



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

August 2024

Miracles Moment

Miracles' summer interns from the Kirkwood Workplace Learning Connection Program



Audrina Graber Volunteering at Miracles has impacted me with the people and the environment. Everyone is super welcoming and always willing to help out. The students are a joy to be around and they can always brighten up my day. I have learned so much useful information from so many different people.



Rachel Johnson (above) I have loved my time at Miracles because everyone looks out for each other. Getting to connect with new and returning people each week has allowed me to learn so much about others and their backgrounds. Volunteering here has also given me a great opportunity to learn more about horses and their impact on people's lives. I have known horses are truly amazing creatures, but each week this fact becomes even more prevalent when I see the interactions between the horses and riders.

Kaili Soot (right) Miracles has been so much fun. I love all the people and the horses who are all super nice. Being at Miracles has given me a lot of new horse knowledge and how to work with all sorts of people. It's also helped me narrow down what I want to do when I'm older. I can't wait until next summer!

From The *Director's Desk*

WRITTEN BY DEB LEICHSENRING

For Miracles over the past few weeks, moving into the barn complex has let us allow each building to serve its intended use. We all feel like we can breathe and not be in each other's way. For that we are grateful.

We have wrapped up two of our Adaptive Riding classes and our hippotherapy sessions for summer. Soon we will moving into the Fall Session. For us the joy of providing these sessions is hearing from either the parents, caregivers, therapists or instructors the progress that is made. That progress might be small, but to these riders it is significant. The key is mainly how the rider and their horse connect. Horses have that unique ability to understand their rider.

This Fall, Miracles will be having classes and functions six days a week. That is about what we can handle with the instructors and volunteers that we have. The herd would be ready to be in class even more, as they love the riders—and the end of class when the riders give the horses their treats!

Boo At The Barn will be Saturday, October 19! More to come about that! Just wanted to make sure that you mark your calendars! Enjoy your time with your families—school will be starting soon.

Open House Celebrates Busse Barn



Miracles in Motion held an Open House on July 20, 2024 to celebrate the Next INSTALLment and allow guests to tour the beautiful new Busse Barn complex. During the open house, several horses from the herd showed how comfortable and spacious the new stalls are, and the Donor Board in the Clubhouse and stall signs acknowledged donors' generosity. There was a ribbon cutting at the entrance to the Clubhouse by Deb Leichsenring with members of the Miracles Board. Event sponsors were GreenState Credit Union and Warehouse Auto.

Thank you to everyone who supported the barn project with time and/or talents— we couldn't have done it without you!



KCRG Features Hippotherapy at Miracles

KCRG-TV in Cedar Rapids recently featured Miracles' hippotherapy program in "Miracles in Motion gives therapy option for those with special needs." The segment shows Miracles rider Grayson Bahn, age 5, on horseback during a therapy session and includes an interview with Grayson's mother Raina about changes she has seen from the therapy, and comments from Miracles Director of Operations Deb Leichsenring. <https://www.kcrg.com/2024/07/29/miracles-motion-gives-therapy-option-those-with-special-needs/>

Miracles in Motion gives therapy option for those with special needs



Hawkeye Chapter of ATD Visits Miracles

The Hawkeye Chapter of the Association for Talent Development held their July meeting "roadshow" style at the pavilion at Miracles in Motion. Lois James gave a presentation on the inspiring work of Miracles in Motion and about team-building workgroup opportunities for teams and organizations of all sizes. Diana Harris spoke to the group about the art of crafting lesson plans for equestrian therapy sessions and measuring outcomes. Gale Mote shared insights on team-building techniques. ATD's mission is to empower professionals to develop talent in the workplace, including work-related competence, higher performance, and professional growth, through learning and networking opportunities.



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