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The Nebraska-Southwest Iowa Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Association partner up with the NALC Branch 5 for many events throughout the year.

The proceeds from these events will provide services to the nearly 800 families in our area affected by any of 43 neuromuscular diseases. These services include funding for national research programs, a local clinic held at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, support groups, equipment loan closets and assistance with the repairs and modifications of wheelchairs, leg braces and communication devices. These funds will also be used to help send children ages 6-17 affected by neuromuscular disease to MDA summer camp absolutely free of charge! Camp is a place where barriers do not exist. Love, friendship and acceptance abound for youngsters who are faced with the daily challenges of neuromuscular disease.

The NALC was the first official national sponsor of the MDA. The NALC has supported the MDA since 1952, starting with carriers returning to their routes after having delivered them and going door to door soliciting donations. Since then, the NALC has used several techniques to raise money for MDA, including poker, pool, and golf tournaments. In the last fifteen years alone, the NALC has raised over \$20 million for MDA.

This year we will be having our fourth annual Charity Motorcycle Ride. We would greatly appreciate a donation of gift certificates or items to raffle off at this all-day event. You will be helping many families in our area who rely on MDA for assistance. It is our hope that we can improve the quality of life for those individuals served by MDA as well as a hope for a cure. If you would like to participate please contact me at 402-510-9949.

On behalf of MDA and NALC Branch 5, thank you for your support.

Toward a Cure,

Phil Jirka

MDA Poker Run Coordinator

NALC Branch 5

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