



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

June 2026



From The Director's Desk

WRITTEN BY DEB LEICHSENRING

Our May 30th event to conclude Mental Health Month was a resounding success. So many elements came together perfectly, and the outcome could not have been better. It was such a pleasure seeing so many familiar and new faces.

We had wonderful contributions from our speakers: Hallie, one of our riders, shared her journey, and Diana, one of our instructors, explained how the herd interacts with our participants. Eli Alger, lead singer and founder of the band The Faster Horses, provided incredible entertainment, and Sophie Grace, influencer and Emmy Award-winning actress, joined us as well. Both Eli and Sophie are ambassadors for Horses for Mental Health (HMH), the nonprofit organization that helped Miracles organize this event. We appreciate them sharing their experiences as ambassadors and give special thanks to Horses for Mental Health for providing Miracles the materials and tracking to keep the event engaging for entire month of May.

An event of this scale requires immense preparation. The Miracles Event and Fundraising Committees truly outdid themselves. We are also grateful to our property manager, Neal, for working tirelessly to ensure the grounds looked their best. The Events Committee and Neal transformed the property into a perfect venue, and we were fortunate to have wonderful weather. Our herd were perfect gentlemen while welcoming guests, and the food from Graze was excellent. Thank you to Megan, volunteer coordinator and photographer, for capturing the day so beautifully. You can view her photos on the Miracles in Motion Facebook page. This event would not have been possible without the enthusiastic volunteers who stepped in to help. Finally, thank you to our staff, the Miracles ambassadors led by Kristy who secured our sponsors, and our incredible donors. We could not do what we do without each of you. Together, we created an event that people will be talking about for a long time.



Thank you

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Fareway Stores Round Up to Support Miracles in Motion

This past month, for our Horses for Mental Health campaign, four Fareway Stores came together to raise more awareness for Miracles during Mental Health Awareness Month! Please thank them the next time you shop at the North Liberty, Hiawatha, Marion, and the SE side of Cedar Rapids Fareway Store locations!



In 2 weeks, through their round up at the register program, they helped raise over \$3,200! Thank you to the stores who created this opportunity for us, and thank you to everyone who chose to support Miracles at the register! It's because of your generosity that we can keep moving Miracles forward!

Thank you, Spring Session Volunteers



Dear Volunteers,

Thank you for making our spring session a HUGE success. We were lucky enough to have wonderful weather and in turn amazing accomplishments of our riders. Our participants made so many strides and connections with their horses, side walkers, horse leaders, and instructors. We owe every "walk-on" to all the incredible support you provided for our classes. Our barn assistants and team leads behind the scenes kept our classes rolling and ensured every horse was ready to make Miracles. I hope each of you know what a difference you made for each of our participants. I am so proud of every Miracle you made happen, we appreciate you and all your support.

See you this summer!

Megan Conrad, Volunteer Coordinator

Sydney Parker presents on her internship at Miracles

As part of her internship experience, Sydney Parker gave a presentation to other interns and company representatives. It was my pleasure to attend.

When asked what insights her time at Miracles gave her, Sydney responded that she had never been around horses so having an internship at Miracles meant going out of her comfort zone. She is so glad she did as she discovered a passion for working with horses and those with special needs!

Miracles also certainly gained from the relationship! Her project was to update the pasture board in the barn. A large map of the Miracles property is used to indicate which pasture each horse is in. It's important for all the volunteers to know where to return a horse after chores or classes. Some need to be in a "dry lot" with little grass as they tend to overeat. Not all horses get along and no horse wants to be alone. The current board relies on duct taping the horses' name in each pasture. The new and improved version will be on a white board and use magnetic tiles with the horses' name on them.

We hope Sydney continues to spend time with us at Miracles!

—Lois James



Miracles t-shirts, hats, available at our online store!

Summer is coming! Shop the Miracles online store to stock up on t-shirts, hats, water bottles, and more! Ship your items directly to your house or we can pick them up and have them at Miracles for you. Check out all the store has to offer here:

<https://community.agprintonline.com/category/Miracles-in-Motion>



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