



# Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

August 2022

## Miracle's thanks the American Legion of Iowa Foundation for their support

Deb Leichsening and Lois James were so pleased to join Foundation president, David Rehbein, at the Solon American Legion Stinocher Post #460 on July 30<sup>th</sup> for a check presentation. Miracles is pleased to have the Foundation sponsoring our Fall Adaptive Riding classes. Our thanks to Henry Rios for making us feel so welcome. The post is very active in the community and sponsors an annual golf tournament to support the Foundation. Check out their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stinocher460/> for more information about their activities.



## Miracles Moment from Melody Kloubec



I grew up on a farm just outside of Amana and passed by Miracles in Motion almost every single day. After years of seeing the sign, I finally decided to look up what it was all about. I wish I had done it sooner! I've loved horses for as long as I can remember and I'm majoring in psychology so it's a perfect match. I hope to work in therapy or mental health once I graduate and it's been super cool to see what kind of an effect horses can have in that field. I'd really like to see the use of horses in therapy become a more common practice and I'd love to play a part in that!

There are so many things that I enjoy about being a volunteer at Miracles. Working in classes is such an amazing experience. To see the confidence that being on a horse gives these kids is one of the coolest things ever and it never fails to make me smile. I've also been doing what they call "chores" every Saturday for almost a year and I still don't think chores is a fitting term. I look forward to working with the horses at the end of every week, but I can't say the same about doing my laundry! Saturday chores is what I've come to consider my own therapy and I'm so grateful to have been able to get to know these incredible horses, students, and other volunteers who share my interest.

## Thanks to James Investment Group

for sponsoring the Miracle's newsletter. Check out their website at <https://www.raymondjames.com/jamesinvestmentgroup>



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## From the Desk of the Director of Operations – Deb Leichsenring:

Each month our volunteer coordinator Maggie reaches out to a volunteer and submits a piece for the newsletter that is called, Volunteer Spotlight or Miracles Moment. In many of these articles, the same words resound, “I get more from Miracles that I give to Miracles”. Our volunteers give so much to Miracles; they are the backbone of this center. Miracle’s volunteers log over 1200 hours each month.

Every day at Miracles I see examples of all that Miracles gives to those volunteering and working here. We learn from our herd, students, volunteers, donors and visitors. I see the Miracles’ mission embodied in classes and in the barn. Today was another reminder of heartwarming Miracle’s moments. I am grateful we have this center and the ability for groups to come for a visit.

This morning’s group to give me more than I felt I gave to them was part of Goodwill of the Heartland’s Day Hab group from Cedar Rapids. Danielle Fee organized bringing the group out to Miracles and I was touched by their heartwarming conversation and moments of delight. You could tell this group took time to look at our website as they asked specific questions about the herd and about Miracles. You could also tell they enjoyed having the ability to get close to a horse, pet a horse, see horses in our pastures and learn about the mission of Miracles.

These bighearted individuals handed me a donation that they collected. What an unselfish act.

In case you were wondering Goodwill of the Heartland helps by providing training to job placement. They have a variety of services that help find jobs for people who struggle with a wide range of personal barriers.

It was another great day at Miracles! For more information visit our website: [www.miraclesinmotion.com](http://www.miraclesinmotion.com)



### Aussie welcomes Collins Community Credit Union to Miracles

Aussie is always interested in what’s going on and he took it upon himself to make sure that Kim Harford and Jordan Anderson felt welcome at the Miracles arena, particularly because they brought a check! Collins employees donate monthly to Kettle for a Cause and then pick a charity each month to benefit from their donations. Miracles was so fortunate to be chosen as the June charity! Kim and Jordan brought out the check, were given a tour and met a couple of our therapy horses, Aussie included. “So happy we were able to donate to Miracles” Kim said. Jordan seconded her sentiments and added “Your organization is wonderful and clearly does a lot of good. We were happy to get to come on site and learn first-hand (about Miracles).”



Save the date for Boo at the Barn

October 15, 2022



Brett invites you to check out his costume in this year's Horse Parade at Boo at the Barn! October 15th



### Last Session of the Season for Adaptive Riding

It is hard to believe that we will be having the last session of the season, Fall 1 starting the week of September 25 and ending October 29. The Adaptive Riding Classes are Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday morning.

This has been a transformative season for our riders. We will miss having the students at the center but it is a much needed rest for the volunteers and the herd.

For more information call, 319.857.4141 or email [miraclesinmotion@gmail.com](mailto:miraclesinmotion@gmail.com)

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