

COLUMBIA

Motorcycle Ride Benefits Little Hearts:

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

The Columbia 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 Little Hearts, the national organization that provides support, resources, networking and hope to families affected by CHDs — the No. 1 birth defect.

More than 150 people took part in the noncompetitive charity ride, and approximately 200 people attended the family event at the Franco-American Club in North Windham after the ride.

"It is an honor and a privilege for us to help out those who are less fortunate," said Chip Bean of Columbia H.O.G. "We have all come to love

Daena like she was one of our own, which now she is — as an honorary member of Columbia H.O.G."



Megan McDonnell

DAENA'S RUN motorcycle ride to benefit Little Hearts Inc. national organization that serves families affected by congenital heart defects, honored 8-year-old Daena of Columbia, shown here during the event, after having her face painted.