

## **Frequently Asked Questions for The Bike Men of Flagler County**

**Are there any paid or salary positions in your organization?** No, we are 100% volunteer based; no one is paid any money or compensated for their time.

**Do you pay for your shop space?** No, we are very fortunate to have a generous and gracious landlord. They provided the space, including electricity, free of charge. The 1,000 sq. ft. location is shared with other organizations as well. We estimate we use about 75% of the ground floor space.

**Are you a 501(c)(3) organization following IRS rules and guidelines?** Yes we are. For the first few years we operated under the umbrella of our partner organizations but as we have grown and expanded operations, we felt it was better to establish our own entity.

**How many bikes do you work on a year?** As this can vary, it is +/- but here are the rough annual numbers; 200 bikes for Christmas Come True; 400 bikes a year delivered to half-way house type organizations; 150 bikes a year given to The Sheltering Tree; 200 bikes a year to various other organizations (houses of worship, schools, etc.) in and around Flagler County; 500 bikes repaired with our portable bike shop operation at multiple locations; & 250 bikes repaired at our shop location for walk-ins. – TOTAL approximately 1,700 bikes annually.

**Do you repair all bikes donated to you?** We are able to repair/rebuild about 95% of the bikes that come to us. About 5% may either have serious issues or evidence of being in an accident. We will not put an unsafe bike back on the road unsafe. Those bikes are harvested for good working parts that we use on other bikes for repair. All scraped metal is recycled via a salvage yard and proceeds are used in helping cover the costs for buying new parts and tooling.

**Do you accept all makes of bicycle type equipment for donation?** We will accept all pedal operated bikes, trikes, parts and related items. We do not accept donations or work on any motorized bikes or exercise equipment.

**Do you sell bikes?** Yes we do sell a few. Working on 1,700 bicycles a year requires a lot of tires, tubes, cable, pads, chains, etc. Donations only go so far. In 2019 & 2020 we spent over \$5,000 a year on materials.

**Do you sell parts?** As a rule we do not sell parts.

**Do you accept donations?** Yes, cash or check only, no credit cards directly. We are also listed as a charitable organization on Facebook. We hope to have a donation button added soon to our website to facilitate credit cards.

## **Frequently Asked Questions for The Bike Men of Flagler County**

**Can I mail a donation to your shop address?** No, sorry, we do not receive mail at our shop address. Our organizational mailing address is: The Bike Men of Flagler County, 102 Longview Way North, Palm Coast, FL 32137-4568. However, you are always welcome to stop by, chat and drop off your donation; we'll even give you the 2 cent tour of the facility.

**How many bikes do you typically have on hand?** Another item that varies daily but it is not unusual for us to have 60-80 bikes at the shop and up to another 50 bikes at a storage locations.

**Do you operate year round?** Yes we do. Certain times of the year we operate from another location (Christmas Holiday season for example) as we need additional space to handle the extent of that operation.

**Do you provide bicycle safety helmets?** – We have a number of helmets donated to us and we also participate in the Florida DOT Pedbike safety program in providing and proper fitting of helmets.

**Do you loan bicycle tools?** As a rule, we do not loan tools.

**Why are your hours of operation only in the mornings?** We find it best to work on the bikes outdoors. The morning hours provide us some shade from the building but once the sun reaches about noon we start to cook in the sun. The shop and bike storage portion of the building is not air conditioned. We are looking for another space that would allow us to be more flexible with the hours of operation.

**How do we know when you are at the shop?** On the main page of our website we have an active calendar showing the days we are open and the hours. We also list days when we run the portable shop and the location. We try very hard to maintain this calendar but if in doubt, you can always call or text us to verify we are there. Appointments can be made for other hours by email, text or voice calls.