

Announcing The Arc of Amador and Calaveras County Hosting PUSH America Journey of Hope 2013

June 11, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity Men Cycle Across Country for People with Disabilities and will stop in Amador County on June 11, 2013

Amador and Calaveras County —The Arc of Amador and Calaveras will be hosting the 25th annual welcoming picnic for the inspiring Journey of Hope cyclists. The Journey of Hope is a program of Push America, the national philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity, which raises money and awareness for people with disabilities. The Journey of Hope teams consists of men from Pi Kappa Phi chapters across the country. The teams cycle an average of 75 miles per day, beginning in San Francisco and ending in Washington, D.C.

“I was able to attend the event last June, before starting my position with The Arc, and was amazed by the selfless support these young men exhibit in championing people with disabilities” said Executive Director, Shawna Molina. “I encourage everyone to attend and participate in supporting our citizens with disabilities”.

The Arc of Amador and Calaveras will hold Amador’s 25th Annual welcome ceremony at St. Sava’s complex in Jackson between 11:00am and 2:30pm. The ceremony is to celebrate the team’s arrival as they enter Amador County to support The Arc of Amador and Calaveras and our community. Hundreds of family and friends will be there to welcome the cyclists. The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

How it all began

In 1987, one man’s dream of riding his bike across the country came true. What he did not know was the inspiration and motivation his trek across America would give to Push America. The very next year his ride inspired Push America to create the largest fraternal fundraising and awareness event of its kind, the Journey of Hope. Today the Journey of Hope covers 32 different states, cycling over 12,000 miles combined. It is solely comprised of members of Pi Kappa Phi and continues to spread a message of acceptance and understanding for people with disabilities. Pi Kappa Phi is the only national men’s fraternity to establish and maintain their own service project. Fraternity members have raised over 10 million dollars for Push America since 1977. Information about the Journey of Hope and the many accomplishments of Push America can be found at www.pushamerica.org.

For the team of over 70 cyclists, the real journey will not be on a bike, but spending time with the Amador and Calaveras residents for whom they are riding. These men are striving for community inclusion of people with disabilities and are helping to break the barriers of society that keep people of all abilities from living life to the fullest.

“The Arc appreciates and thanks our local sponsors;” said Molina. Jackson Family Sports, Jackson Lions’ Club, and Mel and Faye’s diner. “Continued community support and sponsorship empowers our consumers and staff to maintain our high standards of services and develop sustainable programs that enhance the quality of life for our consumers and promote community inclusion, I’m proud to be a part of such a giving community.”

For additional information, to become a sponsor, volunteer, or to get involved: Contact The Arc (209)267-5978