



Pedal4Life Announces Launch and Acceptance of Donations New Nonprofit Empowers Veterans to Help Civilians Overcome Substance Abuse Issues Through Bicycling

CHICAGO – January XX, 2017 – [Pedal4Life](#), a new nonprofit dedicated to helping people in recovery from drug addiction, has announced its official launch and is now accepting donations. Pedal4Life partners with wounded veterans and works with drug treatment centers to mentor civilian drug addicts to stay in recovery by promoting a healthier lifestyle through bicycling events and programs, and providing free bikes and safety gear.

Addiction to drugs such as opioids has become a major medical illness across the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently reported that drug overdoses are the leading cause of accidental death in the US, with 55,403 lethal drug overdoses in 2015. Opioid addiction is driving this epidemic, with 20,101 overdose deaths related to prescription painkillers, and 12,990 overdose deaths related to heroin in 2015.

“Many suffering from addiction feel isolation and shame,” said Ira David Levy, founder and president of Pedal4Life. “By joining a bicycling club, those in recovery can feel accepted by the public and access the benefits of a healthy lifestyle because it surrounds them with positive, supportive people and takes them away from negative influences.”

Pedal4Life’s [Pathway to Home](#) events are designed to educate and engage those recovering from opiate addiction in experiencing the physical, social, and emotional benefits of recreational bicycling. Each event will be held at a treatment center and include fun and empowering talks from and veterans already in recovery, as well as healthcare and cycling professionals. It will also include a power lunch and a 5 to 10-mile victory bicycle ride that celebrates the hard, brave work of recovery and reinforces a patient’s sense of community and sustainable independence.

Each participant will receive a free bike and safety gear. Bikes provide recovering addicts transportation to support meetings, job interviews, and jobs; help build natural endorphins, and offers activity during periods of boredom often associated with the recovery process.

On May 21, 2017, Pedal4Life will hold its first “Hero in Me” charity ride in Naperville, Ill. that offers participants three route options (15, 32, or 54 miles). In addition to the ride, the event will feature food, live music and free giveaways. More details can be found on the [Pedal4Life](#) site.

Donations to support Pedal4Life can be made here: <https://pedal4life.org/complete-your-donation/>.

About Pedal4Life

Pedal4Life is a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit organization. We work with drug treatment centers to build bicycling into their patients’ recovery process. Working with veterans in recovery who already who ride bikes and and one of the leading physicians tackling the problem of over-prescribing, Pedal4Life engages those recovering from opiate addiction in experiencing the physical, social, and emotional benefits of recreational bicycling. Founded by David Ira Levy, the creator, producer and host of PBS



travel and lifestyle show “Pedal America.” Pedal4Life’s Board of healthcare and cycling professionals have decades of experience in teaching others to live healthier lifestyles. For more information click [here](#).

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