



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

December 2025



Miracles Moment: Janet Teahen

After my mom passed away in December 2023, I knew that I needed something positive to fill my time after years of being by her side. I was having dinner with a friend who had previously volunteered at Miracles in Motion, however, had to step away due to their MS diagnosis. My friend shared their love of the students and horses, and I knew immediately that was where I wanted to focus some of my free time.

The mental and physical reward that I received the very first time stepping foot in the barn/arena to volunteer at Miracles is indescribable. The facility and the entire Miracles staff is welcoming and brings joy to all those who ride or volunteer. After a long day of work, I look forward to volunteering as a side-walker or a horse lead to melt the day's stress away. To see the smiles on the riders' faces and watch how the horses interact with their rider is by far the highlight of my day. I am so thankful to Miracles in Motion for being there for me!



Join Us for Cocoa, Cookies & Carols on December 13

It's December which means Cocoa, Cookies, & Carols is right around the corner! Join us for a holly jolly good time filled with yummy goodies, festive horses, and carols to sing! I heard a rumor Santa Claus may even be making an appearance! There will be stockings for all the horses on their stalls, they would love treats and gifts!

We want to thank our sponsors for making this magical event possible, Warehouse Auto and Kava House & Cafe! Be sure to check them out next time you are in Swisher. See you on December 13th at 1:00!

From The Director's Desk

BY DEB LEICHSENRING

Mother Nature decided this year we would not ease into winter! Most of us woke up to 11+ inches of snow the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The scenery here is stunning when all is snow-covered, but in reality it is extra work for all of us. Our property manager worked diligently to keep paths and driveways cleared, checking on horse waterers, and so much more. Our volunteers came to help with chores, for which we are so grateful.

Our **End of Year Campaign** runs through **December 31**. Your donations will help Miracles keep our herd healthy, prepare for (continued)

From the Director's Desk *(continued)*

our programs in 2026, and keep up with the needs of a 77-acre farm. You can donate by going to our website, miraclesinmotion.com. Or you can send a check to: Miracles in Motion, 2029 120th St. NW Swisher, IA 52338

We also have a special event this month, **Cocoa, Cookies & Carols on Saturday, December 13 from 1:00-2:30**. Santa will be here and the barn will be decorated. Our horses will have their holiday best on. Indulge in cookies that the volunteers have made and a cup of cocoa. The herd will have their stockings out. If you would like to add a holiday gift, our horses like carrots, apples, horse treats, and gift cards from Tractor Supply, Theisen's or Fleet and Farm. Hope to see you on the 13th!

To all of you--friends, donors, sponsors, volunteers--thank you for helping Miracles stride forward to make a difference each and every year. We will start our 38th season next year, and it is because of you that we can continue to provide diverse equestrian activities. Enjoy this holiday season with your friends and family and see you in 2026!



Nora Loves Rainbows! -- Update

While she's riding her horse at Miracles, Nora's smile lights up the arena, like the rainbows she loves light up the sky! Nora was born with several challenging genetic conditions causing her to lack core strength, balance, and confidence. From Hippotherapy to Adaptive Riding sessions, it's plain to see how comfortable and confident Nora has become on the back of her horse.

Nora's Dad says, "Nora lights up with horses, she's infatuated with them, and points out every horse she sees!"

Nora's Mom says, "When Nora started riding at Miracles, her motor skills came online too. She was able to verbalize what she wanted a lot better, and her talking became clearer. Adaptive Riding has helped with her confidence in all areas!"

Looking ahead for Nora, her Dad says, "it appears she'll probably have a life-long battle with confidence." Miracles provides a place for Nora to build her confidence. One of the things Nora's parents love about Miracles is it's a place where Nora can just enjoy being a kid on the back of a horse.

You can help Nora and make a difference in her life and others like her by making a donation today! **We are pleased to announce that the first \$40,000 of donations to Miracles "Nora Loves Rainbows" campaign will be matched!** We currently have \$24,543.00 toward our \$40,000 goal! Please help us take full advantage of doubling your impact!

For more about Nora's success story please visit <https://miraclesinmotion.networkforgood.com/projects/261504-nora-loves-rainbows>

Emma Clemen Joins Miracles Board



Emma Clemen recently joined the Miracles in Motion Board and serves as a Treasury Management Relationship Manager at Hills Bank, where she helps businesses optimize cash flow and strengthen financial operations. Growing up on a cow-calf operation in Southeast Iowa instilled in her a strong work ethic and deep appreciation for community values. Now living in Fairfax, Emma is passionate about giving back and is especially excited about opportunities to support the work that Miracles provides for children, helping to inspire and support the next generation. Her blend of financial expertise and commitment to community engagement makes her a valuable contributor to the board's mission.



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Miracles in Motion Therapeutic Equestrian Center 2049 120th Street, NW Swisher, IA 52338
319-857-4141 (office) www.miraclesinmotion.com