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# Notre Dame Science



## DESERT to DOME

Riding for the Lives of Children

**"WE ARE RIDING FOR THE PARSEGHIAN FAMILY, THE CHILDREN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR BATTLE WITH NPC, AND THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STILL FIGHTING FOR A CURE."**



— GREG CRAWFORD, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE





## Fighting for the Lives of Children

University of Notre Dame Dean of the College of Science Greg Crawford and his wife, Renate, bicycled over 2,300 miles from July 24 to August 23, 2010, to raise awareness of the newly strengthened partnership between the University and the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation.

The partnership was formed to support and advance research initiatives to find treatment and cure options for Niemann-Pick Type C (NPC), a rare and deadly neurodegenerative disease that primarily strikes children before or during adolescence.

**“THROUGH THE PARTNERSHIP, WE WILL FUND NOT JUST NOTRE DAME SCIENTISTS LOOKING FOR TREATMENTS AND CURES FOR THIS DISEASE, BUT ALSO YOUNG RESEARCHERS AT OTHER UNIVERSITIES IN ORDER TO FORM NEW PARTNERSHIPS — AND BUILD ON EXISTING ONES — AS WE WORK TOWARD OUR COMMON GOAL OF TACKLING THIS DEVASTATING DISEASE.”**

— GREG CRAWFORD, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

## Raising Awareness and Funds

The Crawfords undertook this symbolic adventure in order to raise awareness about NPC, to demonstrate Notre Dame’s commitment to this new partnership, and to raise funds to find effective treatment options for children affected with NPC.

Along the route, hundreds of alumni and friends of the University welcomed the Crawfords to their towns. Fifteen alumni clubs from Tucson, Arizona to Chicago, Illinois hosted welcome events for the Crawfords. Hundreds of people learned about NPC and Notre Dame’s fight for a cure.

## Fighting to Find a Cure for NPC

Researchers at the University of Notre Dame have targeted Niemann Pick Type C (NPC) since the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation (APMRF) launched a research program in 2003. Research to fight NPC has rapidly developed through the Notre Dame Center for Rare and Neglected Diseases. Notre Dame faculty involved in NPC research include Kasturi Haldar, Crislyn D’Souza-Schorey, Holly Goodson, Kevin Vaughan, Paul Helquist, Olaf Wiest, Malcolm Fraser, Jesus Izaguirre and Matt Champion.

Help us find a cure.

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