



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

May 2023

Georgia Saddoris' Miracles Moment



I'm an intern with Kirkwood's Workplace Learning Connection program where they line up internships and job shadows for high school students from Linn County. Interning at Miracles has brought me much joy these last few weeks. Working with horses and doing chores has given me a lot of knowledge that I'm grateful to have. Coming into class each week to sidewalk has been a great joy of mine. Seeing the progress the kids make each week is so cool, from just sitting up in their saddle or holding the reins to even just talking. Every little thing is such a joy to see.

Grow with Miracles: The Next InSTALLment! June 3rd

If you have been to the farm lately, things look a bit different--the garage and shelter in the pasture north of the barn are gone, and lots and lots of dirt is in their place. This is all in preparation for a new stable! Construction will begin in late 2023 (after the season is over), and the project will hopefully be completed before the 2024 spring sessions start. We are having a kickoff celebration to open our campaign **Grow with Miracles: The Next InSTALLment** to the public at the farm on **June 3rd from 5 to 8 p.m.** Please join us at what we hope will be a fun (and fundraising) event "unveiling" our plans. There will be a demo Adaptive Riding class, food and drink, entertainment, and speakers on the history of Miracles and the impact that Miracles has had on the family of one of our riders. The theme is country western, so dress comfortably for walking around the farm, cowboy hat optional.

Please RSVP by email to Tess at MakeMiraclesIA@gmail.com by **May 20th**.

If you know someone who might be interested in helping financially with this project or would like to know more, please contact Director of Operations Deb Leichsenring miraclsinmotion@gmail.com; our new Director of Income Development Tess Bracher-Dorrington MakeMiraclesIA@gmail.com; or Lois James loisjames@gmail.com.



KCRG spotlights Miracles rider

Ben Anderson has been coming to Miracles in Motion for nearly two decades--most of his twenty-two years! KCRG-TV9 visited Miracles for the April 30 Show You Care spotlight, featuring Ben during his riding lesson with PATH Instructor Diana Harris. Reporter Mollie Swayne also interviewed Ben's father, Eric Anderson, about how riding at Miracles has changed Ben's life. Ben's family is also involved: Eric as well as Ben's sister Katherine are volunteers at Miracles. For the video:

<https://www.kcrg.com/video/2023/05/01/show-you-care-miracles-motion-helps-people-with-disabilities-expand-their-horizons/>



From the Director's Desk



In the past month we have had three work groups come out to Miracles in Motion: Crystal Group, Inc. (left), the Johnson County 4-H Horse and Pony Club (right), and the International Student Exchange Chapter of Eastern Iowa. I cannot describe how grateful we are when these groups spend all or part of a day at Miracles. No matter what length of time the groups are here, they make an impact. Managing a therapeutic equestrian center and 77-acre farm takes many hands and a lot of time. These groups provide a service beyond expectations. It always amazes me the dedication they bring when they are here. Many of the tasks or jobs are not easy, but these groups make it fun. What is great is you hear the groups talking, see them smiling and laughing. Some of the Miracles volunteers and staff come out on those days to join in. If you have a work group that would like to donate time at Miracles in Motion for a morning or afternoon just email: miraclesinmotion@gmail.com

—Deb Leichsenring

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