



Save a Horse...Ride a Bike!

RAGBRAI XXXIX

RAGBRAI, the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa began its 7-day, 454-mile trek at the crack of dawn on July 23rd. Glenwood served as the RAGBRAI starting point for a record-tying 6th time. *The Wild Southwest* was chosen as Glenwood's official RAGBRAI theme to celebrate the community's pioneer past and geographic location in the southwest corner of Iowa. Glenwood hosted over 20,000 guests; there were people, bikes and tents everywhere!



On With Life had the terrific opportunity to set up a booth downtown to promote brain injury prevention and safe riding. Several On With Life employees were on the town square taking pictures, helping other vendors, talking with cyclists, and handing out brain injury prevention educational materials. Nine lucky people won bicycle helmets in our drawing.

AdaptiveSports Iowa (ASI), was a welcomed guest at On With Life as its team ventured across the state. Housed within the Iowa Sports Foundation, this is a new organization dedicated to expanding opportunities for Iowa's population of individuals with physical and visual disabilities to engage in regular physical activity. The goal of ASI is to be the driving force to collaborate and implement these much needed sport and recreation programs throughout the state. ASI believes every Iowan living with a physical disability should have access to these resources. These 21 riders formed the first adaptive sports team ever to ride in RAGBRAI. Our staff members gave the guests a tour and assisted in making them comfortable for their night's stay. Our sensory gym provided enough space that 17 people slept on queen size air mattresses; four others chose to pitch a tent outside.



On their blog, they wrote the following about On With Life, *"Finally - GLENWOOD!! Sleeping arrangements for tonight were made with the On With Life facility in Glenwood. What wonderful hosts!! The room that was reserved for the team fit the specific needs of the team perfectly. The staff was extremely kind and the team was set up in no time. Oh - and the AC in the building was working beautifully. What a relief!"*



Another group of fifteen bikers, accompanied by Dr. Marc Harding, an On With Life board member, camped in style using three motor homes parked in the On With Life parking lot. It was a pleasure for our staff and persons served to be part of such a great and unique Iowa event. To all of you RAGBRAI riders out there...see you next time!

