

RENEE BRINKERHOFF

WOMAN RACER, PHILANTHROPIST
VALKYRIE RACING/VALKYRIE GIVES

“The tragedy of child trafficking has taken our hearts captive and we are fighting it with everything we have.”

Woman racer and philanthropist, 64-year-old Renee Brinkerhoff, has raced around the world for one cause—to rescue children around the globe from human trafficking. Through her car racing and fundraising arms, Valkyrie Racing/Valkyrie Gives, she is challenging the global community to take part in her \$1mm-dollar mission—a philanthropic effort that coincides with the racing team’s endurance conquest to race on every continent for a total of 20,000 miles in a vintage Porsche 356.

What sets you apart in your industry? Being a competitive woman in an arena typically dominated by men—and winning—allows our voice to be heard, and represent child trafficking victims that cannot speak of the tragedies we hope to remedy.

How does your background bring a unique perspective to your work? As a young child, I lived in Southeast Asia during Cold War unrest and riot, and in my teens, Laos amid the Vietnam War. These experiences gave me a resilience and understanding of other cultures—and a spirit to fight for what is right.

Tell us about your passion for what you do. I believe we are given three things in life; our time, talent, and resources. When you are passionate about something, you can’t help but want to bring all three to that purpose. In everything we do, rally racing and fighting child trafficking, we put everything on the line.

Tell us about your philanthropic efforts. The tragedy of child trafficking has taken our hearts captive and we are fighting it with everything we have. We use our unique voice to raise awareness and funds to help the lives of the most vulnerable. Additionally, we put our lives on the front lines to go undercover to gather intelligence to arrest those who are selling children.

Are there exciting upcoming projects you can share? Our final continent to complete is scheduled for next winter in Antarctica—it will be our most difficult and dangerous challenge—356 miles on ice—with a momentous finale on the blue ice runway at Union Glacier, when the skis and tracks are replaced with tires, to set a land speed record.

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