

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO

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 \$1,590 and \$3,000 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.

We invite you or your group to sponsor a therapy horse at WCR by making a \$1,600 donation for horse or donkey care for an entire year. Quarterly and monthly payment options are available.

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

- Certificate of Sponsorship; a personal tour of WCR including a photo opportunity with your horse
- Grateful thanks from the staff, participants, and volunteers at WCR
- Recognition in Willow Creek Ranch newsletter
- Bragging rights about “your” horse; knowing you are helping children and adults
- A receipt for your tax-deductible donation

Yes! I/We will sponsor WCR therapy horse _____ for 2023 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. Other payment options are available. Your sponsorship gift may also help our other horses.

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 Tucker
 Oliver Toby Freddie SamiO Beere Takoda Hank Patrick

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

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 2023 Sponsorship



GATOR is a former barrel racer and pole bending competitor on the Wisconsin H.S. rodeo team and an 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.



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, sorrel.



SAMIO came to WCR in December 2021. He is about 11.1 hands (45" tall) so he's perfectly waist high to our volunteer sidewalkers. SamiO was donated by a generous donor. He formerly was used in riding lessons, parades, trail riding, and family fun. SamiO is used for our smaller riders who may be afraid of our larger horses. He is patient, very sociable with people and other horses, and makes a terrific addition to our equine team. He does have a stifle issue (stifle is in his rear leg and functions similar to the human knee) so he needs extra exercise and vet care. Born July 2014, pony, tobiano paint.



TAKODA, is Sioux for "friend to everyone" and that he can be! 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. 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 and newer horses in the Horsemanship program and is an asset with his small stature and calmness for our younger, smaller riders. He will check your pocket for treats! Born January 2014, pony, bay color.

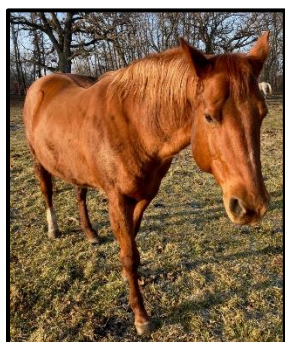


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BEERE (BARRY) came to Wisconsin in the fall of 2021 from a trail riding program in Arkansas and was purchased by WCR that December. Beere was named in honor of Mr. Richard Beere, of Waterford, who kindly donated the use of his 78-acre horse property from 2008-2011, where WCR was able to grow its programs. Beere has joined 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 has helped riders build self-confidence and trust. Beere is well mannered and quiet and very cute! He has become a very dependable team member. At such a young age, we look forward to many years with this equine partner. Born July 2008, Quarter pony, sorrel with flaxen mane.



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 a sweetheart that loves spending time with people. Born 2003, American Quarter Horse, sorrel.



TUCKER was our first Paint horse – recognizable by splashes of white on his stomach, hips and up his legs. Stare at his markings long enough and you can find animals, maps, and lots of other interesting things! Tucker was a trail horse for 10 years and was part of a 4H project in pleasure showing and speed games, participated in parades and did some rodeo work in his previous work life. He began at WCR in early 2020, returned to Iowa in 2021 and came back to WCR in 2022 to be one of our go-to guys for riding. He fits in very well with the other horses and brings trust and calmness to our participants. Tucker has some health concerns and needs additional medications for his comfort. Tucker was born in April 2001, American Quarter Horse, paint.



TOBY joined WCR in October 2017 and was a former driving and riding pony. He was in our Horsemanship lessons for 5 years and was a “Rock Star” in his patience and calmness with some of our more challenging participants. Due to health issues, Toby is no longer used for riding and is now in our mental health program. He understands what he needs to do to make it a positive experience for those needing help in their recovery path. He is adorable and sweet. He loves treats but is on a special diet to keep his



‘roundness’ under control. Born April 2004, Haflinger with flaxen mane and tail.



PATRICK (on the left) and his **half-brother Hank (right)** 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. They may even gently bump a client when people need 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. Hank likes to explore shoelaces. They both love ear rubs. Donkeys can live to be almost 45 years old! Born May 2012, miniature donkeys.

The following horses are sponsored for 2023.

THANK YOU to our wonderful WCR supporters.



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. **Thank you to the Pat, Bob, Kevin Bade Family for sponsoring George again this year.**

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. Late in 2022 he started to also be a part of the mental health program team. Son of WCR horse Grace. Born June 2000, American Quarter Horse, palomino. **Thank you to Karin Bullian and son Colin for sponsoring Calibur again this year.**



OLIVER came to WCR on New Year's Day in 2017 as 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, abandonment, and neglect--all things that Oliver seems to understand and to have survived. Born March 2003, Haflinger Draft cross. **Thank you to Vic Hren for sponsoring Oliver again this year.**

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MICKEY joined WCR in October 2020. He fits in very well with his calmness and curiosity. He has become a favorite of participants and volunteers alike. 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. Look at his markings and you may be able to see an outline of “Mickey” Mouse ears! We do not know much about his past other than that he came from an Oklahoma auction and may have been used for trail riding. Born 2010 (vet estimate), Missouri Fox Trotter cross, black and white tobiano paint. **Thank you to Marie Michaels for sponsoring Mickey again this year.**



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. He also will challenge riders to increase their skills and learn assertiveness. Born August 2014, American Quarter Horse, bay. **Thank you to Marty Hren for sponsoring Freddie again this year.**



GRACE 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, sorrel. **Thank you to Marie Michaels for sponsoring her second horse this year.**



LUKA JO is our first off-track Thoroughbred (OTTB). He was born in England and trained to be a racehorse. He was then sold and sent to the U.S. to continue his racing career. However, Luka did not win many races, so he was sold at auction to a hunter jumper barn, where he had a great jumping career. In January 2020, he came to WCR with several 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 and looks forward to any treats that may be offered to him (including peeps and candy-canes). Born January 2009, Thoroughbred, bay. **Thank you to Sandy, Scott and Rachel Ludwig for sponsoring Luka again this year.**

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! He has been working in both the riding and mental health programs. Born July 1997, American Quarter Horse, chestnut. **Thank you to Anonymous donors.**



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

