

**TOUR DAVITA** was born beneath a night sky in Moab, Utah, as several mountain bikers gathered after a long day in the saddle. Among those bikers was DaVita's Kent Thiry (K.T.), accompanied by several DaVita® teammates. Always searching for meaningful ways to bring the citizens of the Village together — and inspired by the sense of accomplishment he felt in meeting Moab's challenging terrain — K.T. offered a suggestion to his comrades: the Village should come together in a similar outdoor challenge . . . only on a bigger scale . . . and to raise money for a good cause.

So they planned. They prepared. They organized. And they asked members of the Village to join them. Teammates responded, giving of themselves financially and physically to raise money for The Kidney TRUST™, an organization that works to help slow and even prevent the progression of chronic kidney disease (CKD) to kidney failure. More than 200 riders took part in Tour DaVita 2008, giving up their own vacation time and spending their own money for airfare. All to sweat and ache and ride for miles in the Wisconsin countryside and raise money to help others.

That evening at a “fireside chat” in the desert, the seeds of Tour DaVita were sown, and DaVita teammates answered the charge. This book tells their story.