born and raised in Findlay, a small town in northwest Ohio. She has had a passion for working with kids and serving the underserved for as long as she can remember. Beginning in early high school, she had the amazing opportunity to travel to Guatemala, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Brazil for medical and public health service trips. Some of these trips she took while attending DePauw University for her undergraduate education and more recently were through The Ohio State University where Libby is now a fourth year medical student. This past October she completed a clinical rotation in Trujillo, Peru, worked in a variety of hospitals there, and also attended classes at La Universidad Privada Antenor Orrego. While participating in these experiences, she was able to observe first-hand the lack of medical care available to these people, as well as their personal plights to obtain this care.

Ride for World Health was first brought to her attention during medical school orientation. R4WH sounded like an amazing organization and a great opportunity to truly express her passion for helping others who are in need. What makes R4WH so perfect for her is that it combines two components that are incredibly important in her life – global health and athletic activity.

Libby plans to pursue a career in pediatrics while continuing to advocate for underserved populations.

Jarvis, Lenore

Director of Education and National Team Rider

Lenore attended The Ohio State University as an undergraduate and first experienced international health in her travels to Port-au-Prince, Haiti where she volunteered in several children's hospitals. She appreciated the urgent medical attention and long-term solutions provided by the medical clinics in Haiti, but it was clear that the children were deprived of many things, including the most rudimentary health care.

After receiving her bachelor's degree, Lenore worked for Teach for America, assisting low-income communities in providing equalities within the school system. After this experience, Lenore wrote, "I do believe everyone should have access to adequate medical care regardless of income, education level, race, or ethnicity."

Lenore is currently in medical school at the Ohio State University, is involved with global health through the International Health Interest Group, and is planning to pursue a career in pediatrics. She has volunteered in clinics around the world and is very excited about the upcoming 3,300 mile ride as well as her position as Director of Education.

Kidwell, Katie

Chief Operating Officer and National Team Rider

Katie grew up in Worthington, Ohio, and graduated from Worthington Kilbourne High School. Following high school graduation she attended college at Miami University where she studied zoology and Spanish. After receiving her degree from Miami University, she decided to attend medical school at The Ohio State University and hopes to pursue a career in pediatrics when she

graduates in June. Katie also happens to be the fifth generation of her family to graduate from the Ohio State University College of Medicine.

In high school Katie attended a mission trip to build homes in Tijuana, Mexico. The impact of seeing families live on such scarce resources is where her passion for global health began. Other international travels that increased Katie's interest in global health care include studying abroad in Valencia, Spain, through the University of Virginia in 2004 and a rotation in Costa Rica through the International Health Central American Institute Foundation in 2009.

She is thrilled to be involved with Ride for World Health with the mission to increase awareness of the health disparities around the world.

Koon, Adam
National Team Rider

Adam grew up in Atlanta, Georgia and graduated from Carroll College, in Helena, Montana. He spent his junior year at the Universidad de Costa Rica, in San Jose. Adam then studied Global Environmental Health at Emory University, while working in a lab at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For his thesis, he conducted research in a rural part of western Kenya on the design of a safe water system in elementary schools. Last year, Adam moved to Chicago and joined the Department of Family and Community Medicine at Northwestern University. Adam serves as their Coordinator for Global Health and Community Services.

Adam's experiences have led him to volunteer in clinics in Mexico, Belize, and Chicago. When he is not working, he enjoys competitive cycling. He is extremely excited about becoming part of the R4WH team because it bridges his two interests of cycling and global health advocacy.

"I'm confident that the two beneficiaries, HEAL Africa and World Bicycle Relief, will channel the funds into effective health and development programs that provide assistance to underserved communities," said Adam. "...I hope that our education and outreach efforts can help provide some grounded advice to local community members about the importance of expanding engagement in global health as well as increasing access to health care for underserved groups in the United States."

Kullgren, Jen
National Team Rider

Jen grew up in Ada, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. Following her undergraduate years, she attended the University of Idaho to complete a Professional Certification in Environmental Education. Jen is extremely interested in social and environmental issues and has particular interest in health and welfare of people everywhere. She is constantly looking for ways to make positive contributions to the world and is incredibly excited to bring her own abilities to Ride for World Health.

Jen is a very athletic person, with a background in hiking, road biking, mountain biking, and swimming. She is also participating in a four month long bike touring trip in New Zealand in preparation for the Ride for World Health 2010 tour. Jen loves to bike and has a great deal of passion for raising awareness for the improvement of global healthcare.

Litrenta, Jody

National Team Rider

Jody is from Melrose, Massachusetts and currently lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She earned her bachelor's degree in Neuroscience from Mount Holyoke College in 2002 and she is currently a M.D. candidate at Drexel University College of Medicine. During high school and college, Jody was a cross-country runner and participated in marathons and triathlons. She has volunteered at various places such as the Salvation Army Clinic and Interim House, where she assisted with the primary care clinic in a drug rehabilitation center and with health education at a women's rehabilitation facility.

Prior to her first year of medical school, Jody traveled to Thailand and volunteered with a group of people to help clean up after the tsunami. She has been working in various hospitals and clinics throughout South America from 2008 to 2009. She believes that her passion and interest in global health, education, and travel are very important in sharing as part of the Ride for World Health organization.

Mitchell, Tim

National Team Rider

Tim grew up in Richland, Washington and then attended Carroll College in Helena, Montana. After College, he moved to Baltimore, Maryland to perform research at the National Institute on Drug Abuse and eventually ended up at New York Medical College.

Growing up, Tim found great enjoyment and respect for the outdoors as well as the diverse cultures throughout the United States. He developed an interest in working with the public at a local and global level. These interests have taken him as far as India, where he studied health care distribution in developing urban and rural environments; and as local as surveying the amphibian populations of western Montana marshlands.

Tim wrote, "I look forward to friendships that will be forged over the 3,300 mile road trip, but I must say though I'm most excited about the opportunity to meet with locals across the country and create a dialogue about healthcare on a global scale. Combining the challenge of the outdoor bike ride with educating and motivating the public to be more civically engaged seems, to me, a perfect way to end my medical school career."

Nyberg, Andy

Director of Recruitment and National Team Rider

Andy Nyberg grew up in Edina, Minnesota and attended the University of Denver to complete his undergraduate education. He is interested in wilderness medicine and the idea of providing the means for health care in the most remote areas across the globe. He is excited about Ride for World Health for similar reasons, especially the mission to increase health care availability around the world.

Andy has a great passion for cycling, traveling, photography, and education, all of which can be incorporated in the ride across the country this year. He hopes that this exciting opportunity to communicate with a wide range of people can help us all learn new perspectives and ideas for the future of global healthcare.

Andy is currently enrolled in the University of Toledo, finishing up his fourth year of medical school.

Peterson, Bryce

Director of Minor Events and National Team Rider

Bryce graduated with Honors when he received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from the University of Utah and he is currently a fourth year student at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. He had a desire to attend medical school because of its great combination of science and working directly with people.

Bryce has been involved with global health issues for many years, particularly with the group Operation Smile, a children's charity that treats facial deformities all around the world. Operation Smile gave him the opportunity to travel with them on one of their medical mission trips to Harbin, China where he was able to help operate on over 100 children born with cleft lips and palates. He also helped organize state-wide fundraisers for Operation Smile and was the support figure for the Salt Lake High School chapters.

As Bryce is anticipating a future in sports medicine, he believes Ride for World Health is a custom fit for him since it combines the most important aspects of medicine and the things he finds most exciting in life—service, education, health and fun.

Rosen, Maggie

Co-Director of Logistics and National Team Rider

Maggie spent her life growing up in Columbus, Ohio, and is now a fourth year medical student at The Ohio State University. During medical school, Maggie spent a summer in Lusaka, Zambia where she gained firsthand experience of the effects of HIV/AIDS on people living there. This experience had a great impact on her and she now wants to make a significant impact on health care around the world.

Maggie is unsure of her future career path in medicine but she does want to pursue something that will impact global health. Even before matriculating at Ohio State, she had heard about Ride for World Health and wanted to be a part of the organization.

Maggie cycled across the United States once before and knows the kind of impact that a large group like R4WH can have. She is excited to be making a financial and educational impact in global health as she rides across the country for a second time.

Shikary, Maria

Director of Fundraising and National Team Rider

Maria is a native of Ashland, Ohio and is a graduate of The Ohio State University, where she received a Bachelor of Science in International Studies. In her last year as an undergrad, Maria learned about Ride for World Health and was instantly captivated by the thought of medical students riding across the country for a good cause. She knew that she wanted to ride with R4WH. Now, as a fourth year medical student, she has the opportunity to be a rider and raise money as she promotes global health.

Maria has already been very involved in supporting good causes as the fundraising co-chair of the International Health Interest Group at the Ohio State University College of Medicine. Maria has also traveled the world in order to better understand world health issues and to gain a more complete perspective of different cultures and societies. She has traveled to Ecuador, Rwanda, India, Thailand, Brazil, Kenya and Uganda where she worked in a HIV/AIDS clinic. She has also worked with underserved populations through The Universal Healthcare Action Network of Ohio and her most recent trip was to a Hopi Indian Reservation in Arizona.

Maria plans to pursue a career in combined internal medicine and pediatrics.

Voss, Sarah
National Team Rider

Sarah grew up in Clarkston, Michigan, and attended Oakland University for her undergraduate education. After spending her childhood playing soccer around the country, it was only fitting that she continued her playing by joining the Varsity Women's Soccer team at Oakland University. Maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle has always been a priority in her life and riding across the country with Ride for World Health is a fitting opportunity for her. She has completed three half-marathons but this will be her first endurance cycling event.

As an undergraduate and then as a medical student, Sarah has been involved in programs that help to educate students about the lack of access to health care that plagues many Native American communities in the United States. She is looking forward to educating our nation's communities about the health disparities that are present both within our own borders and around the world along with the Ride for World Health organization.

Sarah will be graduating from medical school this June and plans to pursue a career in pathology.

Wilson, Jess
National Team Rider

Jess grew up in Tyler, Texas, and attended the University of Chicago for her undergraduate education. During her junior year, she took a year off to teach at a school in northern Thailand.

Jess had an amazing experience and she has loved international travel ever since. After graduating, she joined the Peace Corps. and became an HIV/AIDS volunteer at a small hospital in Uganda. This direct experience gave her insight into international health.

After serving in the Peace Corps., Jess attended graduate school at Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona. She completed her Master's Degree in Biomedical Science last June and she is now applying for medical school with plans to begin this fall.

Currently, her interest for international health has taken her to the country of Guyana in South America. In Guyana she is serving as a Peace Corps Response volunteer. She works with CDC and the Pan American Health Organization to help improve blood safety within Guyana's blood banking system. Jess will be serving in Guyana until February 2010.



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Jess is a beginner cyclist, but is really excited for the adventure of riding across the U.S. for a cause which she is extremely passionate about.