

Sponsor A Horse at Willow Creek Ranch

Equine Assisted Services Therapy – Learning - Horsemanship

We need your help! Our therapy herd of horses is the essential part of offering services to children and adults with special needs and mental health concerns. Each horse can cost between \$1490 and \$2900 to annually support their care and health needs-things like hay, grain, and supplements; farrier, dental, and veterinary services; vaccines; deworming, fly spray; grooming products; and pasture/shelter upkeep.

Your help is needed more than ever! As we have been unable to have our annual fundraising rodeo the past few years, we are counting on our donors to support us in other ways. Several of our horses are already sponsored for 2022 so we are offering the others for you to read about and help.

We invite you or your group to sponsor a therapy horse at WCR by making a \$1,600 contribution for their care for an entire year. Our miniature donkeys also are looking for sponsors.

For Your \$1,600 One-Year Sponsorship, You Will Receive:

- Certificate of Sponsorship for your horse
- Your name and/or picture with your horse; a personal tour of WCR
- · Grateful thanks from the staff, participants, and volunteers at WCR
- Recognition in Willow Creek Ranch newsletter and website
- Bragging rights about "your" horse; knowing you are helping children and adults with health concerns
- A receipt for your tax-deductible donation

(Willow Creek Ranch, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization)

Thank you.

 \Box **Yes!** I/We will sponsor WCR therapy horse/donkey______ for 2022 with a donation of \$1,600 to help pay for care so they can continue to provide their unique abilities to help serve people with physical, cognitive, and emotional concerns.

□ Enclosed is my gift of \$______ for general program and horse care needs. Any size gift of support is appreciated.

Please see next pages for picture and short bio of each of our available WCR therapy equines:

□ Calibur □ Gator	□ George □ Grace □	Luka Jo 🗆 Mickey 🕂 Pixie	Rusty Slapshot Oliver
□ Toby □ Freddie	🗆 SamiO 🛛 Beere 🗆 Ta	akoda 🛛 Charlie 🗆 Hank (\$8	8 00) □ Patrick (\$800)
Please print: Name:			
Address:		City:	Zip:
Phone:		_Email	

Payment: \$_____ (Check payable to *Willow Creek Ranch, Inc.* Mailed to 7404 Northwest Hwy 83, Mukwonago WI 53149 or dropped off at the Ranch.)

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The following WCR Therapy Horses are Available for 2022 Sponsorship



<u>GATOR</u> is a former barrel racer and pole bending competitor on the Wisconsin H.S. rodeo team and a NBHA world championship finalist. A therapy horse since 2014, he has given his heart to helping; he is interactive, social, and curious. His curiosity and confidence will make you giggle as he picks up a cone or ball with his teeth and waves it back and forth. With his great qualities, he is an asset to those wanting to excel in their riding skills, social and communication skills, and improve self-confidence and esteem. His large size teaches participants not to be intimidated. Born April 2006, American Quarter Horse, buckskin.





<u>GRACE</u> has been a part of the WCR family since before WCR had programs! She is an important part of the mental health program as she is very aware of individual's needs and abilities and will only do what she thinks is safe-that is her nurturing and mothering personality. She gives individuals an opportunity to overcome their fear and develop confidence in dealing with intimidating and challenging situations in life. Mom of WCR horse Calibur. Born June 1997, American Quarter Horse.

LUKA JO is our first Off Track Thoroughbred. He was born in England where he was trained to be a racehorse. He was then sold and sent overseas to the United States to continue his racing career. However, Luka did not win many races, so he was sold at an auction to a hunter jumper barn, were he had an amazing jumping career. In January 2020, he came to WCR with several serious health concerns. He received the proper care, patience, and kindness to help him heal both emotionally and physically. Luka Jo will give his heart to each one of his riders, appreciates hugs, is nosey and looks forward to any treats that may be offered to him (including peeps and candy-canes)! Born 2009, Thoroughbred.





RUSTY came to Willow Creek Ranch in July 2019 with some serious health concerns. His past is sketchy with stories that he was a 4H project and a trail horse that ended up at auction. Unsold, he was put in a holding pen when a man approached the fence and Rusty came to greet him. Luckily, it was that "rescue" that led him to WCR rather than an unhappy end. Months of special care and feeding to make him healthy created an exceptional horse that has brought a lot of joy and fun to WCR (and some funny stories-like walking into the unfinished Community Room to look out the window!). He has been working in both the riding and mental health programs. He has become a favorite friend to many of our volunteers and riders. Born July15, 2003, American Quarter Horse.



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Available for Sponsorship...



TOBY joined WCR in October 2017 and was a former driving and riding pony. He has proven to be a Rock Star in his patience and calmness with some of our more challenging participants. He understands what he needs to do to make it a positive experience for those needing more help, but he also can challenge independent participants who need a riding challenge! He is adorable and sweet and loves to give lots of nibbles and wet kisses. He loves treats but has been on a special diet over the winter to help him lose his 'roundness' and ward off any potential health problems. He is experienced in both the horsemanship and equine assisted psychotherapy programs. Born April 2004, Haflinger. The mom of a participant said how Toby's interactions helped... our 3-year-old daughter has become more assertive on the playground and definitely has increased her endurance, where before she would let her peers push her to the side, now she stands up for herself and has a voice.

SLAPSHOT is one of WCR's first therapy horses, helping since 2007. In his younger life he competed in barrel racing and pole bending and reached championship levels. He is a calm, charming fellow and has been a mainstay of the WCR therapeutic horsemanship program for many years. As he is aging, he needs some special treatments for aches and pains, but he continues to give his all whenever he is providing lessons for our participants. Born March 2002, registered Appaloosa. A parent shared how Slapshot has made a difference...*my daughter's attention span has increased, and she is more aware of her surroundings, and loves riding outdoors.*





PATRICK (on the left) is half-brother to Hank (right) and joined WCR in 2016. Both donkeys participate weekly in the mental health program. They seem to intuitively know what a person needs as they come to WCR for their recovery process -- It could be showing sibling rivalry, rambunctiousness, curiosity, or overall cuteness, or even gently bumping a client when they needed a nudge to be in the present and confront their issues. They also have introduced new participants to our equine learning programs as their miniature donkey size is less intimidating to some. They love ear rubs. Donkeys can live to be almost 45 years old! Born 2012.

PATRICK needs a sponsor. Hank has a sponsor for 2022.

Introducing the newest members of the WCR therapy team needing sponsorship...

SAMIO came to WCR in December 2021. He is about 11.1 hands (45" tall) – that's his back at about waist high to our volunteers – a perfect size for our sidewalkers. SamiO was donated by a generous donor. He was used in riding lessons, parades, trail riding, and family fun. SamiO will be for our smaller riders who may be afraid of our larger horses. He is patient, very social with people and other horses, and will make a terrific addition to our equine team. He is currently going through training to be a confident, calm therapy horse and learn Willow Creek Ranch ways. Born 7/08/2014, Tobiano paint pony.



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New Horses Available for Sponsorship...



BEERE (BARRY) came to Wisconsin in the fall of 2021 from a trail riding program in Arkansas and was purchased by WCR in December. Beere was named in honor of Mr. Richard Beere, of Waterford, who kindly donated the use of his 78-acre horse property from 2008-2011, where WCR was able to grow its programs. Beere will join the equine team of therapeutic riding horses to encourage the riders to be more independent. Because of his smaller size, he is less intimidating than our taller horses. He will help riders build self-confidence and trust. Beere is well mannered and quiet. He is going through WCR training in preparation for his work as a therapy horse. At such a young age, we look forward to many years with this equine partner. Born 7/31/2008, Quarter horse/Haflinger cross.



TAKODA, is Sioux for "friend to everyone" and that he is becoming! Takoda arrived in Wisconsin

in the fall of 2021 from a trail riding program in Arkansas and was purchased by WCR, through a donor gift, in December. Even though very little is known about his past, his personality tells us so much more about him. He is a very curious, in your pocket type of horse, with a soft eye, big heart and eager for attention. Takoda is one of the younger horses in the Horsemanship program and will be an asset with his small stature for our younger, smaller riders. He is going through WCR therapy horse training and is already showing that he is a calm, secure and unflappable fellow. He will check your



pocket for treats and follow you anywhere. Born 1/07/2014, Quarter Pony.

CHARLIE came to WCR in January 2022. We have been told that Charlie came from Kansas, was bought at an auction in North Dakota, taken to Illinois and then to his home at WCR. Stories say that he was a babysitter to weanling foals and a trail horse. Since his time at WCR Charlie has proven he is patient, kind, and tolerant of his unfamiliar environment and equine teammates. He is currently going through some health challenges and is being well cared for so he can move into the training program. Charlie is expected to be a great addition to our Horsemanship program and is a nice size for our older riders. Born 7/08/2008, Appaloosa, sorrel.



Thank You to the following 2022 sponsors and "their" horses...



CALIBUR has been part of the therapeutic riding program since its beginning in 2007. He is a former barrel racing/pole bending athlete. Calibur is used for more independent riders and, while usually patient, he can teach participants horse behavior and strengthen their skills to focus on him. At 20+ years old, Calibur is showing some signs of age and requires special therapies himself! Son of WCR horse Grace. Born June 2000, American Quarter Horse, Palomino.

Calibur is sponsored for 2022 by Karin Bullian and her son Colin. Colin has been riding Calibur for several years, starting out with a horse leader and two sidewalkers to now being able to ride independently! Calibur has been a patient and steadfast friend to Colin.



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GEORGE is a big guy! But he has a gentle way and shows participants that big is not scary. He was a former trail horse and went on hunting trips out west. He has been part of the riding program since 2018. He calmly provides assurance to inexperienced participants, giving them the confidence to excel. Born April 2000, Tennessee Walking Horse.



George was sponsored in 2021 and now again for 2022

by Bob, Pat and Kevin Bade. Kevin has been riding George for several years and has become more comfortable participating in reaching and stretching exercises, rein holding, enjoying trail rides, and he likes to trot.



MICKEY joined WCR in fall 2020. He has fit in very well with his calmness and curiosity. As

a taller, stocky horse, he is a good fit for our older, stable riders. He has a brand on his left hip, an outline of an arrowhead with letters AP inside. We do not know much about his past other than he came from an Oklahoma auction. Born 2010 (vet estimate), black and white Tobiano Paint, Fox Trotter cross.



Mickey was sponsored in 2021 and again in 2022 by WCR Volunteer Marie Michaels. Marie has been a volunteer and donor for Willow Creek Ranch programs.



FREDDIE came to WCR in January 2022. We have been told that Freddie came from the state of Missouri, was bought at an auction in North Dakota, then to Illinois prior to coming to WCR. He was purchased for WCR by a generous donor. In Missouri he may have been used at a stockyard to move cattle, sheep, goats, and horses up for auction, and trail riding. Freddie is an in-your-pocket type of horse, super friendly, and curious, and with his smaller size will be able to accommodate more of our younger riders. Born 8/23/2014, Quarter Horse.

Freddie is sponsored by Marty Hren, WCR volunteer. She has sponsored other horses in the past.



HANK came to Willow Creek Ranch in 2016 with his half-brother Patrick. He is a team member in the mental health program--showing sibling rivalry at times, rambunctiousness, curiosity, and overall cuteness. Hank has represented WCR in the Mukwonago Christmas parade and has also introduced new participants to our equine learning programs. He loves ear rubs. Hank was born in 2012.

Hank was sponsored in 2021 and now again in 2022 by Cheryl and Bruce Pritzlaff

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OLIVER came to WCR on New Year's Day in 2017 an extremely sick fellow. We were fortunate to be able to rescue him and provide a safe, healthy home for him. He may have been a former logging horse in northern Wisconsin, possibly also a riding and driving horse at some time. He is very guarded and cautious, observant, and perceptive of both humans and other horses. His trust must be earned. This all has made him an excellent partner in providing equine assisted psychotherapy services as he works with children and adults who suffer from trauma, abuse, depression, substance-abuse, abandonment, and neglect--all things that Oliver seems to understand and to have survived. Born March 2003, Haflinger Draft cross.

Oliver was sponsored in 2021 by Vic Hren in honor of his granddaughter, a WCR volunteer. He is again sponsoring Oliver for 2022.



PIXIE formerly competed in barrel racing and pole bending and reached the State championship level and was also a NBHA World finalist. Pixie has lived at WCR since 2014 and had two foals born here-Fergie and Letty. She developed some health problems and has some muscle weakness in her face. Pixie started working in the mental health program in 2020 as part of her retirement career. She is sweetheart that loves spending time with people. Born 2003, American Quarter Horse.

Pixie was sponsored in 2021 and now again in 2022 by Penny Conn, a friend of WCR. Penny has also donated several new winter horse blankets for Pixie and our other horses.

Thank you to ALL the Willow Creek Ranch sponsors, donors, volunteers, and others who support the WCR Equine Assisted Services programs.