



Growing to Serve Capital Campaign

COMPASSION. EMPOWERMENT. PURPOSE. COURAGE.

That's what we see every day at Whispering Meadows Ranch. We see children as young as four years old bravely climb up on a 1,000-pound creature and do their best to do better and be better. We see veterans healing relationships and building trust through teamwork with the intuitive, gentle horse. We see people of all ages finding purpose and connection as they battle the effects of trauma and stress through relationships with our horses. And we see hundreds of volunteers selflessly giving their time with deep compassion as they help lift and guide the individuals we serve every day.

People find their way to Whispering Meadows Ranch through various paths - referrals from doctors, therapists, parents, caregivers, and community professionals. Often, they come to us after other therapies have failed. Our dedicated staff of PATH Int'l certified instructors, equine specialists, and community mental health counselors work collaboratively to assess individual capabilities, goals, and dreams. We enable individuals to regain their abilities, confront fears, and achieve higher goals.

The authentic connection between a rider and a horse imparts invaluable life skills for individuals of all abilities. Our commitment is to ensure these life-changing activities are accessible to all who need them.

THE WMR IMPACT

15

Years of Operation

65

Weekly Riders

2,300+

Hours of Lessons per Year

Programs

THERAPEUTIC RIDING

Therapeutic riding uses equine-assisted activities and riding to improve the cognitive, physical, emotional, and social wellbeing of people with a wide range of disabilities and medical conditions. Horses move in a three-dimensional gait, similar to that of humans. By working with individuals who suffer from the effects of profound physical disabilities, physicians have found that the complex act of riding a horse—versus more static office-based therapies—produces improvements in balance, circulation, and strength that cannot be achieved by other therapeutic means. Additionally, for children and adults with ADHD, anxiety, autism, and other cognitive and developmental challenges, connecting with and riding a horse brings increased self-control, focus, and improved verbal and non-verbal communication.



SUMMER CAMP

Whispering Meadows Summer Horse Camp offers a safe and integrated horse experience for children ages 6-10 with and without disabilities. Participants are grouped according to age, riding experience, and needs, to ensure that everyone has an unforgettable horse experience at Summer Camp.

EQUINE SERVICES FOR HEROES

Hearts Therapeutic Equestrian Center honors U.S. veterans by offering the Equine Services for Heroes Program. Following PATH guidelines, the program offers veterans the ability to build camaraderie, be of service to fellow veterans and the community, and experience a challenging physical activity. The program also helps veterans address symptoms of PTSD and work to re-assimilate into civilian life. In addition to group-determined activities, Hearts provides group riding and trail-riding classes, which encourage self-care, care of another being and the crucial sense of belonging to a group of supportive peers who understand the challenges that veterans face.



EQUINE FACILITATED LEARNING

The emergence of powerful new therapeutic modalities—Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL)—led to the creation of the HorsePower program, which provides at-risk youth with positive, therapeutic learning experiences through unmounted work with horses under the guidance of a trained therapist. Hearts conducts HorsePower programs for at-risk youth in conjunction with CALM and Girls, Inc., of Greater Santa Barbara. Additionally, Hearts recently launched HorsePower for Trauma Recovery, which is designed to alleviate the trauma experienced by First Responders, their families, and individuals who were impacted by the January 9, 2018 debris flow. Participants learn to develop decision-making and problem-solving skills, creative and critical thinking, communication and interpersonal skills, self-awareness and empathy, and all-important coping skills.

Goals & Budget

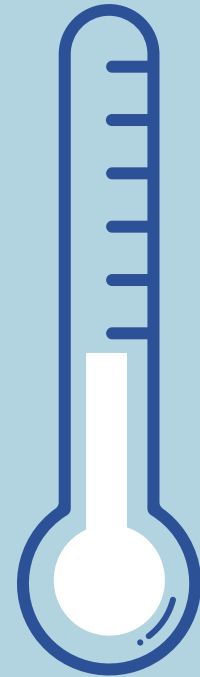
THE GROWING TO SERVE CAMPAIGN WILL ALLOW WMR TO:

- Redesign a 1500 square foot **Education & Community facility** for therapy participants, families, and surrounding communities - a space for educational programs, social interaction, and access to resources.
- **Provide access to more individuals** who need therapeutic services, ensuring a welcoming and inclusive place for students and families to be involved, accepted, and supported.
- **Provide accessible community rooms** and administrative areas to support our professional work such as student rider evaluations and therapeutic plans.
- **Construct a barn enclosure** which will allow for year-round programming. This consistency is critical to our students' mental, physical and emotional health.

DIRECT PROJECT COSTS (\$2,500,000)

New construction & Redesign

- Administrative Offices & Learning Center (existing home)
- Large Covered Arena
- Horse paddocks & large turnout
- General conditions/building permits
- Site grading/surfacing/utilities
- Architecture & engineering
- General contractor
- Agricultural Building Farm for Farm Animals & Garden
- Site Plan
- Revegetation
- Relocating Hay Barn, Tack Shed & Round Pen



INDIRECT PROJECT COSTS (\$555,000)

- Capital Campaign Costs (brochures, tours, additional staff, consultants)
- Pledge shrinkage allowance
- Operating offset

**WE COULDN'T SERVE OUR MISSION
WITHOUT YOUR GENEROUS** *support.*

Thank You!

FIND WAYS TO GIVE AT WHISPERINGMEADOWSRANCH.ORG