

Dear Friends,

I am writing to let you know about an exciting event. I am going to ride in the Connecticut AIDS Bike Tour 2005, DATES!

I WILL BE RIDING X days, covering X MILES. There are 13 beneficiary agencies. 90% of the funds raised will be divided evenly among the beneficiary organizations. 10% is held back to fund expenses for next year's tour.

The CT AIDS Bike Tour was launched in 2002 by a small, dedicated group of community organizers and AIDS activists.

There is no cure for AIDS and the crisis is not over. In the U.S., The Centers for Disease Control estimates that there are 40,000 new HIV infections each year. Connecticut ranks 8th in the nation and in 2003 had the fastest growing caseload in New England.

There must be a renewed movement to advocate for the necessary dollars, both to stem the spread of HIV and provide services to people living with AIDS. We need a new spirit of leadership to articulate a vision for ending this health crisis, from the Governor's office to every other public office.

During my ride, we will meet up with local service providers, activists and supporters in the towns in which we stop for brief press events, to help raise awareness about the HIV/AIDS pandemic and its impact in our state.

Each rider must raise a minimum of \$500 day riders. Please consider a generous, tax deductible pledge to support my participation in the ride.

Thank you for your support and making a difference in the lives of people with HIV/AIDS.