



FINDING JOY, FRESH AIR, AND CAMARADERIE ALONG THE TRAIL!

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**“As the founder of Joy 2 Ride, I personally am no stranger to disability myself. I KNOW first hand the AMAZING difference a “simple ride” on the Betsie Valley Trail can make. It can be truly life changing!!”**

- Carol Kraak, Founder

## What is Joy 2 Ride Benzie?

Joy 2 Ride is a non profit 501(c)3 organization that will be offering a **FREE** Community Service in Benzie County allowing individuals who are physically unable to ride a bike an opportunity to enjoy the amazing Betsie Valley Trail. Using a specially designed wheelchair bike and volunteer “pilots”, the program will serve people of any age: “challenged”, disabled (permanently or temporarily), and the elderly.

**It's a Joy 2 Ride, let's make it happen for ALL of our friends and neighbors!**

## Joy Ride 1: Our Bike!

The Duet™ is an orthopedically shaped fiberglass wheelchair attached to the back half of a bicycle with a battery assist pack to aid on hills and to provide a smoother ride. The bike has good suspension and is light handling; its off road tires are



excellent on gravel and dirt tracks if needed. There are twin drum brakes on the chair's wheel and a back-pedal brake on the cycle wheel.

The bike can accommodate both a “pilot” and a passenger up to 275 pounds each. The bike has a battery powered motor assist which enables trained volunteer “pilots” of all ages and athletic ability to pedal and not worry about being “strong enough” to pilot the vehicle. The Duet™ has been safety tested and has passed US government regulations.

## “The Vision” or How This Will Work!

For the 2018 season, rides will be on the Betsie Valley Trail (BVT) between Frankfort and Crystal Lake. Our season will be May—October depending upon the weather. We will have set days and times for rides, and there will be a “ride reservation” system. Volunteers will be needed for the “pilot” and “co-pilot” positions. The “pilot” will be in control of the bike, and the “co-pilot” is riding their bike for added safety on the adventure. The Joy Ride guest will meet us at the starting point for their hour long adventure on the BVT. This service is offered FREE to all of our J2R guests!

## SHOUT OUTS!!

Joy 2 Ride would not be here without the support of some pretty fantastic individuals and organizations. A very special THANK YOU to the following:

**Jim Ryan**— Jim has been pivotal in his support, confidence, and promotion of Joy2 Ride!

**Dan Aldridge**—da Designs  
**Benzie Sunrise Rotary Club**  
**Rotary Club of Frankfort**  
**District Rotary Club**  
**Benzie County Chamber of Commerce**  
**Betsie River Campground**  
**Gaslight Media**

### Joy 2 Ride Benzie

PO Box 262 Benzonia, MI 49616  
231-651-0434

[joy2ridebenzie.org](http://joy2ridebenzie.org)

[joy2ridebenzie@yahoo.com](mailto:joy2ridebenzie@yahoo.com)

Facebook: Joy2RideBenzie



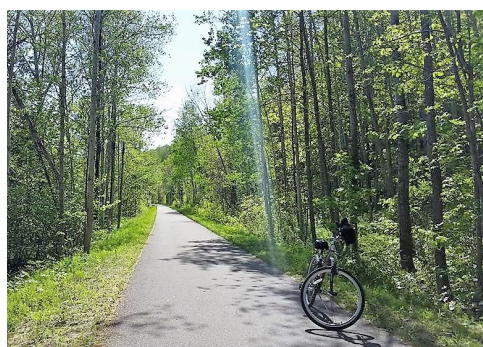
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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

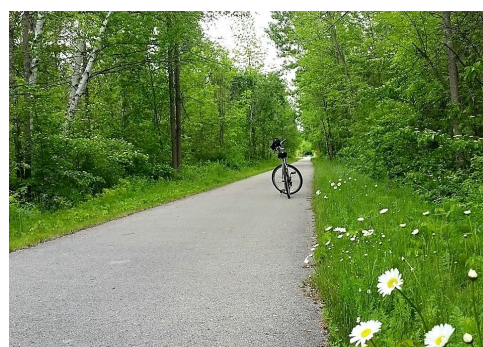
We are looking for volunteers! J2R is running a lean machine with no paid employees and all volunteer hands. Maybe you are someone who likes to ride, likes to give back, and is already passionate about supporting the kinds of people we serve.

If you are in good physical shape, have plenty of experience on a bike are willing and able to (re)learn how to safely ride a trike, and have the time to commit, then we would LOVE to hear from you.

We also need “off-bike” help that includes an interest or expertise in things like: photography, interviewing, editing, grant writing, marketing, fundraising, office administration and more. Please contact us! We would love to work with you!



*Looking forward to warmer weather and many riding adventures on the BVT!!*



## TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS NEEDED

Joy 2 Ride is a FREE service to our friends and neighbors. It is through the generous support of our community that we are able to provide access to the Betsie Valley Trail to those who cannot access it on their own. Please consider a tax deductible donation to Joy 2 Ride, a 501(c)3 organization. Our website is [joy2ridebenzie.org](http://joy2ridebenzie.org). or if you prefer our address is PO Box 262, Benzonia, MI 49616.

**Thank YOU!!**

## JOY 2 RIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back row: Kristy Boomer, Noreen Saylor, Carol Kraak. Front row: Christina Wills, McKinzi Stroup

## The “Birth” of J2R

Joy 2 Ride is the brain child of our President, Carol Kraak. She LOVES to ride her bike on the Betsie Valley Trail. Due to health issues, riding hasn't been a very easy task to accomplish over the past several years. In February of 2017, Carol came across an article about Healing Rides in Bloomington, Illinois. She discovered a new mission in life...to bring this service to Benzie County. Already realizing that we have one of the most gorgeous trails in Michigan, she wanted to share it with others who needed a bit of extra help to do just that. One of J2R goals is to make the BVT more accessible to all.

Carol began to share her vision with others and soon realized there was a lot of community support for this service. With a kind ear and lots of gentle nudges from Jim Ryan, Carol presented her proposal to the Benzie Sunrise Rotary Club in September of 2017. They, along with the Frankfort Rotary Club agreed to fund a portion of our first bike, and the district rotary funded the remainder!

Where are we now?....The bike has been purchased, insurance obtained, the next steps include getting volunteers and raising more funds for incidental items such as vests, helmets, signage, promotional materials, etc.

The adventure is just beginning for Joy 2 Ride, please consider supporting us monetarily, through your volunteer efforts, or both. We look forward to many JOY rides on the Betsie Valley Trail.

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**It's a JOY to ride!!**