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Columbia, CT

Little Hearts Benefits From Motorcycle Ride

Clubs & Organizations

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It was a long ride for a good cause.

The 6th Annual Daena's Run -- an 85-mile motorcycle ride sponsored by The Columbia Connecticut Harley Owners Group -- took place Sunday, Sept. 13, to raise funds for Little Hearts, Inc., a national organization that serves families affected by congenital heart defects.

The Columbia, Conn., chapter of the Harley Owners Group (Columbia H.O.G.) sponsors Daena's Run each year in honor of an 8-year-old Columbia girl named Daena, who was born in 2001 with a congenital heart defect (CHD). Daena and her family are members of Cromwell-based Little Hearts, the national organization that provides support, resources, networking and hope to families affected by CHDs -- the number one birth defect.

More than 150 people took part in the non-competitive motorcycle ride around the state, which began in Columbia. Approximately 200 people attended a family event at the Franco-American Club in North Windham after the ride.

"As the very devoted friends of Daena's parents, the members of Columbia H.O.G. launched Daena's Run to show their dedication to the family and to help support Little Hearts," says Lenore Cameron, President and Executive Director, Little Hearts, Inc. "Year after year, this event raises significant funds and public awareness around Little Hearts, as we work to help families whose lives are impacted by congenital heart defects."

"It is an honor and a privilege for us to help out those who are less fortunate," says Chip Bean of Columbia H.O.G. "We have all come to love Daena like one of our own, which now she is -- as an honorary member of Columbia H.O.G."

About Little Hearts, Inc.

Little Hearts, Inc. is a national organization providing support, resources, networking and hope to families affected by congenital heart defects -- the number one birth defect. Approximately 40,000 babies are born each year in the United States with a CHD - about one out of every 125 babies. Founded in 1998 by Lenore Cameron after her son was born with a CHD, Little Hearts serves families nationwide who currently have or are expecting a child with a CHD. For more information, visit www.littlehearts.org.

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Little Hearts, Columbia H.O.G.

Daena, the 8-year-old girl from Columbia, Conn., born with a congenital heart defect, enjoys the charity event named for her that benefits Little Hearts, Inc.