



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

May 2025

Miracles Moment

Helen Business

I have lived in the area for nearly 20 years now, married a local, and raised two fantastic kids who are now grown. My daughter Madeleine lives in Minneapolis and my son Luke is a sophomore at Luther. I work full-time in the Legal/Compliance department at Liberty Mutual Insurance (fully remote), and with my kids mostly grown, a demanding/stressful job, I was looking for my next adventure. When considering what to do as an empty nester, I recalled driving past Miracles in Motion many times and looked up what the organization was all about. Growing up in New Jersey, I rode horses for many years and took lessons, and it was something that brought me much peace, joy, friendships (both equine and human), and confidence. I thought I'd really enjoy helping Miracles in any small way I could to bring this feeling to others. I contacted Megan, and the rest is now history. I went to my first volunteer training just over a year ago, and I have never left.

I volunteer as much as I can both because it's so rewarding to see the riders' faces light up when they conquer their fears, learn a new skill, or bond with the wonderful horses at Miracles, and because the people at Miracles are some of the kindest, most talented, dedicated, welcoming and fun people I've ever met. Although my work schedule makes it challenging to do as much as I'd like, the time I spend at Miracles brings me something magical each time I walk onto the property. To say that Miracles gives me more than I give it is an understatement—I will be forever grateful to the organization, its people, the riders, their families, and of course, the handsome horses who have truly stolen my heart.



Saddle Up for Scholarships!

Equine-assisted therapy is a powerful tool of equity and inclusion. Miracles in Motion has never denied a client on the basis of financial need. This is only possible due to your support of our scholarship program.



Meet a rider who's overcome many challenges and who benefited from Miracles' scholarship program by following this link:

<https://miraclesinmotion.networkforgood.com/projects/251098-saddle-up-creating-scholarships-for-therapeutic-riding>

Alisha's story is an inspiring example of what's possible when children with special healthcare needs receive the right support, and it all starts with the generosity of our community.

The majority of organized recreational activities are restricted or are inaccessible to people with disabilities. This is increasingly an issue to our region as activities or facilities that are accessible are not available locally--or if they are, they can be financially prohibitive. Adaptive recreation is a necessity for our area as a tool of empowerment and inclusion. A full scholarship for 8 weeks of riding totals \$400. Every dollar donated makes a difference. With your help, we can continue offering financial accessibility with our scholarship program.

From The *Director's Desk*

WRITTEN BY DEB LEICHSENRING

Last week, for the United Way Day of Caring, companies choose nonprofits and come out for a day to help the nonprofit with various tasks. Miracles was fortunate to have hard-working employees from four companies come out on four separate days. The companies were Nordstrom, Principal Finance, Crystal Group, and Transamerica. Combined, these companies logged over 170 hours volunteering out at Miracles.

The tasks were not light work: anything from building fences, painting fences, placing wood from the old barn into the new barn complex, to adhering parking stops, eradicating invasive weeds in the pastures, and much more. Days like these mean so much to Miracles and keep this center looking exceptional.

There is incredible kindness from the employees of these companies; asking what else is needed, enjoying each other's company while completing a task. No task was too much. Thank you to each and every one who donated their time, and to these companies that know that every hour makes a difference.



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