



# Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

June 2024



## Patti Hamilton's Miracles Moment

This is my second year at Miracles. I can truly say that my life has been enriched by our determined riders, their supportive families, our gentle horses, caring fellow volunteers, and very capable, thoughtful instructors. What an amazing place!

My best childhood memories are of the time I spent with my pony Misty. He was kept at my grandparents' farm, a short distance from my home. One night he escaped the pasture and I awoke to find him magically waiting for me in our front yard. It is heartwarming to see the riders at Miracles experience the magic of a horse.

## From The *Director's Desk*

WRITTEN BY DEB LEICHSENRING



Summer is here! School is out and everyone is into their summer activities and plans. I see summer as a time of gentle breezes and ambient light. Here at Miracles it brings happiness, optimism, and warmth—some days excessive warmth! A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, beautiful cumulus clouds look like cotton balls in the sky, a light breeze is blowing. The days are longer and the sun shines brighter, which brings a sense of vitality.

All of this helps us get so much done at Miracles. We just started our second session of Adaptive Riding classes. Some

days, when it is too warm to ride in Adaptive Riding, we do ground work with the riders and our horses. Our Hippotherapy will be wrapping up with ChildServe /Coralville and they will be back in the fall. UIHC Stead Family Children's Hospital CDD will be starting their summer Hippotherapy session next week.

For the new barn project, it has been a long wait to come to a finish. We are not there yet, but we are getting closer. I cannot wait for everyone to come and see this incredible addition to Miracles. Mark your calendars for an Open House on July 20, 2-3:30 p.m. at Miracles to see it in person! So many people had a part in making this happen—from donors, to contractors, to volunteers, to the staff. I cannot be more appreciative to everyone involved.

What is your favorite part of summer?

Miracles in Motion

OPEN HOUSE

07/20/2024  
2:00PM - 3:30PM

COME TOUR THE NEW  
MIRACLES STABLES

2049 120th St NW  
Swisher, Iowa 52338

REFRESHMENTS - TOURS - ACTIVITIES

[www.miraclesinmotion.com](http://www.miraclesinmotion.com)



## Thanks to Hills Bank for Generous Support

Hills Bank employees Claire Murphy, Patty Hanshe, and Dean Stockman visited the farm last month for a tour and to present Miracles with a check for their sponsorship of our Stables! They are so supportive of our work and our mission, and we are so incredibly grateful for the support Hills Bank has given us over the years. *"Giving back allows you to connect with people from diverse backgrounds and build lasting relationships. It creates a strong social fabric where individuals support one another, leading to a healthier and more vibrant community."* — Hills Bank on the importance of giving back

## American Legion & Auxiliary Visit Miracles

In May, we had a special visit from the national president of the American Legion Auxiliary. Lisa Williamson, the national president, Mary Sypherd, the Iowa Auxiliary president, two veterans from the American Legion and a group of other members from the Auxiliary came to Miracles in Motion to tour the property and learn more about our mission and our MVECS (Military Veterans Equine Care Squad) program. We spent the afternoon discussing the benefits of equine-assisted therapeutic services and enjoying the gorgeous weather at the farm. We are so excited to be one of Mary Sypherd's focus initiatives during her term as Iowa Department President, and we are so grateful for the history of support and community-building we have shared with the American Legion and the Auxiliary!



## GreenState Credit Union Sponsorship

As we complete construction on our stables and look ahead to sharing the culmination of all the hard work, support, and generosity provided during this project, we are excited to be hosting an Open House on July 20 to celebrate with our community who made all this possible! A necessary piece of hosting this event are event sponsors, and we received a generous contribution from GreenState Credit Union. We are proud to announce GreenState Credit Union as a lead sponsor for this event!

Farmers State Bank is sponsoring  
the Miracles in Motion website  
and newsletter for 2024



## Congratulations to ChildServe!

ChildServe has completed a major expansion, doubling the size of their Iowa City/Coralville location! At their May open house, Diana Harris, a Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor at Miracles, tried out one of their innovative pieces of equipment, an anti-gravity treadmill. It is just one of the specialized pieces of equipment to serve children with special healthcare needs. ChildServe is one of Miracles' hippotherapy partners. Hippotherapy takes place at the Miracles farm, using Miracles horses to facilitate a physical, occupational, or speech therapy session.

