



## Message from Our Executive Director

Thus far 2020 will be remembered as a difficult year, bringing stress and anxiety to our lives. We have struggled with self-quarantine, virtual schooling, changes in our routines, perhaps loss of employment. In some cases, families have suffered illness and even faced the loss of a loved one due to COVID-19.

With everything that has happened it may seem odd to talk about thankfulness. But here at Exceptional Equestrians, we are just that - thankful. The challenges we have faced during this pandemic have demonstrated the strength and resilience of our EE family.

I am thankful for the wonderful staff who, because of their commitment to our participants, have fought to keep our doors open and our facility safe. I am thankful for the Board of Directors whose support and guidance keep EE strong and moving forward. I am thankful for our core of volunteers whose dedication has not wavered. They do not enter our doors and follow our safety rules and regulations because they have to; they are here because they care. I am thankful for our donors who continue to support our mission and make it possible for us to offer services and provide financial assistance to all participants. And I am especially thankful for our families and the incredible participants who receive services here. Their courage is inspirational. Children who must now see only a portion of our faces, and who wear masks of their own despite sensory challenges. Parents busy with home schooling and jobs, who still manage to bring their children to therapy each week so that they can continue to achieve great things. These are the sources of inspiration that keep Exceptional Equestrians going, pandemic and all.

So, as I reflect on 2020, I realize just how lucky we are at Exceptional Equestrians, and I thank each and every one of you for the important part you play in this awesome program.

Stay well.

## Volunteers Needed

We have an urgent need for volunteers Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school. All applicants must be 14 or older. All training is provided. Visit [www.exceptionalequestrians.org](http://www.exceptionalequestrians.org) today for more information and to apply.

## Horsepower for Horses

Exceptional Equestrians is excited to introduce our new Horsepower for Horses vehicle donation program.

By donating your vehicle, you can support our mission to better the lives of people of all abilities through the healing power of horses.

Here's how it works...

### Step #1: Submit the form online

Visit [www.ncsvehicledonations.com/nonprofits/exceptional-equestrians](http://www.ncsvehicledonations.com/nonprofits/exceptional-equestrians) or click on the license plate at the top of the page at [www.exceptionalequestrians.org](http://www.exceptionalequestrians.org). We accept cars, trucks, SUV, RVs, motorcycles, trailers, boats, campers, off-road vehicles, and most other motorized vehicles – whether they're running or not.

### Step #2: Schedule your free pickup

Choose the time that works best for you! Our Donor Support Representatives can arrange for a licensed tow company to pick up your vehicle almost anywhere in the U.S. within 72 hours.

### Step #3: Enjoy the tax benefits

Most vehicle donations qualify for a tax deduction. When your vehicle is picked up, the driver will provide you with an initial donation receipt. You may claim as a tax deduction the fair market value of your vehicle up to \$500 on your donation even if your vehicle sells for less. If your vehicle sells for over \$500, we will provide a 1098-C IRS form which will allow you to claim the full sale price of your donated vehicle.

You might think of your vehicle as nothing more than a "junk car," but to the riders at Exceptional Equestrians, your donation can help fund a life-changing experience.



## We Are Growing!

Country Kids is looking to expand its ranks by adding an additional occupational therapist (OT) and a physical therapist (PT).

We are looking for a motivated OT and PT to assist us in our goal of helping children, teens and adults "experience the exceptional."

Country Kids provides excellent pay and benefits. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and resume to: Country Kids, Attn: Personnel Department, 1142 Orlando Drive, De Pere, WI, 54115.

## Join #TeamEE!

Are you looking for a great way to show your support for Exceptional Equestrians?

Our online apparel store will open on Monday, November 23, and run for two weeks, closing Monday, December 7.

Don't forget - Exceptional Equestrians apparel makes great gifts for riders and family alike so beginning November 23, visit <http://ee.logosandpromos.com> to place your holiday order.



Exceptional Equestrians is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing hippotherapy, adaptive riding and equine-assisted learning services to individuals with disabilities.

Our mission is to better the lives of people of all abilities through the healing power of horses.

We are governed by a Board of Directors.

Elizabeth Moberg-Wolff, MD – President

Alyssa Gromowski – Vice President

Nicole Curran – Treasurer

Jenna Dais – Secretary

Nancy Jacobe

Lisa Stark-Jones

Anne Michalski

Heather Gartzke, MHA

Tiffany Steffen

Lisa Kafka – Executive Director



## Rider Profile: Nick Matheson

Nick Matheson has been riding with Exceptional Equestrians for over three years but, ever the diplomat, he's not quite ready to commit to a favorite horse. According to Nick, he likes all the horses because they all have different personalities.

Nick's father, Bill Matheson, has noticed great changes in his son since he began riding. "Nick's confidence has grown since working with the different horses and coaches at Exceptional Equestrians. His balance, structure and overall skills have improved."

When asked what he'd like the community to know about Exceptional Equestrians, Bill answered, "Exceptional Equestrians is a gem in the community. The experiences the riders get developmentally is like none other. Exceptional Equestrians sets goals for their riders and achieves them."

As with so many of our riders, Nick's take on what makes Exceptional Equestrians special has nothing to do with the therapeutic benefits: "I look forward to coming out here every week. Everyone here is so nice and it's so much fun."

Elizabeth Karrmann, one of Exceptional Equestrians' riding instructors, commented, "Nick comes with a can-do attitude. He is always in such a great mood and is so fun to work with. It's such a pleasure to have Nick part of our riding team."

Nick rides on Tuesdays as part of the Adaptive Riding program. This group program is taught by registered PATH instructors and focuses on providing a recreational outlet while also teaching horsemanship and basic riding skills to individuals with special needs. Adaptive Riding is just one of the many options Exceptional Equestrians offers in pursuit of its mission "to better the lives of people of all abilities through the healing power of horses."