



Why Bike & Hike?

This September 13th, COBYS Family Services will host the 30th annual Bike & Hike fundraiser. What is it about this event that it has endured so long?



Strolling in the 1990s.



Bike 10 or 25 miles



Do the Tasty Tour



Walk in Lititz



Be a B&H Pro

Why this event?

Perhaps more accurately, what really is this event? On the surface, we admit there is a degree of quirkiness to it. Show up to walk around Lititz or ride a bike around the surrounding countryside, then go back to where you started and eat ice cream. Repeat annually for 30 years.

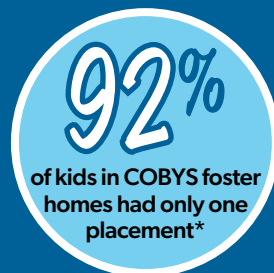
Bike & Hike regulars know it is more than that. First and foremost, participants are supporting the important life-altering work we do together. Church groups, friend groups and families enjoy the fellowship of the COBYS Community, where serving with a servant spirit is the COBYS Difference. There is continuity (tradition) in re-connecting at this event, **and – there's ice cream!**

We believe the Bike & Hike should be a bucket list item for everyone. Who knows, it may become a tradition for you. There is the obvious exercise element in walking or riding, the healthful benefits of fresh air and sunshine, time in lovely Lititz, proximity to the Tree House Playground, **and of course – there's ice cream!**

Fundraising so together, we can ...

The Bike & Hike is critical in filling our funding gaps. These gaps are the difference between what county and state contracts for services pay and what it actually costs to deliver and support services that are provided in ways that honor the decency and humanity of every person.

Our Impact



*The national average is three placements, adding trauma with each move.

COBYS trains foster families to give them the best chance for successful placements, realizing every foster child comes with trauma.



"We wanted to provide love, community and a family for those without these basics that so many of us take for granted."
– Adoptive parent



Join us on Sunday, September 13

We Bike & Hike because we believe each child, adult and family is worthy of care.

Mission Statement

Motivated by Christian faith, COBYS Family Services educates, supports and empowers children and adults to reach their full potential.

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Fostering Hope is the quarterly newsletter of COBYS Family Services, a Christian family service agency, affiliated with the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren.



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A copy of the official registration and financial information of COBYS Family Services may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. (EIN 23-2128881)

Family Traditions: Building Stronger Families, One Memory at a Time

In a world that often feels rushed and constantly changing, family traditions provide invaluable connections, stability and a sense of belonging.

Whether it's gathering around the dinner table, baking favorite seasonal recipes, celebrating birthdays, or simply enjoying a game night, traditions can create lasting memories that help shape family identity.

Family traditions strengthen relationships, improve communication and provide children with a greater sense of security. These meaningful moments become the stories families tell for generations, reminding children that they are part of something larger than themselves.

For many families, however, establishing and maintaining healthy traditions can be challenging. Financial pressures, family transitions, unexpected hardships or parenting struggles can make it difficult to create the consistent, nurturing environment children need to thrive. That's where COBYS Family Services comes alongside families with compassion, guidance and practical support.

The COBYS Community (you and the COBYS staff) is dedicated to helping families build strong foundations. We help them navigate challenges while creating opportunities for growth, healing and connection.

We believe every family deserves the chance to create meaningful memories together.

Whether through financial support, participation in the Bike and Hike (or another event), or simply sharing the mission of COBYS with others, your family traditions can support COBYS and make a lasting difference in the lives of children and families.

Family traditions begin with small moments, but their impact can last a lifetime. Together, we can help ensure more families have the support they need to build those moments into cherished memories for generations to come.

Blessings,
Mike

Where's the envelope?

With the majority of donations now made electronically, and to be the best stewards of our resources we are no longer including a remittance envelope in the newsletter mailings.

If you prefer using remittance envelopes please contact Steve Nichols at steven@cobys.org or 717-685-6580, ext 161, and we will send envelopes to you.



New Family Traditions

COBYS is celebrating with three sibling groups totaling seven children and three families who have finally been given adoption dates for this summer. After months of waiting for court decisions, all these children in foster care since 2022 and 2023 will be taking their next steps towards permanency. With adoption certainly comes double dip feelings, but we are excited for these children and families as they start new family traditions.





Sunday, September 13, 2026

Lititz Church of the Brethren, 300 W. Orange St., Lititz

10 or 25-mile Bicycle Ride 3-mile Walk • 1.5-mile Tasty Tour Walk

Our 30th Year!

Join us in this milestone year celebrating 30 years of tradition, rolling and strolling together!

We cherish the chance to gather with you to celebrate in support of our care. Together we deliver critical services and education across the region with the compassion, dignity and hope everyone deserves.

This level of care does not happen without you!



Kickstart Campaign

Help us Kickstart the fundraising and create a firm foundation for our Bike & Hike event with a donation before anyone puts foot to pedal or pavement.

Visit www.cobys.org/bike-and-hike or Scan the QR code for:



Registration and Kickstart donations, routes, create-your-own-sponsorship page or download form, schedules, Tasty Tour stops and MORE!

Registration Opens July 6, 2026

B&H Schedule

Choose your event, arrive on time and let the fun begin, all the way through to the ice cream celebration.

Registration and the starts of the rides and walks take place in the front of the church (along Orange Street).

25-mile Bicycle Riders:

Registration/Check-in begins..... 12:00 p.m.
Ride begins..... 12:30 p.m.

1 1/2-mile Tasty Tour Walkers:

Check-in begins 12:30 p.m.
Tasty Tour Walk begins 1:00 p.m.

NOTE: Participation in Tasty Tour is pre-order only. The minimum donation/sponsorship is \$60/person. Sign up before August 31.



10-mile Bicycle Riders and 3-mile Walkers:

Registration/Check-in 1:00 p.m.
Ride and Walk begin 1:30 p.m.

Incredible Ice Cream Celebration:

When participants begin to return around 2:45 p.m.
We finish with delicious Fox Meadows vanilla and/or chocolate ice cream and your choice of toppings, served under the pavilion in the back of the church.



Event Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Supporting Sponsors: JB Zimmerman, Keller Bros. Auto, Penway Construction, Sheetz



COBYS Family Services
444 Murry Hill Circle
Lancaster, PA 17601

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A Look Inside

Why Bike & Hike?	1
Message from Mike	2
Bike & Hike Invitation	3



What does COBYS really do?
Watch and learn.

Scan the QR code or visit:
<https://youtu.be/FUE3klyvUVE>



Sunday, September 13, 2026



Join us and bring a friend



Or Here!



Join Us
Here!



Or
Here!



Definitely
Here!



Registration opens July 6, 2026: cobys.org/bike-and-hike
**BONUS: Register by July 27, 2026 to be entered in a drawing
for 2 FREE adult Hershey Park tickets!**

