

The Rundown

A Quarterly Newsletter

January 2020

Issue #6

Hope Lives On

I can't believe winter hit us so hard so early in the season. We had blankets on every horse except Faith by the first week of November, and we don't usually need them until late December. (Faith is as hardy as they come and has never needed one.) As blessings continue to overflow at the ranch, we can only continue to be thankful.

One student this summer was a boy who had experienced trauma and was not quick to converse. Often, I could only get him to respond with one-word answers. He chose Cezar as his horse and I began to talk about where Cezar came from and what he liked and didn't like. My student was captivated by the big appaloosa's goofy personality. He started talking to Cezar about everything they were about to do and they conquered obstacle after obstacle together in the arena. He never really did open up to me, but I know this boy found a relationship he could trust in Cezar and that alone means the world to us.



Faith in her trusty winter coat.



Cezar and a special student. The see-thru head covering keeps off flies.

We have many stories like this blooming at Hope Lives Youth Ranch. Half of the students that came to us last summer were new, and we are excited to continue growing in the 2020 riding season. In order to do that, we will need some help.

Our session capacity is currently limited by the number of leaders available. With two more session leaders, we could double our capacity for students. You don't have to be a horse expert, although some experience is helpful. We will hold a training day on April 18 to teach everything you need to know. Please prayerfully consider donating 2 hours of your time once a week for seven weeks to bring joy and stability to the lives of the kids who visit us. Come to the training session if you are curious to learn more. Registration is only \$15 (covers your packet and your lunch), and you can RSVP on our website. Hope Lives depends on people like you to keep Hope spreading.

A Great Opportunity

Hope Lives Youth Ranch is looking for an intern for the 2020 session season. This unpaid internship will extend May 1- July 31 and requires attendance at the Hope Lives Session Leader Training April 18th (with waived fee). We expect our intern to help lead sessions, keep student records, care for the animals, collaborate with the team to plan events and fundraisers, and manage the social media pages. This is an exciting opportunity to learn how a not-for-profit runs and to help children in need in the area. You must be 18 or older to apply. Please send a cover letter and resume to hopelivesrr@gmail.com. Interviews will be held during the first week of April.



Stronger Together

A new equine-facilitated therapy program is opening in Urbana, Illinois, called Miniature Horse Power. The program is still in its infancy, but an introductory seminar was held recently on December 7. Our own Emily Reichman was invited to be one of three keynote speakers for the event. Hope Lives Youth Ranch got a lot of good press in return as she got to share about equine behavior, what we do, why we do it, and how it works. What a wonderful privilege! As miniature Horse Power begins to solidify, we will continue to help each other grow in order to better serve the east-central Illinois region. Mini Horse Power will be working through Dream House, using miniature horses in equine-assisted psychotherapy within Urbana city limits. They hope to be up and running next year.

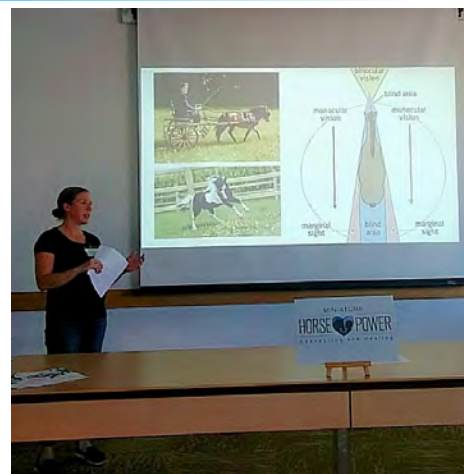
Testimonial

My daughter Ava began riding at the Hope Lives Rescue Youth this past summer. It has been an absolutely wonderful experience for her. Ava struggles with anxiety and working with Ms. Emily and the animals at the ranch have given her confidence to push through her fears and to try things that might be uncomfortable for her. My husband and I cannot thank Ms. Emily and the entire Hope Lives Youth Ranch staff enough for the work you do. Lives are being changed through your generosity and care. God Bless!

~The Harper Family 2019



Students having fun on Brandy



Emily teaching at Miniature Horse Power workshop

Upcoming Events

Please contact us to sign up to volunteer at one of our work days or attend a training event.

April 18th

Session Leader Information and Training Course

Registration is available on our website. The fee of \$15 will be collected upon arrival and covers your packet and lunch.

April 25th

Spring Cleaning

Come help us spruce up the barn and the grounds.

How to Contact Us:

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Also Find Us on Facebook and Instagram!

www.facebook.com/hoppelivesrr/

www.instagram.com/hoppelivesrr/

How We Are Funded

Every session at Hope Lives youth Ranch is free of charge. We are a registered 501(c)3 and are funded solely through solicited donations and the generosity of our community. 100% of the funds donated to Hope Lives youth Ranch are used to care for the horses and create a safe environment for the children we serve. If you would like to donate to our program, go to: www.hoppelivesrescueranch.org/funding or mail your contribution to: 976 E 2250 North Road, Monticello, IL 61856