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AMERICAN FREEDOM RIDE TO BENEFIT THE CHILDREN OF NYC!

October 18, 2001- (San Diego, Cal) **A group of professionals, parents, teachers, motorcycle clubs, retired veterans, police offices and emergency response personnel will be departing San Diego California on Saturday October 27 and stopping in over 50 cities across the country, Their final destination is NYC!**

The American Freedom Ride!

“...and the children shall lead them.” Millions of Americans were devastated by the events of September 11 as so many innocent lives were taken away. It was out of feelings of helplessness and sadness that this group came together and were determined to help! **The American Freedom Ride** will deliver the Teddy Bears collected by the children at San Jacinto Elementary School, and continue to collect teddy bears from children across the country as they ride to New York. They are also raising funds for educational scholarships and will send a message that ***You Can't Hold Down The American Sprit!***

This event was inspired by the school children at the San Jacinto Elementary School. The children have been collecting donations of Teddy Bears, hoping to provide one teddy bear for each child who lost a family member in the terrorist attacks of 9-11-01. The children have spent their recess periods since that time writing notes of encouragement and attaching them to the arms of the teddy bears with red, white and blue ribbons. Their third grade schoolteacher, Cindy Haglund, will be part of this caravan and escort the Teddy Bears.

Volunteers have come from everywhere for this important event!

Ryan Peralta a young man from Detroit was born with a genetic defect that left him with arms to his elbows and legs to his knees. Wheelchair bound, Ryan felt that his problems did not compare to the children who in a matter of minutes lost their parents. Ryan has been active in organizing this event and will be riding along to NYC.

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New York Mike, owner of the largest Harley Dealership in California has joined the effort and is helping to coordinate rallies at Harley Davidson shops and with Harley Riders across the USA!

Roger Hedgecock- Syndicated radio show host will host a kick-off party on the air in San Diego and will be following the trip daily live on air!

Clearchannel radio shows many shows will be following the trip and encouraging everyone to join the ride, whether it's for one mile or 100 miles!

CCC Communications – San Diego based communications, networking, and Internet provider; supplied the equipment and personnel to ensure real-time Internet video coverage from along the ride.

Cindy and David Haglund: Teachers and members of the founding board members of **Raising Hope**; coordinators of **The American Freedom Ride!**

Raising Hope – California based fundraising organization that led to effort to get the Teddy Bears to New York

The American Heritage Education Foundation: will receive the educational scholarship funds and accept all donations during the Ride. They will distribute the scholarship money to the children as those needs are identified.

The group will be stopping in many cities where rallies will occur. One of the most important stops will be Washington DC where they hope to have many Congressmen and Senators sign the **American Book of Hope** that will signed by well-wishers from across the country and will be delivered to the Mayor of NYC.

Once in NYC, the group will host an event and welcome children, teachers, police and fire officials to accept the Teddy Bears and donations on behalf of the children and people of the USA!

This event will join and unite people around the country! All our lives changed on September 11, 2001, but through the **American Freedom Ride** we can raise our hope and increase faith that we will help each other!

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