



Owen's Odyssey

A Hike to End Polio

Owen's Odyssey is A Special Opportunity to Tell YOUR Polio Story

Owen's Odyssey is his Hike to End Polio. It will begin in March of 2021. Rotarian Owen Standley will embark on a hike of the [Appalachian Trail](#) (to be completed in 100 days or less), to raise awareness and funds to eradicate polio through Rotary International.

What does this mean? Within 100 days, Owen will hike from Georgia to Maine (2,190 miles). He has a fundraising goal of \$100,000 for PolioPlus. This is a huge number, as the Gates Foundation, with their two for one match, will turn that into \$300,000.

What can WE do to help?

Owen is asking us, our families and friends to submit personal stories (in video format). He wants to see stories from those who have witnessed polio firsthand. His goal is to show and tell the world, through the personal stories of those affected, why it is so important to eradicate polio. This can be accomplished with a smartphone or simple recording device. He will begin sharing the stories *as soon as possible* as he trains for and builds an audience for his enormous effort.

For social media, short videos are better than long videos (approx. 2 minutes is a good length), but do your best in telling your story. Do not let time hinder your storytelling. Your message is more important. The goal of bringing our stories into this event, is to bring increased awareness for the cause of polio eradication. Owen has a lot of followers on social media, many of whom are not in tune with the realities of this terrible disease. The realities of polio (including the disabling effects of PPS) will help him create a “cause for action” that will increase donations to PolioPlus.

1. Record a video talking about any of the following topics:
 - How you contracted polio?
 - How polio has changed your life?
 - How do you overcome everyday challenges because of polio?
 - Describe participating in a National Immunization Day (if you were able).
 - Why is it important to eradicate this disease?
2. It's easy to record a video:
 - Use your phone, recorder or computer.
 - Email it to owenpstandley@hikeforpolio.org **and** info@papolionetwork.org
 - Save to and send an mp3 or mp4 video file
 - Send a compressed file of your video (if necessary)
 - Post it to your own Facebook/Instagram*
 - Use the hashtag(s) @HikeForPolio and #HikeForPolio

Website: www.hikeforpolio.org “Like” his page: Facebook:
www.facebook.com/HikeForPolio

Send your video as soon as possible. As he goes through training process, we can help him educate people as to WHY this is necessary.

We are going to be featuring your stories on a special new page of our website:
[Survivor Stories – In Our Own Words](#)

Let's join Owen as he embarks on this amazing journey.
We ARE a part of the solution.