

FAQ

Is lodging provided?

Yes, along the route we will stay with host churches. Each night we will sleep in sleeping bags on church floors in order to keep costs down and make a greater impact towards our goal of serving the youth of New City Kids.

Do we ride together?

It depends, riders are welcome and encouraged to ride in groups of at least three riders but typically we will not all ride together as we are such a large group. Riders are expected to maintain a 12mph average in order to ensure that the entire group stays within the same general area and is able to reunite at rest stops.

Can people who are not riding participate?

We are looking for one person to drive a support van. Other than that, only riders will be allowed on the tour.

How much do I have to raise?

There are two fundraising levels, regular riders will raise \$5,500 towards our team goal. Supported riders will raise \$11,000 towards the team goal. Supported riders will also earn a Focus Cayo road bicycle and transportation to or from the trip.

How do we get back home after the ride?

Supported Riders will receive a plane ticket to or from the ride to help make transportation easier. Regular or Alumni riders will have to arrange their own transportation to or from the trip. Information is available in the bike trip manual on how to plan your trip to Jersey City or home from Grand Rapids.

What and how will we eat along the route?

Our meals will mostly be provided by the church hosts that we stay with each night. There will also be snacks available at our rest steps on the route. Riders are welcome to bring extra money for food in the towns where we will be staying.

Do I have to purchase my own bike?

Supported riders have the option of earning a Focus Road Bike once they reach a certain fundraising level. Regular and Alumni Riders are responsible to have or purchase their own bike.

Can I still ride if I don't reach my fundraising goal?

All riders must reach their fundraising goal prior to the start of the ride. Any rider who has not reached their fundraising goal by June 8th and chooses to still ride will be responsible for paying any amount not yet raised.

What if I have never ridden this far, will I be able to keep up?

This ride will certainly be a challenge with several 100+ mile days on our way to Michigan. While it will be challenging, it is certainly feasible especially with the appropriate steps early on. The ride manual contains a training plan to help riders get into the best possible shape before embarking on the journey.

Will this trip happen again?

This is our first year holding the ride and our current plan is to hold the New City Kids Bike Tour every other year.

If people want to support my ride how do they give?

Once a rider signs up for the ride they will be prompted to create a crowdrise page - <https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/new-city-kids-bike-tour/> where supporters can support their efforts directly. Supporters can also mail checks to New City Kids 240 Fairmount Ave, Jersey City, NJ 07306 with Bike Tour - Riders Name in the memo line.

Should people give immediately or can they give after I have finished the ride?

Riders can take donations or pledges for their ride. If a rider has not reached their fundraising goal by the start of the ride they will be responsible for reaching their goal. In that sense it is a more convenient and safer option to take donations rather than pledges.

Can companies sponsor my ride?

Absolutely! Asking companies to match your fundraising efforts or support your ride is a great way to get people involved and more easily reach your fundraising goals.

How do I ask people to support my ride?

The ride manual contains a section on how to reach out to your network and reach your fundraising goal. There are lots of ways to reach out to people. Mail, email and calling tend to work well but the key is follow up!

Do we ride in all weather?

We will ride in almost all weather. We will not ride in thunder storms or extreme weather but we will ride in rain.

Do we get bike jerseys or uniforms?

Riders will receive two team jerseys that must be worn during any time that we are on the road.

What should I bring?

In the bike trip manual you will find a complete packing list which will cover everything from bike accessories, apparel, entertainment, and toiletries.

What do I do if I get a flat tire?

Riders are encouraged to bring spare tubes with them on the route as well as travel pumps or CO2 cartridges. There will always be a support van within 20 miles in the event there is damage that cannot be repaired with the gear that riders have on their bikes.

Is the ride fully supported?

Yes, there will be a support van along the route making stops every 20 miles for food and water.

Do I need to be insured to participate?

Yes, all riders must submit proof of insurance in order to participate in the New City Kids Bike Tour.