THE LEAD LINE

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VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR Lindsey Ferrara volunteer@hope-springs.org

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service. We are a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations and the PA Council on Therapeutic Horsemanship.

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HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!!

A message from our President, Sandy Hansen:

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy means different things to different people:

- For our riders, it is a familiar place where they can come, demonstrate their ABILITIES, and be able to do something their friends and family members cannot do.
- For our instructors and staff, Hope Springs provides the ability to give back, to demonstrate their passion and ability to help students by teaching them new skills and unlocking their potential.
- Our volunteers find the Hope Springs experience to be satisfying where they can give back to others, learn new skills too, and help create the team atmosphere which is so important to our program.
- The Board members contribute their time, talent and treasure to make sure Hope Springs not only survives, but thrives.

Together we are one big family fulfilling the mission of Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy which is to enhance the quality of life of individuals with cognitive, physical, emotional or behavioral disabilities by providing them with affordable therapeutic horseback riding of the highest possible quality, in a warm, safe and familiar environment.

Please give serious thought to what Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy means to you and consider making a gift of any amount.

We are so grateful for your support!

A message from our Executive Director, Jeannie Knowlton:

Happy Fall! The past four months have been a whirlwind of activity. We moved to a new facility! The horses have all started to settle in and realize this is their new home. All our stalls are in one area which is a great time saver for the staff and students and the horses get to be together which they love! The facilities are lovely with a large indoor space and an outside ring a short walk from the barn, almost like a mini trail ride. We built a new ramp with lumber donated by the Knowlton family. It is located in the indoor arena out of the weather.





We share the facility with another business so our students get to see other horses and riders. It is similar to what they had seen at the other facility. This is a great visual for some of our students to see what they can achieve. As always, we say "door" and stop before entering the ring to alert anyone in there that we are entering.

The horses are getting their long winter coats so they will be warm this winter. Riders, please be sure to dress appropriately for the weather too!

IMPORTANT DATES

November 18:

Holiday Camp CLOSED for Thanksgiving break November 23-25:

November 28: GIVING TUESDAY

December 18-Jan 2: CLOSED for Winter break

December 27,28,29: Holiday Camp January 3: Reopen

Please visit http://hope-springs.org/giving-tuesday/ and support today!

HORSE TAILS

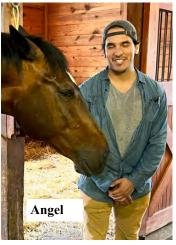
Volunteers led the way to a very successful September fundraiser, "Celebrate Hope," a family-oriented event at the Montgomery School. Kudos to all who helped! Please see our article on the next page with fundraiser details and photos!

New HSET volunteers have joined the team: Angel Ramos, Darian Abraham, Kim Callahan, and Madeline White. Welcome aboard!

Melanie McCartney, a long-time instructor, has been honored by the PA 4Horse Program as Volunteer of the Month for October 2023. Congrats to Miss Melanie!







PARENT PERSPECTIVE

How can I ever express the joy you have given to me and my family for the gift to my grandson, Cain, of a full scholarship for weekly lessons at Hope Springs.

I have no words to express my thanks to you and the Board. Cain loves it there. When I told his mother, Dawn, she started sobbing. She had to tell Cain they were Happy Tears. Hope Springs transforms Cain. He is confident, unafraid, and seems to connect to the horses and the horses to him. With weekly lessons I have the hope of improved strength, confidence, expressing himself more, and Cain taking charge over Hamilton. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You...





Thea started horseback riding at the age of 7 to supplement her physical therapy. During the first few years we saw significant improvements in her posture and balance but what we didn't expect was all the other wonderful outcomes: socialization, appreciation and a love for animals, enhanced communication and listening skills, a hobby, and a place she can be herself. Hope Springs has been an amazing part of her life for the past 16 years and we are so thankful for the continued love, support, and belonging she receives. As Thea says every Tuesday "horseback riding yay, yay, yay!!!" - her mom, Sonya

CELEBRATE HOPE FUNDRAISER A BIG SUCCESS

Celebrate Hope 2023 was a delightful, fun-filled evening at the Montgomery School. The kids had fun playing Jenga, Ladder Golf, and Corn Hole, not to mention the Face Painter who was a big hit! Thank you to Revival Pizza and Al Pastor who provided the majority of the food which was appreciated and greatly valued. The multitude of donated items for the raffle and silent auction sparked fun and memorable moments for all involved!

It was so nice to see our students, friends, and families and meet so many new friends who came out to support us! We are honored to recognize our awesome group of volunteers, sponsors, and donors who worked tirelessly donating their time and talents to organize this fundraiser.

Fundraisers and donations are critical to sustaining the mission of Hope Springs. The generosity of our supporters ensures that we can continue to provide the highest quality of therapeutic horseback riding and to make a difference for every individual in our shared community. We are so grateful for your support!



HOPE SPRINGS ON 6ABC TV

Among the many wonderful things our fundraiser committee members did was a press release which was sent to many local newspapers, journals, and TV stations. Their fine work caught the attention of 6 ABC.

On August 30, reporter Matteo Iadonisi came to the barn to film a segment on Hope Springs focusing on the foundation of our organization and how we provide the highest quality of therapeutic horseback riding. Front and center of this segment was our 7-year-old rider Emma C. demonstrating her skills riding Hamilton. Interviews with Emma's mother Samantha, instructor Dallas Knowlton and Executive Director Jeannie Knowlton were also featured. And, of course, it was a great opportunity to promote our fundraiser! We were delighted to learn that this segment would air during Labor Day weekend – not once, but twice – during Prime Time!!

https://6abc.com/philly-proud-hope-springs-equestrian-therapy-farm/13725266/



CONTRIBUTE THROUGH AN IRA

Did you know you may be able to make donations to Hope Springs directly from your IRA? If you are looking for a way to make a powerful impact on the lives of individuals with disabilities and help further our mission, please consider donating to Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy through your IRA. The process is easy!! This is a great way to support our riders and our therapeutic horseback riding programs.

Individuals age 70 ½ or older can donate all, or a portion of their Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) directly to charity. It's called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). RMDs can sometimes push retirees into a higher tax bracket. With a Qualified Charitable Distribution, funds are sent directly from an IRA financial institution to the charity. This allows the donor to exclude the amount from taxable income. Here's how it works:

- ♦ The retirement account owner must be age 70 ½ or older
- ♦ You may donate any amount up to \$100,000 per year per account holder
- Donations must be sent directly from your IRA financial institution to Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy
- ♦ Most types of IRA's qualify: traditional IRA, rollover IRA, inherited IRA and inactive SEP IRAs Please contact your IRA Plan Administrator directly to begin the process.

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy recommends you seek the guidance of a professional advisor to assist you in making an informed decision.

PLEASE SUPPORT HOPE SPRINGS TODAY!

The mission of Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy is to enhance the quality of life of individuals with cognitive, physical, emotional or behavioral disabilities by providing them with affordable therapeutic horseback riding and associated special education of the highest possible quality, in a warm, safe and familiar environment.

With your help, we can provide life-enriching experiences to even more adults and children. Please donate using the enclosed envelope or give online at www.hope-springs.org.

PHOTO GALLERY



To see other great photos follow Hope Springs on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/HopeSpringsOrg
No login is necessary and photos are posted almost daily!

We offer therapeutic horseback riding, horse camps for kids and a sibling ride program! Since 1997, Hope Springs has served thousands of children, youth and adults with physical, mental, developmental, social and behavioral disabilities. Our approach to equestrian therapy is rider-centered, with each receiving individualized attention, instruction, and therapy. Between January and September 2023, we delivered 653 lessons of equestrian therapy to 35 individuals.

OUR THANKS TO THESE FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Allerton Foundation
Connelly Foundation
Gordon Charter Foundation
Hansen Family Charitable Fund
Harriet G Fredericks Foundation
Independence Foundation
Laura J. Niles Foundation
Mill Spring Foundation

Mutual Fire Foundation Phoenixville Community Health Foundation Quaker City Foundation Schiel Family Foundation Schrenk Family Foundation Stoner Waters Family Foundation



Thank you for reading and have a great Holiday Season!!