



Naples Therapeutic Riding Center  
206 Ridge Drive  
Naples, FL 34108

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #97  
NAPLES, FL



# SCENE & HERD

**MARCH 2018**

**ABOUT NTRC**

*Our mission is to improve the lives of children and adults with special needs through therapeutic riding and other equine-related programs.*

We are a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization and a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) Premier Accredited Center.

In 2018, NTRC's general operating budget is \$870,000 with 88% dedicated to programs. More than 350 volunteers and 450 donors will make it possible for NTRC to serve 700 participants through equine-therapeutic programs.

NTRC receives funding through Naples Children & Education Foundation, United Way of Collier County, and other private donations.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Anthony McClure, Esq., President
- William Villafranco, Vice President
- Harry Witt, Treasurer
- James Dati, Esq., Secretary
- Connie Sharpe, RN, Past President

- Joseph Basile
- Christy Daggett
- Dr. Bonny Eads-Dery, OD
- Mary Fellenz, OTR/L
- Annette Pakula
- Hillary Raines Wilson
- David Winebrenner



**NAPLESTHERAPEUTICRIDINGCENTER.ORG**  
206 Ridge Drive | Naples, FL | 34108  
(239) 596-2988 | info@ntrc.org

**Q.** How many bales of hay do the NTRC horses munch on in the course of a year?

**A.** 1,344 bales of hay! This costs equals \$60 a day and happy horses.

Please call (239) 596-2988 to learn how you can support NTRC!

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Tiffany Lehman Corrals Support



Naples is where my passion for horses grew. It's where I saw my parents lead by example through their volunteer work, my mom as a member of Zonta and my dad as a Rotarian. Their love for Naples and compassion for others cultivated my desire to volunteer in my hometown

My fondest volunteer memory from my youth is training with the Special Olympics athletes for the World Summer Games. I knew these passionate athletes had so much to teach me. The smiles were endless that day. The experience inspired future commitments I made to the community.

In 2011, Bonny Dery asked me to volunteer for NTRC. I knew the property as I had boarded my horse, Destiny, across the street from NTRC. Bonny roped me into joining the risk management committee, the perfect position for me with my insurance background.

NTRC's mission invites passionate volunteers to work side by side those with special needs through equine-assisted therapies. This call to action is an understated devotion to community, to Naples and to NTRC. The equine-assisted therapies impact all of us, not only participants. Family members, volunteers, staff, and community are

better because of NTRC. The volunteer benefits are endless. Like many of the participants and volunteers, I benefit from the serene property, the culture of wellbeing and positivity. And like many other volunteers, time at NTRC puts things into perspective. We see first-hand the struggles and accomplishments of families. It's an honor to support others through these challenges

After my term on the board ended, I was invited to stay involved and launch NTRC's "Corral." It's thrilling to start something new, especially at such an important time of growth for the organization. Members of the Corral directly help the NTRC staff with routine tasks so they can more directly serve the participants.

If my mom were here today, she'd remind me that we are all called to serve. I found a home at NTRC, and it fulfills me to my core.



**WANT TO CORRAL?**

Join members for the April 3rd luncheon and learn more about this initiative.

**CONTACT**  
bketeltas@ntrc.org  
(239) 596-2988



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LETTER

*"It's an honor to take the reins knowing we have the support of thousands of friends and family who care about our mission."*

- Missy Saracino Lamont

Ten years ago I attended a sidewalker volunteer orientation. The rest is history. The past

decade has gone by quickly, nearly as fast as Secretariat's 1973 win of the Kentucky Derby. I am excited now to serve you as the executive director of Naples Therapeutic Riding Center.

From Karen Conley's visionary work to other leaders, many have left their important mark on this organization. In December, Kim Minarich retired as the executive director. She continues to serve as my mentor. I am grateful for all Kim has taught me and for her commitment to program participants. Please join me in gratitude for her service and in wishing her the best of luck as she rides into retirement.

Kim's determination completing the \$4 million Barn Raising Capital Campaign positioned NTRC to truly serve as a cutting-edge equine-assisted therapy center. She set the stage for this new decade of mission-driven and expanded services. Now, it's our turn to implement and build upon these strategic initiatives and life-changing programs. As you read through this issue of Scene & Herd, you will learn more about our 2018 projects that strengthen NTRC's programs, including the launch of equine-facilitated psychotherapy programs with Youth Haven and the Shelter for Abused Women & Children.

Many of you guide NTRC's third decade of service through invaluable feedback, generous investment of time, treasure, and trusted expertise, thank you!

I'm excited for NTRC's future and grounded in the fact that today's efforts are of equal importance. Your continued support and feedback is critical and will take NTRC to the next level. We are in this together. We welcome your visits, even if you have to wait until the next Bootstrap Boogie Barn Dance on November 10th.

~ Tally Ho!





## DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

NTRC launched three exciting new initiatives in 2018. Thanks to generous donors who gave through the Barn Raising Capital Campaign, NTRC now has space and infrastructure to provide certifications and continuing education on site as well as meet the growing need for equine-assisted therapies.

### Youth Haven Reaps Rewards of NTRC Program



In January, NTRC welcomed resident Youth Haven teenagers for its equine-facilitated psychotherapy program. Youth Haven is an emergency residential shelter and transitional living center for children in crisis. Sally Prost, Youth Haven licensed therapist, NTRC's equine specialists and a herd of therapy horses assist participants in building trust, self-confidence, and awareness of how their emotions affect their behaviors.

*"The interaction with the youth and horses has unconventionally, yet amazingly, enhanced the healing of past trauma for the children of Youth Haven,"*

*-Sally Prost, Youth Haven*

Prost and NTRC tailor the sessions to address each teen's treatment goals, some of which include reduction of anxiety, anger and depression, and strengthening of interpersonal relationships and self-awareness. This program is made possible by the Naples Children & Education Foundation.

### NTRC Hosts Certifications



In January, Speech-language pathologists, physical and occupational therapists attended the American Hippotherapy Association, Inc. approved Level 1 Treatment Principles certification course. This was the first hippotherapy course offered in Collier County and marks a milestone for NTRC's new Clark Family Foundation Equine-Assisted Therapy Center. Therapists in attendance, including NTRC's board member, Mary Fellenz, are now certified to offer hippotherapy in their practices. NTRC plans to launch a hippotherapy program later this year.

Soon after the AHA course, NTRC hosted a PATH instructor workshop and on-site certification program. PATH promotes safety and optimal outcomes in equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. NTRC is a PATH Premier Accredited Center. Congratulations to long-time volunteer, Kim Santora, and NTRC's volunteer coordinator, Jo Treglown, on receiving their instructor certifications after months of hard work!

## RIDER SPOTLIGHT

### One Rider's Path to Helping Others



My name is Zach. I am 16 and I am in the 9th grade at Able Academy. I was first introduced to Naples Therapeutic Riding Center by Miss Debbie when I was three-years-old. She knew my family and I from going to speech therapy. She

suggested that I might like it at NTRC.

I started participating in group therapeutic riding lessons and summer camps which I did for about eight years. The lessons helped me work on my delayed speech. The riding provided a sensory stimulation that helped me with talking. It also helped me with coordination. About two years ago, I started taking equine-facilitated learning classes through Able Academy. In these classes, I learned to follow directions from Miss Lea and my sidewalkers which helped me both in school and in life.

Over time, I was asked to volunteer. I helped sell raffle tickets at horse shows and helped at the Meet the Kids Day for the Wine Festival where I met strangers and told them about my

experience at NTRC. This helped me overcome my shyness when meeting new people. Now I am a volunteer sidewalker where I get to help younger kids from Able Academy, who are just starting out in equine-facilitated learning classes, enjoy the same life-changing experience that I had. I have so many fond memories from riding and working with the horses, especially Pepper. They are gentle giants. I have also met some great people like Karen Conley and Miss Lea, who I consider life-long friends.

As a rider and now volunteer, I truly appreciate everyone that has helped this great place grow from the little dirt ring to the beautiful campus that they now have. I find it very fulfilling to be able to give back and do my part to help NTRC because of the opportunities they give to children like me.



#### NOTE FROM MISSY:

Zach and I started our journey at NTRC around the same time. It was a joy to see his love for riding. We are so proud to see a more mature Zach back at the center today volunteering. He is responsible and careful with the younger participants. Thank you for writing your story, Zach!

## DONOR SPOTLIGHT

### Dr. Bill Swartz: A Decade of Giving



My friends, Gary Yates and Dick Proctor, introduced me to NTRC through the Hoof & Hike Poker Run in 2008. While my horse, Peanut, and I trotted through Picayune Strand State Forest, Gary and Dick taught me about the NTRC mission. I was immediately hooked on helping in any way I could.

My interest in horses dates back to my first job at a horse farm, where I worked as a teenager. My love of horses and animals inspired me to become a veterinarian. I've enjoyed a long career helping animals, owning two small animal hospitals in Virginia, and serving as a relief doctor in Naples.

Using my professional connections, I started to support NTRC immediately by accessing reduced cost medications for the horses. I was invited to join the board of directors and started volunteering as a sidewalker. I bonded with a rider and his family and was amazed by his continued improvements.

As I witnessed the thrill of accomplishment on the riders' faces, I became personally emboldened to continue to support NTRC in any way that I could. I have served as a program volunteer, committee member and president of the board.

My wife, Mary Lou, and I have also learned the most advantageous ways to offer our financial assistance.

We are frugal as a family. We invest wisely. We spend and we donate wisely. As I approached 69 years of age, my investment advisors at FineMark Bank informed us of the benefits of an IRA Charitable Rollover. They told me that at 70 1/2 years-old, I would be eligible to contribute through a tax-free rollover from my individual retirement account to a public charity, like NTRC. I could donate directly from my IRA to NTRC without the distribution being considered income, simultaneously decreasing our tax liability.

I rely on my investment advisors to keep me updated on creative, smart and savvy ways to give so we can continue our philanthropic support of NTRC in the most advantageous ways for more years to come. It is truly an honor to give.

#### THE SCOOP ON GIVING: IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

- Made to a qualified charity up to \$100,000;
- Can count toward the required minimum distribution;
- Must be 70 1/2 years of age or older;
- Made only from a traditional or Roth IRA;
- Donated directly from the plan administrator to the charity;

*This material has been prepared for informational purposes only. We urge you to work with your attorney, CPA or financial advisor as you consider these options.*

## SCENE & HERD EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

*The Bootstrap Boogie Barn Dance, Hoof & Hike Poker Run, and Inaugural Horsin' a Round Golf Classic Raised \$307,000 to Fund NTRC's Mission, Thanks to so Many of You!*

