

Our Mission

The March of Dimes mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. We carry out this mission through research, community services, education and advocacy to save babies' lives. March of Dimes researchers, volunteers, educators, outreach workers and advocates work together to give all babies a fighting chance against the threats to their health: prematurity, birth defects, low birthweight.

Our History

President Franklin Roosevelt established the March of Dimes in 1938 to save America's youth from polio. His premise was that people can solve any problem if they work together. He created a partnership of volunteers and researchers, and within 17 years, the Salk vaccine had been developed and polio was on the run. With the approval of the Salk vaccine and resulting eradication of polio, the March of Dimes turned its focus to a new mission to save America's youth. Since 1958, the March of Dimes has been funding cutting edge research and innovative programs to save babies from birth defects, premature birth and low birthweight.

Prematurity Profile

- 1,367 premature babies are born every day in the United States.
- There has been a nearly 30 percent rise in premature births in the United States since 1983.
- 13 babies die every day as a result of prematurity and/or low birthweight.
- About 1 in 8 babies in the United States is born prematurely.

About Our Event – Bikers for Babies

Calling all motorcycle enthusiasts! Rev up your engines for a great cause. Bikers for Babies provides an opportunity for motorcycle clubs, dealerships, vendors and individuals to join together and ride to fight for all babies – those born healthy and those that need help to survive and thrive. Sign up online today at bikersforbabies.org.

Date: September 14, 2008

Time: 9:30am Gates Open and Registration Begins.

Place: Riders will begin and end at Knoll-Gas Motorsports Park in Martin between Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids. You will enjoy a 60-plus mile route with several stops along the way.

Entry Fee: Minimum entry fee is \$25/rider, which includes lunch and a commemorative pin.

Event Activities: Silent Auction, Vendors, Music, Lunch, Raffles, Door Prizes, Ride-in Bike Show.

Media Partners: WXMI FOX 17 and 97 WLAV-FM



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For additional information regarding Bikers for Babies or other events, contact Janet Doane at 616.247.6861 or by e-mail jdoane@marchofdimes.com or visit us on the web at marchofdimes.com/michigan