

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**PABLOVE ACROSS AMERICA RIDES FROM THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN  
TO GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE TO RAISE AWARENESS  
AND FIGHT CHILDHOOD CANCER**

*The seventh annual Pablove Across America ride will depart from Los Angeles on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 with a public send off*

**September 9, 2015 - LOS ANGELES, CA** – Cyclists will ride from Los Angeles, CA to San Francisco, CA October 5<sup>th</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup> for the seventh annual Pablove Across America to raise money and awareness for the fight against Childhood Cancer. While Childhood Cancer seems like it should be a universally supported cause, very few people are even aware that it exists. The ride is set to begin at The Trails Café in Los Angeles with a public send off. The 500 mile ride, led by Jeff Castelaz, funds The Pablove Foundation's essential programs such as childhood cancer research grants, annual educational symposiums, and Pablove Shutterbugs, a photography program for children living with cancer.

Since 2010, over \$1,150,000 has been raised to support research grants at 16 institutions worldwide. The grants support a range of innovators in childhood cancer research who are investigating unique ways to increase survivorship and decrease complications, enabling kids to live healthy lives after cancer.

For instance, this year The Pablove Foundation awarded Dr. Kira Bona of Dana-Farber Institute a \$50,000 seed grant to investigate the relationship between poverty and child cancer outcomes, and create interventions to reduce the effects of poverty during childhood cancer treatment. Dr. Bona aims to build an intervention model to reduce the type of poverty called "material hardship" where pediatric cancer families who have difficulty with food, housing, and energy insecurity have a higher incidence of cancer relapse. The overall goal of her research is to ensure that children, no matter their circumstances, have an equal chance of being cured.

The 40 cyclists will leave Los Angeles and stop in Ventura, Solvang, Pismo Beach, Cambria, Monterey, Santa Cruz, and finish in San Francisco at Crissy Field. Each morning of the ride will start with a daily dedication to honor a child who is fighting a battle with cancer. This year's ride is expected to raise over \$400,000 for the Shutterbugs Program and childhood research grants.

Pablove Across America began in 2009 when Jeff Castelaz rode from St. Petersburg, FL to Los Angeles, CA in memory of his son, Pablo, who lost his battle with cancer at age 6. The Pablove Foundation was created in Pablo's honor to invest in underfunded pediatric cancer research, inspire cancer families through education, and improve the lives of children living with cancer through the arts. Pablove Across America riders have raised over \$2 million for The Pablove Foundation, with riders having logged over 8,000 miles nationwide.

The kick-off celebration will begin at 7:30am at The Trails Café (2333 Fern Dell Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90068) in Griffith Park.

To learn more or donate to The Pablove Foundation please visit [www.pablove.org](http://www.pablove.org)

### **ABOUT THE PABLOVE FOUNDATION**

The mission of The Pablove Foundation is to invest in underfunded, cutting-edge pediatric cancer research, inspire families affected by cancer through education, and improve the lives of children living with cancer through the arts. The Pablove Foundation is named after Pablo Thraikill Castelaz, the son of Jo Ann Thraikill and Jeff Castelaz and the little brother of Grady Gallager. Pablo was six years old when he lost his valiant yearlong battle with bilateral Wilms Tumor, a rare form of childhood cancer. The Pablove Foundation's vision is to help children with cancer live a love-filled life today, and a cancer-free life tomorrow. [www.pablove.org](http://www.pablove.org)

### **ABOUT PABLOVE ACROSS AMERICA**

Pablove Across America was created to fight childhood cancer with love, one pedal stroke at a time. Participants are asked to raise \$7,000 or more, to participate in a one-week ride. Pablove Across America provides a professional grade experience, including bike mechanic and soigneur services, nutritious meals, on-bike food and drink, and double-occupancy hotel rooms along the route for one-week riders. All proceeds fund The Pablove Foundation's essential programs. <http://www.pablove.org/pablove-across-america/>

### **ABOUT PABLOVE SHUTTERBUGS**

Pablove Shutterbugs is the signature arts program of the Pablove Foundation. Shutterbugs teaches children living with cancer to develop their creative voice through the art of photography. Shutterbugs offers comprehensive photography curriculum designed for on-and off treatment children ages 6-18. Group classes

with trained professionals provide hands-on and collaborative learning. There is no cost to families. [www.pablove.org/shutterbugs](http://www.pablove.org/shutterbugs) and [www.pabloveprints.org](http://www.pabloveprints.org)

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