



Premier sponsor for our 30th year

SOUTH SLOPE
PHONE INTERNET TELEVISION

From the desk of the Acting Executive Director

Once again, we find ourselves at the end of a season. This year was such a success and so rewarding! I think it is fair to say that on behalf of the students, volunteers and instructors. We are so grateful to everyone who has given time, skills and resources.

The weather was chilly toward the end of the last session, but did that stop us? No! We did, however need to postpone a couple weeks and I believe everyone was glad we weren't scheduled to go any later into November than we did. Someday, someone is going to help us winterize the arena, warm up the barn, and we will be able to hold classes beyond the dictates of Mother Nature.

There are so many stories we could tell: Students who got the giggles while trotting; one student laughing so hard, she couldn't stop. In that case, the therapist finally said, "Well, I guess her abdominal muscles are getting a workout." That was also true of the rest of us since her laughter was contagious.

We were happy that Charity Nebbe and Emily Woodbury from Iowa Public Radio produced a wonderful show about our classes, students, and facilities this year. Likewise, I hope that you got a chance to see a recent feature article in the Press Citizen (<https://www.press-citizen.com/story/life/2018/11/30/equine-therapy-harnesses-horse-power-help-kids-veterans-and-adults/2153861002/>). Writer Richard Hakes spent time with me touring the farm, talking to students and parents, and asking all about Miracles. Many thanks to him for taking the time to capture our essence!

We got the herd ready for winter with the bi-annual routine visit from Dr. McNutt and his associate. He checks out everyone: assessing health, weight and nutrition, and he smooths rough teeth while another team provides good hygiene on the rest of the horse. It takes a dedicated group of staff, instructors and volunteers to work through the cold and keep all 18 horses moving through smoothly. Here's a shot I took of the crew helping out on a very cold day (l to r) Maddie DeVore, Ashley Garretson, Jackie Wallace, Colleen Brems.

Finally, we made so many improvements to property and programs through our South Slope partnership and the generosity of so many donors. They are part of the village it takes.

Have good, safe holidays! We'll be in touch next month to let you know what goes on in the off-season.

Karla S Miller, Acting Executive Director





Thanks to Leash on Life for sponsoring our newsletter. You can visit them on their website at www.leashonlife.net



Miracles teaches about “giving back”

We have been sharing stories about Nathan who has ridden at Miracles for 6 years. In addition to the physical benefits from participating in Miracles activities over several years, Nathan’s mom describes the special relationship he developed with Jasper and how Nathan has learned to “give back”.

In her words, “He has been on a number of horses over the years. Some much bigger than Jasper and some smaller. But Jasper will

always be ‘his horse’. We were so sad when he got too old to be used for therapy except for the smallest kiddos... Nate was so happy we got to see him in the barn at Christmas time! He got to give him an apple and tell him how much he missed riding him. Through the extra fundraising activities, such as the Christmas open house this last year, Nate has learned about giving back. This year he had me donate his Christmas money to Miracles in Motion. He also brings apples from my parent’s backyard for the horses after lessons. He loves it, and if we forget apples, he feels so bad for the horses and will mention it repeatedly and triple check we have them for the next lesson!”

We hope you can help support those who ride at Miracles with a year-end donation. We have matching money up to \$15,000 and hope to take full advantage of our match sponsors generosity!

We currently stand at \$8,665 in year end donations! Help us get to \$15,000!

Thank you to our match sponsors:

Mary & Jim Pratt to honor the memory of Ethan, Seth, Mira and Eleanor Sueppel
Lois James in memory of Sanchez

Head to our website to donate: miraclesinmotion.com or mail a check to Miracles in Motion

**Thanks to our volunteers,
therapists, instructors,
staff, parents, veterans,
horses and students for a
great season!**



**Happy Holidays from all of us at Miracles in Motion!
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