### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING**

As a 501(c)(3), Stable Hands welcomes donations in support of its mission to enhance the quality of life of special needs individuals and the outreach of our program.



Equine therapy has helped me walk better, given me confidence to go on and do different things like public speaking, find my own job, live on my own.

- Nick Baumann, Client

### **WAYS TO SHOW SUPPORT:**

- Donate to the Building a Stable Future Capital Campaign through the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin at cfoncw.org/donations
- Purchase an "I Care" window cling by visiting stablehandstherapy.com
- Attend our "Hoofbeats of the Heart" Annual Fundraiser.
   Visit stablehandstherapy.com for details.
- "I CARE" Window Cling
- Sponsor a stall in your name
- Sponsor the care of a Stable Hands Horse of your choosing



When I first started the program, I couldn't sit up on my own. I had to lie across the horse's neck. After a few times riding I was able to sit up on my own.

- Angie Horner, Client

# **MISSION STATEMENT**

To enhance the quality of life for special needs individuals through the use of equine-assisted activities and therapies.

# **GOAL**

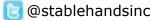
We seek to improve each person's physical, emotional and cognitive development with caring, compassion and a plan to make a difference.



For inquires, contact
Diane Abitz, Executive Director
715-359-6046 • stablehandstherapy.com

Stable Hands, Inc. is a Wisconsin 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

/stablehandstherapy



Support for this project was provided through the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation.



# Changing Lives One Hoofbeat At A Time.



# **ENHANCING LIVES**

For over 25 years, Stable Hands Equine Therapy Center has been enhancing the lives of special

needs individuals through the use of equine-assisted therapies and activities.

Stable Hands is a member of Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.), an organization that sets the guidelines and safety standards for equine-assisted therapies and activities. Under the guidance of certified instructors and specially trained horses, the Stable Hands program helps individuals with special needs improve muscle tone, balance, posture, motor coordination, concentration, self-confidence, and self-esteem.

Therapeutic riding and other equine-assisted activities help clients with a very wide range of special needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, developmental disorders, spinal cord injury, brain injury, and Cerebral Palsy. These activities help military veterans achieve a higher quality of civilian life. Clients participate in both ground and mounted activities and games that promote the horse-human relationship. They build balance, coordination, strength and confidence all while having fun!



### **BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM**

- According to PATH Intl., when individuals ride they work in the areas of health, education, sport, recreation and leisure. Clients with physical challenges can work on muscle tone, strength and balance. For some, this is the closest movement to walking that they will ever experience.
- A unique setting on 28 acres of land that nurtures the spirit as well as the body.
- A sense of accomplishment and self confidence for the client.
- Positive support for special needs individuals.
- Therapy program for military veterans that have experienced physical injury or trauma.
- An additional resource for health professionals including psychotherapy.
- New friends both human and animal.

# **ENROLLMENT IN THE PROGRAM**

Clients in the Stable Hands program range from age 4 through adult. Key factors to consider for therapeutic riding are ability to benefit, medical history and safety. All of our clients complete a Program assessment of these factors.

A scheduled visit to the program prior to enrollment allows professionals to evaluate each client for Program activities. This visit allows Program staff to introduce clients to the surroundings, meet staff and volunteers, and have their questions answered.

The Stable Hands team works with the client and his/her family to assess what areas need to be addressed. We study health records, family input, recommendations from professionals and client goals to develop an individualized therapy program.

### **BECOME A VOLUNTEER**

Stable Hands relies on the skills and dedication of volunteers to help provide our equine-assisted services.

Our trained volunteers assist the clients in all Program activities as well as interact with them as a team according to the instructor's lesson plan and guidance. They provide encouragement and security for the rider.

We also look for volunteers to help with help with administration, fund raising, events and farm maintenance, upcoming events, and our center's upkeep and maintenance.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit stablehandstherapy.com to download our Volunteer Application and be added to our mailing list.

It's so great to work with the clients and see how they grow and change. Everybody has limitations and challenges, but they can be overcome.

> - Sue Duginske, Volunteer and Mother of Former Client