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Cyclist Bikes Cross Country for Charity

Drew Marinelli's trek followed on Facebook, Twitter and with GPS technology

(KEY WEST, Fla.) - Cyclist and activist Drew Marinelli (www.onemanonebikeonefight.com) began a 6-month, 6,000-mile trek across the nation today to raise support for the World Food Program, the United Nations frontline agency in the fight against global hunger.

Marinelli set off from Key West, Florida and plans to finish in San Francisco later this summer, possibly as early as mid-August. Marinelli's route takes him through 15 states, where he will stop to speak to Rotary and school groups about his experiences in Niger, West Africa, where he spent two years volunteering with the Peace Corps. While in Niger, he worked to teach villagers how to plant fruit trees and improve farming practices, but increasing food prices, natural disasters and climate change continue to cause widespread starvation there. Drew hopes his cross country tour will help more people understand and support the World Food Program, and lead to donations to the WFP through his website.

Marinelli has a strong following, from family in South Carolina to friends from Africa to California. Friends follow Marinelli online through Facebook and Twitter and his progress is trackable thanks to a partnership with personal satellite messaging and emergency communications provider SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger. "Andrew's adventure is for a very worthy cause and SPOT is proud to support his mission and provide real-time tracking online so others can share in his journey and follow him along the way," said Derek Moore, Public Relations Manager for SPOT LLC. "With the push of a button on his SPOT Messenger, Andrew can also send messages back to his friends and family with his GPS location and he has the peace-of-mind knowing that he can alert for emergency assistance if he needs it, even along the most remote rural back roads in the middle of America where there is no cellular service."

For more information on Marinelli's trip, visit his website, www.onemanonebikeonefight.com, and become a follower on Facebook or Twitter. For more information on how SPOT LLC is helping users – from disaster preparedness to outdoor adventure purposes – visit www.findmespot.com.

One Man, One Bike, One Fight is a 6,000 mile cycling challenge powered by Drew Marinelli and his mission to bring awareness to global hunger issues while raising money for the World Food Program. Drew's cross-country plan was born after watching thousands of people go hungry during his two-year volunteer experience with the Peace Corps in Niger, West Africa. Learn more about the man and his mission at www.onemanonebikeonefight.com as well as follow him on Facebook and Twitter.