



2015-16 Governor's First Family Project



This year's Ohio Kiwanis First Family Project, the **Amtryke Project**, offers an opportunity to develop a new partnership with another non-profit as well as with our Kiwanis Family, including our Aktion Clubs! This project will address needs in your local community.

"Creating Independence and Mobility for People with Disabilities" is the mission statement for the National Ambucs Organization. Their primary goal is to promote independence by providing therapeutic tricycles, called Amtrykes, to children and adults with disabilities, including Veterans returning home. The

Amtrykes are usually provided free of charge to the individual. The cost of the Amtryke correlates to the specific needs of the recipient and ranges from ~\$400 to \$1500. Greenebucs, our Ohio Partner of Ambucs, maintains an ongoing "wish list" of local individuals who would benefit from an Amtryke. As funds are secured, Amtrykes are purchased, built and distributed.

Candidates for an Amtryke are evaluated by a therapist and fitted to their specific needs. As the child grows, the Amtryke will be adapted or fitted with the next model size.

Amtrykes provide a variety of benefits to the recipient. Active and passive therapies strengthen both upper and lower muscles. Amtrykes also provide a means of mobility for the rider. But the most significant benefit to the individual is the social ability to interact with peers, helping to promote family activities, establish friendships and expand independence for the rider.

For me personally, this is a family project. Mom has served as in numerous leadership positions in Ambucs, Dad builds the Amtrykes, my brother works fundraiser and is a member. As Kiwanians, I hope that you will engage the entire Kiwanis family, as well as your personal family and families in your local community. Be visible in your local community with this project and you will likely recruit new members that want to be part of such an impactful project and our wonderful organization.



Donations can be made through the ODKF.org. Additional information available at: ambucs.org or call Sandy Zimmerman [937-429-3764](tel:937-429-3764) / zimmzimm@sbcglobal.net