

Whittany Crum

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When I first heard about the Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge, I honestly thought I was just promoting exactly what was advertised: a 7,000+-mile endurance challenge on your Harley Davidson. It turned out to be so much deeper than I imagined.

This was no ordinary ride. This ride brought complete strangers together, who would normally never even take time to talk to each other on the street, other than perhaps a banal inquiry such as, "What's your bike running?" or "Is that stock?" These strangers are now lifelong friends with phenomenal memories that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

This brings me to my experience ... being involved in this challenge has helped me grow emotionally, mentally and spiritually. I now feel that I can tackle anything that lies in front of me. Whereas before I was very unsure of my capabilities.

In addition to the Challenge itself, the founder of this large event, James Red Cloud, also played a big part in my growth. I've been on the road with him for the past year, going from bike event to bike event. He's not this monster some people make him out to be, and I was truly upset by some of the negative articles. I've seen James give food to so many families, turn their heat back on in winter when they have no money, put gas in cars so people can get to dialysis treatment and much more. He never boasted of such kind acts nor did he seek recognition.

Jim has saved my life in ways I can't even put into words. Without The Hoka Hey I would have never met Jim or the organizers and had this experience to learn and grow as a person. I'm forever grateful for this opportunity to work for Hoka Hey. I thank God every day.

~ Whittany Crum