

2014 HONOR RIDE

RIDE 2 RECOVERY

MISSION ESSENTIAL™

FACT SHEET | Ride 2 Recovery Saves Lives | ride2recovery.com | missionessential.com

RIDE 2 RECOVERY SAVES LIVES

Every 65 minutes, a military veteran commits suicide, according to a [new investigation](#) by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This means that the suicide rate among vets and active duty military has jumped to **22 per day**. **Ride 2 Recovery is helping veterans beat these odds.**

Over 1 million veterans have been injured in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs as reported by the International Business Times.

As many as 1 in 5 veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) according to experts at the National Center for PTSD.

RIDE 2 RECOVERY – MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF HEALING HEROES

R2R improves the physical and mental wellness of our nation's injured veterans by using cycling as a means of rehabilitation. These brave men and women are provided bikes (often customized to fit their specific needs), mechanical support, food, lodging and extracurricular activities as part of the overall rehabilitation program through R2R.



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND HONOR RIDE – MAY 24, 2014 IN CENTRAL OHIO

Mission Essential is teaming with Ride 2 Recovery to bring an **Honor Ride to Central Ohio during Memorial Day weekend, May 24, 2014. This is a one-day ride to raise money and promote awareness for Ride 2 Recovery programs.** Ride 2 Recovery hosts numerous Honor Rides across the country and around the world each year. The Central Ohio ride will offer routes of 35 or 70 miles. The ride will start and end in the Northeast Columbus suburb of New Albany and tour the scenic countryside of Central Ohio.

MAY 24, 2014 HONOR RIDE – AN OPPORTUNITY TO TRAIN FOR PELOTONIA

Central Ohio has a rich cycling culture. **The May 24th Honor Ride, with its low cost and shorter mileage, is ideal as a training ride for the thousands of riders who annually participate in the 3-day Pelotonia event, which will take place again in August 2014.**

MISSION ESSENTIAL SPONSORS CYCLIST-VETS FROM RIDE 2 RECOVERY TO RIDE IN PELOTONIA

Mission Essential has long been involved with Pelotonia, which raises money for cancer research at The Ohio State University. In 2013, Mission Essential was honored to sponsor 11 R2R members to travel to Columbus to bike alongside its Peloton, including two veterans who were currently undergoing cancer treatment. **This annual event ties together Mission Essential's commitment to veterans with a charity that fights cancer in our local community of Central Ohio.**

Mission Essential was founded by two veterans in 2004 and about 30% of its corporate associates are veterans. Supporting veterans groups has long been a staple of charitable giving at Mission Essential.

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OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

History of Ride 2 Recovery

What started out as one Challenge ride with 14 participants (veterans) and no additional staff, has since evolved into numerous Challenge rides, including a European Challenge, 20+ staff members, and thousands of riders dedicated to improving the mental and physical well-being of our nation's injured veterans.

Key events for R2R include:

9/11 American Challenge, which started near ground zero and finished at the Pentagon, Normandy Challenge which traced the steps of D-Day and subsequent battles, and riding rain or shine from state to state experiencing everything the nation has to offer. In addition to multi-day cycling events, R2R holds one-day cycling events (Honor Rides) around the country to help support healing heroes participating in Challenges as well as helping them through the Project HERO program which helps with the rehabilitation process at home. R2R also holds special event camps to focus on specific issues pertaining to the service member's rehabilitation.

Ride 2 Recovery Statistics:

- 5,500 riders have benefitted from the R2R program
- 1,890 bikes given away
- 200 adaptive bikes built
- 33 total Ride Challenges
- 13,000 total miles
- 26 states
- 12 veterans on R2R staff
- 41 active Project Hero cycling rehabilitation programs throughout the US, 27 additional programs in various stages of development, 127 Certified Project Hero representatives

About Mission Essential

For a decade, Mission Essential has served customers at the strategic and tactical levels, providing operational solutions to the US Departments of Defense, State, and Homeland Security, as well as the Intelligence Community, friendly foreign governments, and multinational corporations. Our 5,500 professionals worldwide help customers navigate the uncertainty presented by terrorism, transnational crime, cyber-security threats, natural disasters, and other hazards to national and global security.

Ride 2 Recovery in the media

[Overview video by Carl Allen](#)

[60 Minutes story](#)

[Women's Initiative Roundtable at White House](#)

[Las Vegas Honor Ride](#)



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RIDE 2 RECOVERY
SAVES LIVES