



TRIPLE H EQUITHERAPY CENTER

Horses Helping the Handicapped, Inc.

791 Backhaus Road . Pipe Creek, TX 78063 . 830.510.9515

hhdream@aol.com . www.triplehequitherapy.com

2008 Annual Report

Horses Helping the Handicapped Inc. (d.b.a. Triple H Equitherapy Center) provides a wide range of equine assisted activities and therapy for children, youth, and adults who face physical, emotional, or social challenges.

Equine centered physical and psychological therapy programs, experiential learning curricula, and opportunities to nurture acceptable social behaviors are offered year-round. Service-to-community experiences and life skills training situations are presented for at-risk youth from residential facilities, juvenile probation offices, and local community programs.

Most recently, existing programs have been adjusted to serve disabled veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mission

The mission of Triple H Equitherapy Center is to provide disabled people of all ages with nationally accredited equine assisted activities and therapy in a safe Hill Country environment.

Vision

The vision of Triple H Equitherapy is to be the provider of choice as a world class therapeutic equine activities center for those with disabilities in order to significantly improve their quality of life.

Goals

In order to fulfill our vision, we must achieve an overarching goal of achieving national recognition as a unique NARHA Premier Center known for its highly effective programs.

- Develop an involved Board of Directors dedicated to the success of Triple H, hire a full-time professional staff, and nurture a cadre of highly qualified volunteers
- Upgrade the herd of therapeutic horses with young, capable and well trained horses
- Increase the capacity of the facilities to serve 300 clients on a year-round basis
- Create a management environment that effectively and efficiently supports the daily operations of Triple H
- Build a sustainable financial base and expand outreach beyond the Hill Country



"The Hooves, Hearts & Heroes program has been wonderful for my grandson. He is now using words well to communicate and can identify shapes, animals and colors on a regular basis." T. Calbat

Our Equine-assisted Programs and the People We Serve

Triple H has five basic equine assisted therapy programs and three special projects. Programs are designed to address specific types of disabilities:

1. **Riding to Independence** Using therapeutic riding (mounted) activities, RTI focuses on children and adults with disabilities who are referred by personal physicians, physical, occupational and speech therapists or who progress from other Triple H programs.
2. **Way of Equus** is an equine assisted psychotherapy program consisting of ground (dismounted) activities that promote emotional growth and psychological well being.
3. **Hooves, Hearts and Heroes** is a school-based, experiential learning program that is offered in collaboration with Special Education Departments in local school districts.
4. **From Fear to Responsibility** incorporates equine assisted mental health curriculum for "at risk" children and youth from nearby communities and residential facilities for troubled and abused children.
5. **Wheels of Freedom** provides cart and carriage driving opportunities for individuals with special needs that preclude riding or walking along side a horse.

Triple H special projects blend the benefits of these programs to serve more diverse needs of differing groups of clients:

1. **COLTS – Children's Opportunities for Leadership Training and Service** involves able-bodied youth in serving others by directly assisting participants in the above programs and by performing tasks in caring for horses.
2. **Open the Gate** encourages individuals who are succeeding in one program to either advance to a higher level within that program or to progress to another program. This opportunity is especially valuable as skills and self-confidence grow, allowing every participant to reach their full potential.
3. **Horses for Heroes** offers disabled war veterans customized therapy sessions combining appropriate elements of the five programs to address physical, mental, and emotional trauma.



"I think one of the reasons that therapeutic riding helps is because horses are so non-judgmental; they lend confidence to people who are uncertain about themselves."

A. Ramos, Volunteer

2008 Highlights in Review

- Major program funders included: Methodist Healthcare Ministries, Kronkosky Foundation, Stevens Foundation, Meadows Foundation, Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country, Anderson Foundation and United Way of Kendall County.
- Our "Horses for Heroes" project provided equine assisted therapy to a growing number of recently disabled Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans from Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio.
- Methodist Health Ministries opened doors to area at-risk youth through our new "Open the Gate" project.
- Our first Hooves, Hearts & Heroes Benefit Dinner raised nearly \$13,000.
- Our first Wild West FunFest fundraiser attracted more than 1,000 attendees and raised \$3,700 .
- Our 9th Annual Trail Ride & Scavenger Hunt raised nearly \$3,000.
- Three additional staff members were added: Peggy Kraus, Administrative Assistant; Dorothy Duff-Browning, Horse Care Specialist and Kate Reyes, Instructor.
- Our Adult Volunteer of the Year, John Fink MD, joined the Board of Directors.
- Our 2008 annual budget doubled from 2007, totaling \$349,000.
- The Ranch at the Rim, River Rock Event Center in Fair Oaks Ranch & The Coffee Group helped raise funds.
- We continued collaboration with Boerne and Bandera ISDs and increased collaboration with Meadowland, a Roy Maas Youth Alternatives Center, serving at risk children year-round rather than just in the summer.
- The bunkhouse offices were completed by the Air Force 690th Alteration and Installation Squadron.
- The American Quarter Horse Association included Triple H in filming and photographs for their foundation.
- Triple H achieved 100% compliance with NARHA certification requirements after a complete audit.
- Lisa Gaines and Jeremy Robbins received special recognition for riding with us over 10 years.



"We need community based programs for our youth more now than ever and Triple H provides meaningful therapy that is hard to find in our rural setting. I have observed improved self esteem, trust, increased responsibility and respect with the youth involved." S. Welsh, Bandera County Juvenile Probation

Working Together to Serve Disabled People of All Ages

Since 1995, a growing number of people with disabilities have found healing with the help of specially trained equines in our beautiful Texas Hill Country setting. A professional staff, led by their Board of Directors and assisted by trained volunteers, serves clients primarily from Bandera, Bexar, Kendall, Medina and Kerr counties.

In 2008, Triple H provided **2,093 hours** of Equitherapy to **185 individual program participants** during **1,275 visits** with the help of more than **270 volunteers** and **21 amazing horses**.

2008 Triple H Staff

2008 Board of Directors

Cliff Hall, President
 Kent Harbaugh, MA, Med,
 Vice President
 Penny Bombardier, Secretary
 Jesse Griffin, CPA, Treasurer
 John Fink, MD
 Roberta J. Jones, MD
 Jana Robbins, DVM
 Larry Saenz

Advisory Board

Kathleen Bachus, JD
 Joe Cantu
 Jim Falbo, MED
 Kim James, CPA
 Elizabeth McRae, MD
 Larry Parish
 Melinda Rodriguez, PT, DPT
 Sladen Summers

Richard Doshier	Executive Director
Roberta Jones, MD	Medical Director
Janie Perritt, LPC	Counselor
Jeanette Tappe, LPC	Counselor
Alma Aguirre	Development Director
Kathy Harbaugh	Head Instructor
Joe Mike Johnson	Ranch Manager Riding & Driving Instructor
Cay Russ	Program Coordinator
Peggy Kraus	Administrative Assistant
Mathew Trotter	Veterans Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator
Beth Weaver	Instructor
Vicki James	Instructor
Kyla Nelson	Instructor
Kate Reyes	Instructor
Dorothy Duff-Browning	Horse Care Specialist

2008 Profit and Loss Summary

Income	
Foundations	189,630.58
Corporations	15,915.25
Individual Contributions	53,396.69
Lesson Fees	21,213.76
Fundraisers	28,078.20
In-Kind	57,346.41
Total Income	\$365,580.89
Expenses	
Personnel (Administrative)	30,397.32
Personnel (Program)	186,929.54
Professional Fees	5,085.85
Staff Training	9,541.37
Horses (Feeding & Care)	53,364.31
Development/Fundraising	29,904.42
Equipment	7,026.39
Facility Costs	7,448.91
Operating Costs (including Program)	20,223.59
Total Expenses	\$349,921.70
Net Income	\$15,659.19



2008 Program Participation

Horses

Horses for Active Duty 21

Volunteers

Volunteers Registered 271

New Volunteers Trained 126

Community Outreach

Friends & Donors Mailing List 1,345

Program Participants Total **185**



Hours of Service Provided

Group Riding (HHH-Special Ed) 606

Group Ranch Hand Volunteers 87

Group From Fear to Responsibility 472

Riding to Independence 643

Driving Program 38

Horses for Heroes 14

Way of Equus 232.5

Total **2,092.5**