



# Bicycle Tour of Colorado

My name is Matt Anderson and I am extremely excited and honored to be riding the Bicycle Tour of Colorado this June on behalf of The Hangout and individuals living with traumatic brain injury (TBI). Along this epic seven day, 513+ mile ride amongst the peaks of the western slope, I will pedal my way over 42,000 feet of elevation gain to raise awareness and funding for The Hangout.

While I have not sustained a traumatic brain injury, my family and I have been personally touched by those who have. TBI, known as the silent epidemic, is the third largest disability affecting 1.4 million people per year in the United States. In Colorado alone, 5000 people are hospitalized with a moderate to severe TBI annually. This number does not reflect those seen in the ER, doctors office or those that do not seek medical attention.

Thankfully, those living with and recovering from a TBI have The Hangout – a place where individuals with a TBI can go, belong, and work on socialization and rehabilitation goals in the community! Anyone can sustain a TBI and it is reassuring to know that people have somewhere to go. That's why the fundraising mission of The Bicycle Tour of Colorado is so important to survivors of TBI.

This year I have big shoes to fill! Historically, Scott Lapoint, a TBI survivor and long time patron and friend of The Hangout, has completed a cycling tour fundraiser. Scott, through his story and relationships, has been able to raise thousands of dollars each year! Scott has set the bar high, and for good reasons, and I hope to do his legacy the honor it deserves. This year Scott will not be completing a Colorado cycling tour as he is working on completing another challenging and meaningful goal – his doctorate degree. How exciting! A true testament to the power and benefit of The Hangout and all it can do for survivors.

The tradition that Scott established with annual fundraising events has become a significant source of funding for The Hangout. We need your help. I am committed to doing the hard part – pedaling 513+ miles! We would appreciate your support and involvement in this mission by donating all that you can, whether that be a per mile or a flat dollar donation. Please, dig deep into your heart and pocket and help us keep The Hangout a place for survivors!

Sincerely,

Cyclist & Supporter of  
The Hangout and TBI Survivors

