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One Man's Quest to Raise \$650,000 for Parkinson's by Pedaling 6,500 miles Begins Just Before His 65th Birthday

Cincinnati (July 24, 2019) – Joe Motz, CEO of The Motz Corporation, is about to take a 90-day sabbatical from his business and embark on a special journey. While it has nothing to do with the high-performance natural and synthetic turf markets his company serves, it has everything to do with a few Motz employees. That's because several of Motz's employees have been directly affected by Parkinson's Disease, a progressive nervous system disorder that affects every aspect of a patient's movement.

So, Motz decided to do something about it.

On August 2, 2019 — just four days before his 65th birthday — Motz will be Gearing up for Good as he puts his mental and physical being to the test and sets out to bike a midwestern state loop of 6,500 miles to raise \$650,000 for Parkinson's.

"At this stage in my life, both professionally and personally, I have come to realize that I have an opportunity before me," said Motz. "One that will allow me to take on a grueling physical (and perhaps even larger mental) challenge with the mission of bringing cognizance to a serious brain disease. With over 10 million individuals worldwide, 7,000 in Cincinnati alone, this illness affects so many people's ability to do their day-to-day routines in which they once took for granted."

Motz anticipates he'll ride an average of 85 miles per day for 90 days and will be bikepacking and wild camping — surviving on the materials he brings and the gracious generosity of those he encounters — all along the way.

Motz's goal to raise \$650,000 comes with a specific plan and vision for how these funds will be used and 100 percent of donor funds will go directly to the cause.

"One challenge Cincinnatians with Parkinson's face is having enough access to care and resources while living with this disease," said Motz. "As I've learned, our city needs a better system and more accessible facilities for Parkinson and other neurological disease patients. Donations will aid in developing specialized wellness programs in Cincinnati – ultimately helping those living with this disease to enjoy a more fulfilling, enriched life."

In collaboration with The University of Cincinnati Center for Integrative Health and Wellness and the UC Gardner Neuroscience Institute a pilot program will be established which will utilize scientifically supported integrative health treatment options to reduce physical symptoms while contributing to optimizing psychological, social and spiritual health and wellness as well as greater independence and sense of community. Motz's goal is to provide greater access to people with Parkinson's and other neurological diseases to these integrative health services.

Motz will chronicle his journey through video and photos on his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/GearingUpForGood. To learn more about Gearing Up For Good or to make a donation, visit www.gearingupforgood.org.

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