



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

April 2023

Carrie Drum's Miracles Moment



My daughter and I started volunteering at Miracles in Motion and found dedicated volunteers and a nurturing farm to learn more about horses. I was inspired and it led me to get my certification as a riding instructor for therapeutic riding. I owe so much to those at Miracles in Motion who encouraged me and gave their time to help me with the hours of practice, supervised teaching in classes and creating videos to submit to achieve my certification. I would not have been successful without the fantastic help. I am forever dedicated.

Miracles in Motion is a place to grow and learn not only for the participants in classes but also for those who sign up to volunteer. Miracles in Motion gives me balance in my life between family and work. It is a life-long memory I will share with my daughter.

From the Director's Desk

At Miracles our mission is to foster personal achievements by providing diverse equestrian activities with therapeutic, educational and recreational benefits for persons with disabilities or complex medical conditions. They may need assistance in developing the kinds of everyday skills that allow them to function more independently at home, school or work. Miracles has been providing these activities for 35 years!

Miracles offers Adaptive Riding classes that focus on building strength and confidence for riders with social, motor or other developmental challenges. Our therapy horses love to hear the riders say, "Walk On"! To sign up for our classes go to our website: miraclesinmotion.com or email miraclesinmotion@gmail.com.

—Deb Leichsenring



New Leader Manufacturing Supports Miracles

Last month representatives from local sponsor New Leader Manufacturing came out to the farm to tour our facilities and make a generous donation to Miracles in Motion.

We are so grateful for their support of Miracles and their history of giving back to the community in Eastern Iowa through their charitable giving fund "Spreading Good" and philanthropy program, 380.

Remembering Zip



On Sunday March 26th, we bid farewell to our Zip. Zip was a beloved member of Miracles herd; a patient and gentle spirit that championed Miracles' mission and served countless students through the years in both Adaptive Riding and Hippotherapy.

Zip came to Miracles in summer of 2019 donated by Abbi, Randy and Elizabeth Shumaker. The Miracles community fell in love with his sweet eyes, beautiful white coat and peaceful presence. When he was diagnosed in 2020 with equine protozoal myeloencephalitis (EPM) and we were told not to get our hopes up for keeping him, our director Deb knew she had to find a way. Deb, Nancy Fisher and Jennifer Miller dedicated themselves to his recovery, along with Nick, our property manager, who

gave Zip medication three times a day. With their help, diligent rehabilitation and time, Zip recovered.

Deb and Nancy adopted Zip, but they weren't the only ones. Lucky, our charismatic miniature paint, adopted Zip as his best friend and pasture partner. The two spent their free time together enjoying the farm, sharing a hay bale and being completely adored by all of our volunteers and riders. Deb remembers the duo so fondly, "I loved looking out in the pasture. There was our big white horse glistening in the sun with his miniature pony by his side, Lucky. Such an odd but perfect couple." Students gravitated to Zip. Not only was he a gentle giant, he had love in his eyes and a patient temperament. Volunteers learned to care for our

herd with Zip because of his tolerance. It was often said he was a unicorn who lost his horn, so for our horse parades we'd give him the full unicorn treatment.



We feel deeply for the loss of our beloved Zip, but if there is any comfort, it is that he's found a place with all the Miracles horses who came before him. So many lives have been touched by Zip's kind, gentle nature. As Nancy Fisher said, "He showed me how being at Miracles can bring out the best in each of us." He holds a place in all of our hearts and will live on with the legacy he's left behind.



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Farmers State Bank Sponsors the Miracles in Motion website and newsletter for 2023