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Spring 2013

Team Samaritan House to pedal 513-mile Ride the Rockies tour

All sponsorship proceeds to support Samaritan House homeless shelter

For the third year in a row, Catholic Charities board member Tom Schwein and co-captain Tom Dea have formed their dedicated team of rock-star cyclists to participate in Colorado's 28th Annual Ride the Rockies tour, occurring June 8-15.

This year's route features three scenic mountain passes, a trek over the highest suspension bridge in the United States, and a combined 20,400 vertical feet over seven days and 513 miles.

Proudly named Team Samaritan House, this year's ten participating cyclists have once again pledged to ride the grueling route in support of the mission of Catholic Charities' Samaritan House homeless shelter, located in downtown Denver.

"We thought, 'Why not ride for a cause?'" says Schwein, recalling the moment in 2011 when he and veteran teammates first envisioned dedicating their efforts to charity.

"We chose Samaritan House, and have since raised over \$30,000 for the shelter."

The team has grown steadily ever since, and along with it, the funds to champion their cause. Each rider on this year's team has committed to securing as many sponsorships as possible from friends, family and others willing to support their efforts.

It's the cause that keeps many of them going.



The 2012 Team Samaritan House breaks for a photo and a breather atop Independence Pass.

"I have found myself on many occasions riding beyond my limits," says Tim Dea, a rider for Team Samaritan House since its inception.

"I have turned to God and prayerfully asked for the strength to continue. What has powerfully come to me is that the small touch of suffering that I am enduring while pedaling up those mountain passes pales in comparison to the enormous suffering and amazing resilience of those who receive care at Samaritan House. So, I stay in the saddle – and keep on cranking!"

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Ride the Rockies

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Samaritan House serves men, women, and children facing homelessness. Beyond a place to sleep, the shelter provides residents with a temporary home where they can rediscover a path to self-sufficiency.

Each resident at Samaritan House is supported extensively by a case manager who helps them commit to and navigate a goal-oriented, 120-day plan to achieve stable income and housing.

"We as human beings have a responsibility to give back to those in need with our time, talent and our treasure," says Schwein. "Team Samaritan House is fulfilling that call with our time (training), our talent (cycling), and our treasure (our sponsorships)."

Support "Team Samaritan House"

When: June 8-13, 2013

Where: 513 miles, from Telluride to Colorado Springs

Details: Visit www.ccdenver.org/riderockies

2013 Team Roster: Tom Schwein, captain; Tom Dea, co-captain; Andrew Clark; Tim Dea; Tom Hatton; Dave Kent; Mike Marion; Tim Marion; Luke Redd; Pam Sanelli

Sponsor a Cyclist: Sponsor one of our cyclists with a per-mile pledge.

Donate online at www.ccdenver.org/donate, or mail donations to: Catholic Charities, 4045 Pecos Street, Denver, 80211; memo checks "Ride the Rockies + Team Member's Name"

Get a Tax Credit: Donations of \$250 or more are eligible for a 25% Tax Credit.
Visit www.ccdenver.org/eztaxcredit for details.

Questions: Contact Lori Kennedy at
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