



Brotherhood RIDE



*Brotherhood Ride ~ will be dedicated to Florida's Fallen Heroes who died in the line of duty in 2020 while protecting their communities. We will also be riding for the 20th Anniversary of 9/11 and honor the first responders who have died from 9/11 related illnesses.
On August 20th, our team will pedal from Naples, FL to New York City for 23 days, covering over 1,700 miles and average 70-100 miles a day.*

Ed & Lara's Adventures

Fun was had by all on the 1,700-mile trek to NYC

Sleeping on an air mattress in a room with about 70 other 'friends' is definitely not for the faint of heart! But the excitement of the riders each morning at 6am wake up, the friendly elks having been up for hours to make us a hot breakfast, the joy and pride every person the Brotherhood Ride meets up with and comradery that developed over 22 days makes it all worth the long days supporting the riders with food and drinks at every rest stop!

Ed started with the ride in Lakeland, FL where we donated over 200 pounds of food and \$2,100 in cash and checks! So, what does Ed have to say about this experience? Here are his words: When you are on the outside looking at what the Brotherhood Riders are doing, you see the fundraising, the riding, the support, the honoring of those who have fallen in the line of duty, the financial aid given to the fallen's families, and you see the remembrance. When you are immersed in the program, you share the emotions, the triumphs, and the struggles. You feel the camaraderie, you feel the gratitude of the fallen's families, you share the pride, and you share the grief.

Lara met up with the ride in Baltimore, MD. I was lucky enough to experience several different volunteer positions during my time. I cooked lunch a couple of days, helped at rest stops, got to follow behind the riders and help them with helmet change (about 1/2 mile from our stops for the night, the riders would stop and change into their professional hats (fire helmet, police or forestry hat etc.) and drove a support vehicle back from Staten Island, NY. The experience is priceless and when you know you are supporting an amazing cause, remembering fallen first responders, people that put their lives on the line daily to make sure we are safe, it is a very humbling experience!

