



SPIRIT
OPEN EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM INC.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



SPIRIT OPEN EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

www.spiritequestrian.org

Our Mission

SPIRIT's mission is to foster healing and teach life skills through interactions with horses

SPIRIT Open Equestrian Program is grateful to be able to thank all our wonderful participants, staff, volunteers, and donors for another successful year! It is through everyone's commitment that SPIRIT can continue serving our community.

2022 was a year of growth and improvement through all aspects of SPIRIT's operations. Here are a few highlights:

- Five scouts completed their service projects with SPIRIT enabling them to reach eagle scout ranking. These projects include a new hay storage structure, a renovated feed and equipment storage shed, cleaned, and painted stables, and the completion of the run-in shed at Sully Farm
- Corporate group Red River came to Frying Pan Farm Park and relevelled the matted area of our stable, installed a window in the office, and rewired electric fences within our pastures
- Corporate group VMWare supported SPIRIT with two service dates for facility clean up and beautification projects
 - Participation in Frying Pan Farm Park's Horse expo- enabling our therapeutic riding and equine assisted learning participants to showcase their skills to the community
- New therapist Hanna Bleznak joined SPIRIT staff to offer occupational therapy services incorporating hippotherapy
- SPIRIT received a three-year contract to continue providing services for the Fairfax County Comprehensive Services Program
 - Signing a five-year lease with the Park Authority keeping SPIRIT's programs at Frying Pan Farm Park

We look forward to continuing sharing our programs and wonderful horses with you

Michelle Gnozzio
Executive Director

Participants

- 1,526 program hours
- 309 participants

"These classes have been so beneficial - confidence, balance, and socialization have increased both for my mother and daughter. My mother has been so motivated to go to class that she has even taken on dressing herself (which is a task we used to assist with in the past.) Thank you!"

"All of the staff were patient, kind and knowledgeable. You helped our daughter feel very successful!"

"My daughter enjoys riding and caring for the horse after riding."



Volunteers

- 268 Program & Farm volunteers
- 5,993 Program & Farm volunteer hours



Improvements



SPiRiT Open Equestrian Program

Program Staff:

Hanna Bleznak, Occupational Therapy/Hippotherapy
Michelle Gnozzio, Instructor
Meagan Hosker, Instructor
Jenna Klein, Instructor
Vesma Montvillo, Therapeutic Riding Instructor
Elizabeth Phillips, Therapeutic Horsemanship
Nandana Rajesh, Instructor
Abigail Schwall, Instructor
Lauren Wong, Therapeutic Riding Instructor
Cynda Zurfluh, Therapeutic Horsemanship, Therapeutic Riding Instructor

Office Staff:

Michelle Gnozzio, Executive Director
Jenna Klein, Administrative support and farm management
Elizabeth Phillips, Volunteer Coordinator
Patricia Sullivan, Volunteer
Leslie Vernon, Bookkeeper

Key Volunteers:

George Bates
Ed Brinberg
Barry Dresdner
Doug Gaibler
Kevin Golla
George Bates
Huey Sullivan
Jeff Wallace
Cynda Zurfluh

Board of Directors:

Jennifer Cibula, Director
Douglas Gaibler, Director
Chuck Gumas, Director
Claire Hosker, Director
Robert Mennell, President
Vesma Montvillo, Treasurer
Louise Peterson, Director
Diane Pires, Director
Rachel Schwall, Director
Samuel Schwall, President
Patricia Sullivan, Director
Davorka Suvak, Founder & Secretary
Leslie Vernon, Director
Lauren Wong, Director
Cynda Zurfluh, Vice President

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND THOSE WHOSE SERVICES CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SPIRIT

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