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Find us on Facebook for updates over the winter and keep up with the ranch news all year. You don't have to be a member to read over our page, so enter the link today for a visit. If you are a member, "Like" us to get up to date information!

Majestic Hills Ranch for Children & Military Veterans



www.facebook.com/ MajesticHillsRanch

Winter 2018

2018 Review in Pictures!

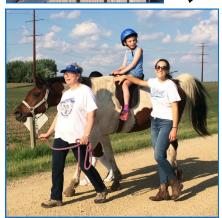






















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Children's Program

Teaching Assistants

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Majestic Hills Ranch is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit that serves riders in the seven county region around Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN. MHR does not discriminate against anyone, rider or volunteer, due to race, religion, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, or political beliefs. Riders need to meet program criteria and have a physician's order.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

- ♦ Thanks to the generosity of Ms. Kim Howard, multiple donations to Majestic Hills Ranch were given for the building of a brand new indoor arena and our 21 year dream is a reality. Come the new year we will no longer have to cancel classes due to inclement weather conditions, we will have twenty new boarding stalls, we will be able to provide equine assisted therapies year-round and we will have a wonderful lounge and office, to name but a few of the highlights the new arena adds to our organization.
- ♦ For months, thanks to efforts of our Board Vice President, Mike Evers, along with Kris Zieska and Larry Johnson, a "Strategic Plan" for 2019-2023 was developed to be utilized in an all-out effort to raise large funds for the future of Majestic Hills Ranch's expansion and growth. Our goal is to be able to provide and expand our existing programs, implement new programs, and make Majestic Hills Ranch Foundation the best Equine Assisted Therapy and Activity ranch in our geographic location for years to come and continue to help those that need our assistance.
- We welcomed a new Board Member, Mr. Jeff Johnson in December. Jeff has been volunteering in the Children's Program for several years and we are excited to have him join the board. Jeff is a small business owner, has been involved in his community; done fundraising for the JC's, President of his Church Council and involved with the Sibley PTA. Jeff has already come up with some exciting fundraising ideas for 2019 and we can't wait. Welcome aboard Jeff; it's our pleasure to have you part of the Majestic Hills Ranch's team!

2019 PROGRAM GOALS

- ♦ We will begin the year with a small "pilot" program of a winter riding class. Even though the arena is still under a little construction (we are working on a mounting ramp / hydraulic lift area), we are going to offer classes for the youth riding program beginning in January and going through the middle of March. This 6 week session will give us an idea of concerns that will need to be address before offering winter classes in the future.
- Over the past few years we have had many questions about the age range of our Children's program and in the fall of 2019 we look to break down those barriers. We will hopefully (depending on staff availability) be opening classes to adults as well as children so we will offer our services to all ages. We have been working towards this over the past few years, so we will offer our services to all ages starting at 4 years of age.
- We are looking to hire a seasonal instructor to help with both programs. With another PATH certified instructor, we should be able to offer the same amount of service or even more throughout the year.
- We are hoping to add another 2-3 horses to our program this year. We have welcomed Billy and Khan this winter, and they will be slowly worked into both programs once they have passed all of our testing. We are looking for another to add to help Princess and Marshall.

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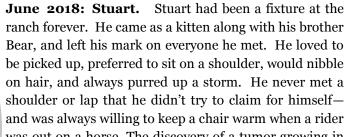
LOSSES IN 2018

In 2018, we had several losses—some expected and others were a shock.

We mourn them all and miss them greatly.

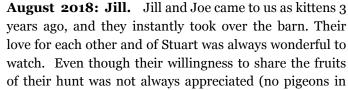
June 2018: Gus. Gus came to MHR in 2011 when I took on the Program Director position. He had worked for 14 years at We Can Ride (where I met and feel in love with him) and he found his forever home with me when he retired. He spent several years as my trusty trail buddy, and when we arrived at MHR I asked him if he would mind lending a helping hoof—and he agreed! He had his quirks (going and standing in the middle when he thought class should be finished) and always preferred going on a trail ride down the driveway more than anything—but he did love the adoration of his riders. He coliced before a Tuesday night class and was euthanized

among loving family and friends.



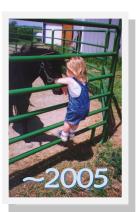
was out on a horse. The discovery of a tumor growing in his mouth last spring made us realize how long he had ruled at the ranch. His last months were full of love and attention by all

attention by all.



the arena, Joe!) they loved brief attention and lots of admiration. We believe Jill was hit by a car on the driveway, and she is buried near Judy in the pasture. Joe is still missing his sister.

November 2018: Majestic. Majestic was one of the first animals on the ranch, and was named for it. He arrived as a rescue with a broken hind leg—which was repaired with the assistance of the University of Minnesota. While the leg was never up for any sort of weight bearing, he was able to run around his paddock and the arena with the other ponies. He enjoyed a long and happy life, much longer than he was estimated to live. This year he was estimated to be about 35 years old and while we tried to get more weight onto him through out the summer, it was determined by our veterinarian that his medical concerns were making his quality of life very poor. To keep him from pain, he was gently euthanized late in 2018.













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2018 FUNDRAISING



With the sun shining and the breeze slightly blowing, we once again had a fantastic event at Canterbury Park with our Day at the Races IV. We thank our returning sponsors of the Lakeville Lions club, TASC, Stiles Financial Services, Frauenshuh Commercial Real Estate, and Kim Howard (who sponsored We welcomed Western Bank and Loeffler many tables.) Construction & Consulting as new sponsors—thank you for joining us!

The food was excellent and there was plenty to go around—and we once again had a large and diverse silent auction. There was items for all interests, including picnics, escape rooms, coffee, and wearables. We thank everyone that came out to join us at this incredible event!





Our Sponsors:













VONHANSON'S BRAT STAND

We had fantastic weather, tasty Brats and hot dogs, and lots of WONDERFUL volunteers that came out to help us with this fundraiser. Thanks go out to all of those that not only helped with the stand, but that came out and ate with us. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2019!



GIVE TO THE MAX DAY

Thank you all so much for your generosity!

Matching Grant:

Laura Peterson Carol Meagher Kris Zieska Michael Evers

Allen, Katie Angen, Sheri K Arp, Jeanne Bachmeier, Kim Benson, Vicki Berglund, Lisa A Carter, Mary M Cierzan, John Clounch, Diane L Enfield, Judy Enger, Michelle Harden, Heather Haws, Jeanine Johnson, Larry R Kane, Luann

Lang, Kevin Q Larson, John W. Lenz, Hugh Nakashima, Dawn Newburg, Danica Palo, Elizabeth Popovich, Susan Rasmussen, Sherry Rodlund, Kimberly Rouse, Ann L Shanks, John Stroth, Patricia Uttenhove, Gav Wallin, Patti Weis, Deann Zahratka, Randi Zieska, Kristin

Donations:

Barron, Joan Camba Gallagher, Jennifer Karan, Sarah



We want to extend our sincere thanks to all the volunteers that helped make the evening a wonderful experience for all. Our appreciation is also extended to the sponsors at the event; Kim Howard, Financial Services, Loeffler Construction Consulting, and Frauenshuh Commercial Real Estate.

DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY 3...

on October 27, 2018 was a huge success! Elvis (Anthony Shore) and his 9 piece band

rocked the roof off the VFW Bloomington. With over 100 guests, a great dinner,

silent auction, and great music that everyone danced to, the event was able to bring

in over \$10,000.00 for the Heroes on Horseback Program at Majestic Hills Ranch.



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TORO DONATES WORKMAN MDX-D to MHR

A grant request was written and Toro responded. This Workman MDX-D Diesel Utility Vehicle will certainly come in handy and will be used to perform a wide variety of chores; to maintain our riding trails, hauling dirt to fill holes and divots so as not to injure people or horses, haul tools to trim branches and debris out of the riding path, pull trailer to help collect and remove branches and to pull drag to help smooth and groom the paths where our participants ride for their equine-assisted therapies and activities. We can't thank Toro enough for a wonderful donation that will make our chores easier and will help keep everyone at Majestic Hills Ranch safer.



WELCOME INVERNESS & FIREBALL OF LEXLIN GYPSY RANCH

Over the past five years, LexLin Gypsy Ranch has donated purebred registered Gypsy Vanner horses to programs that offer Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies throughout the United States. In this, their final year, over 58 horses were donated—and we received 2 of them! Inverness (we called Nessie) arrived in the beginning of May, with Fireball (now called Lil' Red) arriving almost 1 month later. This breed, known for their stout build, ability to pull gypsy caravans, docile temperaments, and friendliness, have excelled at working with all levels of riders. We are looking forward to seeing how our 2 develop and when we can add them to the program.





OUR DREAM, MADE INTO REALITY, THANKS TO **KIM HOWARD**

Throughout the 2018 riding season, our riders and volunteers watched as our 20 year dream of having an indoor arena slowly became a reality. Loeffler Construction and Consulting took on the daunting task of creating us an arena that could stable horses and be used year round—both for our program and boarders. With the hard work of Jen and Erik Espinoza, the arena is becoming a beautiful showplace that honors the memory of a beautiful young lady, Kim's granddaughter Jackie.



















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THANK YOU TO THE 2018 VOLUNTEERS!

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the over 200 volunteers that helped out with the programs, events, pilot program, horses, and ranch maintenance this year. We especially want to thank our instructors, teaching assistants, and barn aide for they are also volunteering their time: Brenda Steinhauer, Gay Uttenhove, Jackie Buie, Laura Peterson, & Sue Anderson. They put in many hours preparing, teaching, and assisting with the Children's Program, Heroes on Horseback, and the Horse Sense Psychotherapy Program. (I tried to get everyone's names listed below—but if you helped out at the ranch this year and you are not on the list, it is entirely my fault and I apologize. Your help was greatly appreciated and we certainly welcomed it!)

CHILDREN'S **PROGRAM**

Algren, Sue Allen, Katie Anderson, Sue Anderson, Theresa Angen, Shelby Angen, Sheri Arp, Jeanne Bartsch, Kristen Bechel, Penny Beckmann, Emily Berglund, Lisa Boeser, Barbara Brabbit, Allie Brachio, Lily Brooks, Toni Brown, Becky Brunes, Susan Bruns / Basara?, Gina Bueltel, Anne Buie, Jackie Caspers, Michelle Christenson, Allison Clounch, Diane Duffy, Caitlin Duffy, Kate Engstrom, Darlene Espinoza, Jen Flannery, Liz Fornstahl, Abbey Furlong, Adria Gandrud, Ellen Gomez Mallol, Ester

Grayden, Kellie Grove, Lisa Hall, Dawn Hansen, Kristine Hansen, Sydney Harriss, Katherine Hartley, Tom Haws, Jeanine Heaney, Elizabeth Hohmann, Kenna Hughes, Margaret Jacobson, Stacey Jakel, Kha Joens, Beth Johnson, Ashlea Johnson, Jeff Karan, Sarah Konopa, Krista Kriedberg, Carly Larson, Rachel Ledinsky, Emily Leppert, Kelsey Mady, Alicia Mathews, Elizabeth Mathews, Wendy Matter, Nicole Meagher, Carol Metwaly, Lisa Metzger, Dana Migletz, Lisa Morrow, Katie Newberg, Danica Nordaune, Kim O'Connor, Stephanie Olander, Alyson

Olander, Elsie Partington, Emily Peterson, Carol Peterson, Laura Polome, Annie Ring, Sarah Rodriguez, Rob Sadlowski, Faith Shanks, Chris Shanks, John Smith, Mary Smith, Paul Spencer, Jarod Staelgraeve, Jules Steinhauer, Brenda Steinhauer, Kaitlin Straquadine, Nora Svendsen, Robin Theis, Rachel Tushie, Londa Uttenhove, Gay Velasquez, Michelle Vidmar, Allison Vidmar, Jessica Weber, Lisa Wold, Bonnie Zelles, Lizzy Zieska, Kris Zieska, Rick Zimmermann, Ellie

Thanks also to Parents. PCAs. & Therapists that were willing to step in and help when needed!

HEROES ON HORSEBACK

Anderson, Sue Bjerke, Steve Bjerke, Vicki Childers, Jaquelyn Crocker, Jillian Engeman, Bill Espinoza, Jen Evans, Stacy Green, Forrest Goleman, Olivia Hoppis, Shirley Jordan, Stephanie Lohrmann, Heather McCarthy, Cindy McMahon, Caitlin Pfarr, Katherine Reinke, Madison Rhone, Cindy Rhone, Scott Rogozinski, "Rogo" Sather, Melissa Sievda, Bill Steinessan-Klehr, Alison Steinhauer, Brenda Stover, Pattie Tate, Cory



Thanks also to all of the Staff and the ladies from the MCF/SHK Challenge Incarceration Program. They worked incredibly hard on Thursdays & other additional project days

Thanks also go out to the following groups that have helped at the ranch or with program projects:

- Lakeville Area Public Schools Community Education Department
- Students from the Senior class at Visitation School



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Thank You to Our Supporters!

Foundation Grants

Boesner Family Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation Bobby & Steve's Auto World Youth Foundation Canterbury Park Holding Corporation Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation Casev Albert T. O'Neil Foundation Granite Foundation, Timothy F. Madden Hansen Family Foundation

Hulse Family Fund Grant J. Elmer & Esther Hansman Charitable Trust Krumholz Foundation, The Lillian Wright & C. Emil Berglund Foundation Margaret H. and James E. Kelley Foundation, Inc Menasha Corporation Foundation Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative, Operation Round Up PGN Foundation

Organizations

American Legion Post #57, Chaska American Legion Post #225, Forest Lake American Legion Post #47, Hastings American Legion Post #45, New Prague American Legion Post #643, Savage American Legion Post #98, St. Paul Park Blue Star Mothers of America, Chapter 13, Buffalo Forrest G James Marine Corps League Girl Scout Troop 20029—Jessica Seurer Girl Scout Troop 27414—Cassandra Reimers Lakeville Lions Military Officers Assn of America (MCMOAA) Medal of Honor Twin Cities, Lakeville Pets Loyal 2 Vets

Prior Lake-Savage Optimist Club Tee It Up for the Troops (Oak Marsh) Tee It Up for the Troops (Mendakota) VFW Post #6316, Blaine VFW Post #129, Bloomington VFW Post #3915, Brooklyn Park VFW Post #217, Columbia Heights VFW Post #8752, Cottage Grove VFW Post #494, Crystal VFW Post #6690, Mendota Heights VFW Post #246, Minneapolis VFW Post #11543, Osseo VFW Post #6208, Prior Lake VFW, Post #1782, White Bear Lake VFW Post #5727, Zumbrota Windy Ridge Riders Horse Club

Corporation Donations

ABC Companies, Inc. Alt-Kie Computer Consultants, Inc. Ameriprise Canterbury Park Holding Corporation Dakota Electric Association Frauenshuh Commercial Real Estate Opal Services, Inc. Palos Pediatric Dentistry/Dr. Facko Sahara Sands, Inc. Stiles Financial Services, Inc. TASC Western National Insurance

In Kind donations

Angen, Sheri Buie, Jackie& Pat Caspers, Michelle Espinoza, Erik Espinoza, Jen Home Depot, Shakopee Howard, Karen (Kim)

KD Performance Horses LexLin Gypsy Vanners Miller, Lynda Tate. Cvnthia Toro Giving Program Zieska, Kris & Rick

In Kind donations (Silent Auction Items for our Events)

Apple Valley Eye Clinic ARTISTRY of Bloomington Center for the Arts Augustine's Bar and Bakery Baglio, Bob, WW Livestock Systems Bauman, Dorothea & Gil Blue Plate Restaurant Co. Brave New Workshop Breadsmith Caspers, Michelle Commonweal Theatre Company Costco, Burnsville Costco, Maple Grove Costco, Eden Prairie Cub Foods, Chanhassen Culler, Scott D'Brian's Kitchen & Catering, Bloomington Droolin' Moose, Bloomington Edina Plastic Surgery, Skin Artisans at Edina El Loro Mexican Grill, Bloomington Emagine Theatres, Lakeville Escape MSP, St. Paul Estill, Susan Fat Lorenzo's, Bloomington Fly Over America, MOA Grand Casino Hinckley Grand Slam, Burnsville Green Mill Restaurants and Bar,

Lakeville Gryskiewicz Twin Cities Cosmetic Surgery, P.A. Hair Shoppe on Lyndale/Cindy Haskell's, Minneapolis Howard, Karen (Kim) **Insight Brewing**

Joe Sensor's Restaurant & Sports Theater Johnson, Larry R Kerfoot Canopy Tour, Henderson Kouanechao, Minny

Kwik Trip, Farmington Latocki, Virginia (Ginny)

Lauer, Nicole Dr./HealthSource of Lakeville Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants Target, Andover

Landmark Theatres Loeffler, Austin Lucky's 13 Pub, Bloomington Mall of America

M&E Engineering, Inc. Massage Envy, Southtown

Bloomington Medina Entertainment Center Meister, Jim/Building Assets Minneapolis Marriott City Center Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Mixed Blood Theatre

Mystic Lake Casino Hotel Nothing Bundt Cakes, Eagan Nothing Bundt Cakes,

Eden Prairie Nothing Bundt Cakes, Maple Grove

Porterhouse Steak & Seafood Radisson Blue Mall of America Red Lobster, Bloomington Red's Savoy Pizza, Edina Roca Restaurants

Sam's Club, Shakopee Schuler Shoes, Maple Grove Seven Clans Casinos,

Thief River Falls Stages Theatre Company Starbucks, Southtown, Bloomington Starbucks, W 98th, Bloomington Starbucks, Burnsville Starbucks, Edina Starbucks, Lakeville Stiles, Susan; Stiles Financial Services, Inc. St. Paul Saints Baseball Club 212 Restaurant Group dba

Porter Creek Hardwood Grill

Target, Apple Valley (Cedar Ave.) Target, Apple Valley

(Pilot Knob Road)

Target, Blaine Target, Bloomington (W. 79th St.)

Target, Brooklyn Center Target, Burnsville Target, Champlin

Target, Coon Rapids Target, Cottage Grove

Target, Crystal

Target, Eagan Target, Edina

Target, Minneapolis (Dinkytown) Target, Plymouth

Target, Saint Paul (Suburban Ave.)

Target, Shakopee Target, West St. Paul

The Cheesecake Factory

The Olive Grove, Mendota Heights

Thunhorst, Kris Trader Joe's, Bloomington

Turtle's Bar & Grill, Inc.

Turner, Kim

Valley Natural Foods, Burnsville Wendt, Steve/Metro Hair Design Wuollet Baker, Inc., Minneapolis

Individual Donors

Anonymous Ardolf, Angela Bueltel, Anne Facko, Dr. Richard Fanska, Joe & Shawna Forsyth, Mitchell Fossum, Kari Green, Forrest Howard, Karen (Kim) Hulse, Daniel Jans, Michelle Johnson, Larry R Johnson, Steven Joseph, Sonia & Jerin Kane, Luann & John Kauffman, Karla H Klaus, Charlene

Lang, Kevin & Amy Lehrmann, Heather Peterson, Mary Beth & Mark Popovich, Sue & Mike Rouse, Ann Sanger, Karen & Steve Sather, Melissa Schulz, Douglas A. Schoenbauer, Carol Wehrs, Debbie Weis, Chad & Family Zahratka, Randi & Nicholas Zhorela, Mike Zieska, Kris & Rick

In Memory of...

Michael Reiser

Anderson, Clinton & Helena Anderson, Gary & Denice Baukol, Peder & Pat Buie, Pat & Jackie Charlsen, Bill & Carol Clough, Barry & Audrey Cote, Peter & Eunice Jacobson, Ronald & Mary Jean Johnson, Larry R Legacie, Dr. Larry & Mary Reiser, Dwayne & Margaret Reiser, Nadine M. Reiser, Shari Wallin, Patti J. Winselman, Stephen & Jean Zieska, Kris

(There were many more who donated but a single check was written if cash was given and sent to MHR. We apologize if your name is not listed)

Gus

Bechel, Penny Zieska, Kris & Rick

Employer / Business Matched Donations

Ameriprise Financial Apple, Inc. Avago BCBS

Charlene Klaus Erik Biornard Daniel Hulse Anne Beutel

Prime Therapeutics Target United Health Group

Gay Uttenhove Anonymous William Engeman Page 8 Ranch Ramblins

Wish List for 2019

At Majestic Hills Ranch, we are so thankful for the gifts that have been given to our program over the past years. We are still trying to expand our programs, add different services, and increase the beauty and functionality of our ranch. With that in mind, we are looking for the following help:

- Part time experienced PATH certified instructor (paid position) to assist with teaching both HOH Veteran's and Children's classes throughout the year.
- Someone to help with volunteer recruitment and training (volunteer position for now) as we grow in size, we need to have some help in acquiring new community volunteers to assist with both programs.
- Someone to help with fundraising events (volunteer position for now) also as we grow, we need to generate more funds to help support our horses and program. Having someone with experience that can spearhead different ventures and assist staff with current events would facilitate our ability to expand programing without increasing costs to our families.
- Sponsorship for events as well as structures around the ranch. With the construction of the arena, we will need to change fence lines to add additional paddocks for the horses, add landscaping around the arena, correct footing concerns with some of our low lying areas on the property (both in the pastures and on the trails), adding shelters to some of the paddocks, and generally supporting the changes that need to be made. While we can get the labor donated to the ranch, the raw materials for such projects always add up and are sometimes not within our budget.

Small items that are needed... [Office]

- ◆ Copy paper—regular 20 lb. white letter; 20 lb. white legal
- ♦ Envelopes—#10 white business; A2 invitation size; 9"x12" white for mailing grants
- Padded Mailing Envelopes—for items like t-shirts.
- Stamps—who doesn't need more Forever stamps?
- ♦ Premium printing paper—100 bright, 32 lb. white letter

Small items that are needed... [Program / Arena]

- Beanie Babies—variety of types for games
- ♦ Cones—12" to 18" cones for the indoor arena
- ◆ PVC pipes—6" diameter, 8' in length for ground poles; 2" diameter, 8' lengths for upright poles and games.
- ♦ Wooden arena letter—approximately 12" in height
- 55 gallon plastic barrels (empty, white or blue are fine)
- ♦ Deck Rings, tennis balls, toy basket ball hoop, etc.

STATISTICS FOR 2018

Children's Program

- Total number of riders served by the **Children's Program**: <u>82</u> Participants in **Horse Sense Psychotherapy** Sessions: <u>21</u>
 - 3% 5 years old or under
 - 35% Between ages 6 and 10 years old
 - 50% Between ages 11 and 18 years old
 - 12% Over 19 years
- 54 were male; 49 were female
- While over 43 different diagnoses were present in our riders, below are the 4 that affected a majority of our riders.
 - 1. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
 - 2. Developmental Delay (DD)
 - Attention deficit disorder / Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD)
 - 4. Cerebral palsy (CP)
- We offered classes to riders throughout the 7 county metro area, but 94% lived in the cities south of the Minnesota River. Of those cities, the top 3 are:

Lakeville (27%) Apple Valley (16%) Eagan

MHR Heroes on Horseback Program

 Total number of injured military personnel, active duty and veterans in rehabilitation, that were served by the Heroes on Horseback Program: 31 168 visits & 336 hours

Air Force	16%	Army	39%
Marine	16%	Navy	26%
US Coast Guard	3%		

- 97% of our veterans were male; 3% were female
- While multiple diagnosis were present, below are the top (4) four that affected our riders participating in the Heroes on Horseback Program: (Many have multiple secondary conditions.)

♦	Dementia	47%
•	(PTSD) Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	12%
•	(TBI) Traumatic Brain Injury	8%
•	Schizophrenia	8%

• We work closely with several military organizations and most of our riders/participants were referred by the following groups:

•	State of MN Veteran's Adult Day Center	44%
•	Veteran's Home-Hastings	26%
•	Outpatient Referrals	23%
•	VA Medical Center–Mpls: Poly-Trauma Unit	7%

Our Volunteers

We had over 184 volunteers helping out with our riding programs, special events, and ranch projects:

Children's Program = 3333 hours Veteran's Program = 470 hours

Projects/Events = 943 hours

(9%)

Total Volunteer Hours = 4746 Hours

Our Horses

MHR owns 2 draft horses, 3 ponies, and 10 horses which are used in our riding programs plus 2 privately owned horses that are used for select classes. In 2018 these horses had a total of 924 rider hours throughout the season. We also used select horses for 125 hours of Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy during the summer session.