



Annual Report 2023

Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc.

It is the mission of Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. to build a compassionate community that embraces individuals who recognize the need to heal and challenge their adversity to grow.

Board of Directors

Margaret Mary McClaren, President
Brian McClaren, Director of Finance & Operations, Secretary
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Elizabeth Munao, Social Chair
Devlin F. Gray, Director of Development

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Margaret Robertson
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Mark Carlson
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Executive Director, PATH CTRI, CCS Provider
Interim Director of Operations
PATH Intl. Adv. Instructor, Mentor & ESMHL
Program & Volunteer Coordinator
PATH CTRI, CCS & Stable Moments Provider
PATH Intl. CTRI & Mentor
Barn Manager, PATH Intl. CTRI & ESMHL
Program Assistant
Equine Manager & Trainer
LPC-IT, CCS Provider
Property Manager, Facilities & Grounds
Veterinarian
Veterinarian & Equine Chiropractor
Farrier
Photographer, Volunteer
Digital Marketing, Volunteer

Program Horses

Ember
Simpson
Ellie Mae
Windy (2003-2023)
Lucero
Frost
Ali
Bossie
Kola
Captain

2023 Horse Sponsors

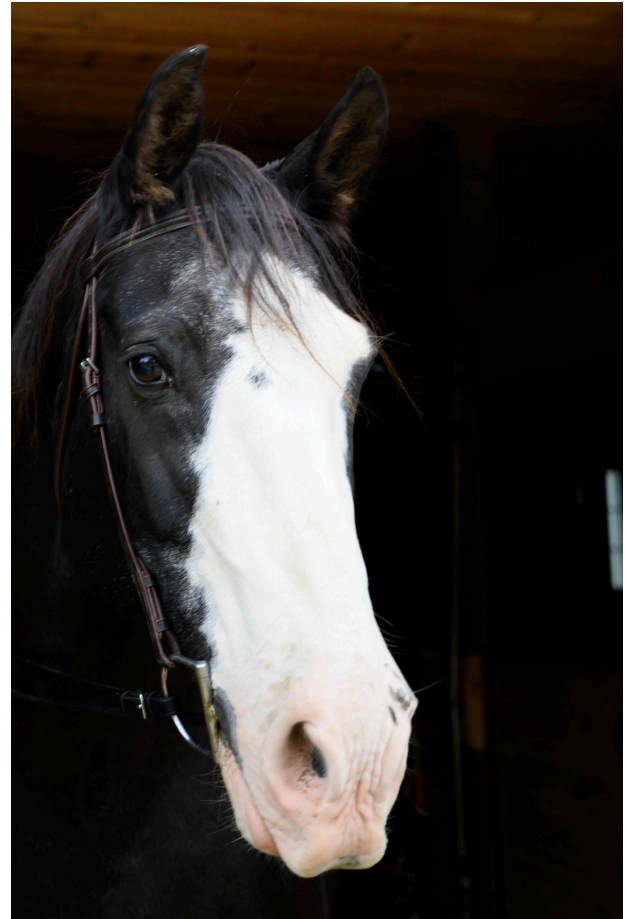
Anonymous
Helene Meyer
Anonymous
Helene Meyer
Mark & Karen Reed
The Jors Family
Jim Zirngibl & Susan Wilson
Lisa A. H. Cudahy
The Schultz Family
Sherri Sandona Kamenski

Barn Ambassadors

Donkey Kong
Goose & Carol

Sponsors

Deb
Mark & Nicole Zirngibl



HGR's 2023 Equine of the Year: Lucero

Volunteers of the Year

RISE 2020: Diana Levy & Sue Chavin

Legacy Pledge

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous



PATH
INTERNATIONAL

Professional Association of Therapeutic
Horsemanship International

**PREMIER ACCREDITED
CENTER**

Equine Angel Sponsors

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Hamza Jaka & Family
The Mikolajczak Family
Herman B. Lustigman Foundation
Jim & Pat McLaughlin
Mark & Karen Reed
ReVivEquine, LLC.
Marilyn Tenzer & Family
Jack & Arlene Warden
David & Laura Zirngibl

2023 Memorial Donations

Anonymous
Michael & Sandra Smith
Helen Follmer
Robert Fox
Linda Kreer-Witt
Nancy Marsanico



Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center



Dear Family & Friends,

Our seventh operational year was far from lucky: it was challenging, intentional, and inspiring all because of you.

Because of your continued dedication and rejuvenating energy in 2023, Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. not only earned Premier Accreditation under PATH International, but we also elevated the professionalism in our staff and quality of service in our programs.

Your financial support provided 1,231 equine assisted services to those in need — which is 2.5 times more lessons provided by the closest PATH Member Center in our region. Of the 1,231 lessons you provided in 2023, 511 focused on Therapeutic Riding, 484 emphasized Equine Assisted Learning, and 236 catered to a combination of mounted and unmounted Equine Services for Heroes.

Although HGR experienced the effects of inflation and labor shortages last year, which required us to increase rider fees, your generosity and understanding made it possible to provide more sponsorships and scholarships than ever. Additionally, a surplus from years prior, along with proactive pledges for 2024 arriving before the end of 2023, allowed us to balance our operational budget and attract top talent in our industry. With transparent communication, you not only helped us identify program needs but you also made it financially possible to address them before the busiest quarter of the year.

With a successful Hayburner fundraiser & silent auction on site in the fall, we also budgeted for more professional services, contracted to enhance quality assurance for our programs.

Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc.
Therapeutic Riding Center

940 S. Main Street
Cedar Grove, WI 53013

920-400-0628
www.heavensgaitranch.org

After years of receiving inquiries and referrals for counseling and therapeutic services, HGR properly partnered with two mental health professionals in 2023. With monthly clinical supervision in place, HGR has become better equipped to implement individualized service plans.

In addition to partnering with new professionals in 2023, you made it possible for HGR to continue investing in our dedicated staff. After three years of training, testing, and delays through COVID, Maggie Robertson earned her certification to instruct therapeutic riding under PATH Intl., proving success comes to those who positively persevere. Shortly after earning her certification, she was invited to speak at the National PATH Conference in North Carolina, and before the end of the year, she won the nomination to serve on PATH International's Credentialing Council. Maggie started volunteering at HGR in 2018 and has since worked in almost every capacity on staff. It's an honor to see her represent HGR in our industry from 2024-2026, now helping others to become certified instructors.

While we have made some meaningful strides together toward meeting our long term goals — including financing a new toolcat in 2021 and earning Premier Accreditation in 2023 — know that we still need your help in 2024.

Our original herd is showing their age while demand for therapeutic riding is higher than ever. We need to purchase two to three additional horses, each ranging from \$6,000-\$8,000, who can fill very versatile needs. Because we are conscious of the herd's overall welfare and workload, we are balancing a full schedule and waitlist.

Aside from purchasing more program horses to continue serving our community, we also need to repair the roof of our indoor arena prior to launching a capital campaign for insulation. The structure still has a solid foundation, but after 25 years of weathering Wisconsin winters and storm damage, it's no surprise it needs attention. Bids for contracted roof repairs are arriving between \$30-\$35,000.

Thank you all near and far who keep Heaven's Gait Ranch in your hearts. Your generosity has helped us stay the course, and we look forward to sharing this next chapter with you.

Sincerely,
Margaret Mary McClaren
Margaret Mary McClaren



Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center



2023 Volunteers of the Year: RISE 2020 Members, Diana Levy & Sue Chavin

Written by Maggie Robertson

It goes without saying that 2020 was a year of chaos. However, one thing became abundantly clear: a person's need for community and socialization. No one understood this more than a group of women in Mequon, WI, who began a volunteer organization called RISE 2020. It is HGR's honor to present this year's Volunteer of the Year award to the dedicated women of the RISE 2020 group.

RISE 2020 stands for Ready to serve, Inspire, Social, Empower. Their mission is to inspire and empower women in or nearing the "empty nest" phase of their life through meaningful community service.

Sue Chavin and Diana Levy, board members of the group, reached out to Heaven's Gait Ranch in the summer of 2020. They started volunteering immediately after HGR re-opened their doors.

"We were excited to be volunteering to work not only with children, but also with horses," says Sue. "We've learned so much about horses while volunteering."

The women of RISE 2020 have provided over 350 lesson hours since joining us in 2020. The dedication of eight of their 70 total members has made such a difference to our participants. Along with Sue and Diana, Brittany White, Karen Lynch, Sharon Brink, Katie Beiser, Kam Wolters, and Jen Karegeannes have dedicated hours to improve the lives of our participants.

"I was admittedly a little apprehensive with the horses at first," says Diana. "But the kids bring smiles to our faces with their clear joy of riding. We are awed by their progression and confidence every time we come out."

Sue, Diana, and the other members of RISE 2020 volunteer at a number of other organizations including the Alzheimer's Association of Wisconsin, Family Sharing of Ozaukee County, and Guest House of Milwaukee, among many others. The RISE 2020 members find value in getting out and making a difference in their greater community.

"Heaven's Gait Ranch is a great place to put your phone away and be supportive of others in your community – all while getting the benefit of being around horses and the outdoors."
– HGR Volunteer Sue Chavin

Thank You, RISE 2020, and Thank you to All our Volunteers for Making our Programs Possible!





Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center



Veteran Spotlight: Nancy Josiah

Written by Maggie Robertson

While walking in Memorial Mall in Sheboygan after graduating college, Nancy Josiah engaged in a conversation that would change the direction of her life.

"I intended to attend seminary," she recalls. "But the conversation I had with the recruiter changed my mind; I enlisted in the Army."

She was encouraged to enlist to access assistance to pay off student loans. Nancy says, "The biggest concern I had was how to tell my parents."

Nancy's father was an Army Veteran who served during WWII. As an only child, he was first sent as a medic to Northern Africa, but after losing many American soldiers in Europe, he was transferred to Italy as an infantryman.

Nancy recalls, "He didn't talk about his service very much until a group through the community church encouraged him & other veterans to share their stories."

In 1982, Nancy was first stationed at Fort Campbell in Kentucky where she spent just under two years. During this time, 7,000 troops were deployed to Grenada – an island in the Caribbean – where the country's political unrest had peaked and garnered international attention. Nancy did not get orders to deploy for this mission, although she had heard that her unit was short-listed.

In 1984, Nancy received her first overseas assignment in Nelligen, Germany as a Chaplain's Assistant. She spent another two years here, setting up the chapel for Protestant and Catholic services, typing weekly bulletins, arranging schedules, doing maintenance on the chapel's jeep, and planning respite activities for soldiers and their families.

After completing her first enlistment, Nancy moved to California and got married. During this time she joined the Army Reserves. In the following years, between daycare drop offs, sports, homework, and all the things that come with raising a young family, Nancy was constantly looking toward her next opportunity to grow professionally. During the day, Nancy worked at the VA as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor. At night, she returned to school to pursue a Master's Degree in Counseling. On the weekends, Nancy would work towards promotions, eventually climbing from Specialist to Master Sergeant. Her parents would care for her five young children while she was assigned for off-base training, including going to Japan.

Reflecting back on this time, Nancy said, "My kids were so proud of having a mom who was in the Army. They went to every unit family day. They knew everyone."

However, not everyone in Nancy's life was as supportive as her children. At one point, Nancy's Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) told her that females should not be in the Army, and that the Senior Operations Course was too hard for her to complete. In truth, the Senior Operations Course was difficult; it had an attrition rate of 45%, many males failed, and females rarely tried. But that didn't stop Nancy, who successfully completed the course on her first attempt at Fort McCoy in western Wisconsin.

In the Army Reserves, Nancy's unit was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004. Nancy placed her children in her sister's care in Wisconsin for two years while she was stationed in Kuwait as an Administrative Lead. While she was there, Nancy's resiliency was tested when her youngest child fell off a jungle gym at school and broke his arm.

"People always thank me for my sacrifices," Nancy recalls. "But my children sacrificed too."



Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center

After her deployment, Nancy decided it was best for her children to stay in Wisconsin and chose to move closer to home and family. After 27 years of active and reserve time, in 2008, Nancy made the difficult transition to civilian life.

Nancy moved to Oostburg, Wisconsin, where she found she was overqualified for many jobs. She eventually began working for the VA again. This time, she was a Veterans Service Representative processing and authorizing pension claims for veterans. She found it difficult to transition from working toward a collective goal within her Army unit, to individual outcomes required to maintain employment.

"People wouldn't meet their metrics, and they would be terminated," says Nancy. "We were constantly losing people. It reminded me of Operation Iraqi Freedom where we never knew if our convoys would make it back in one piece."

In all, Nancy worked for the VA for 20+ years before retiring. Now, three of her children have picked up the torch: her oldest son was in the Army, active duty. He was stationed in Korea, Washington, and Afghanistan and now attends college in Sheboygan. Her daughter was in active duty in Korea, Italy, Germany, Qatar, and Afghanistan and has been in the Army Reserves for 14 years. Her youngest son is in the Wisconsin Army National Guard.



Nancy joined programming at Heaven's Gait Ranch in 2021. Since then, she has overcome fear. She used to be nervous to brush and lead the horse. Now, you'll find her trotting on Ember, and exploring Frost as her next equine partner. One of her fondest memories of lessons was when she was working on desensitizing horses to walking through ribbons on poles. She found it fulfilling to help them get over their fears, as they had also helped her.

"When I started coming here, I felt so disconnected. Some days I still do, when I drive in," she says. "But I always feel centered and grounded when I leave. Now I tell everyone who asks about HGR 'Just go! You'll feel better when you drive away!'"





Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center



HGR's 2023 Equine of the Year: Lucero

Draft horses have long been known as gentle giants. Lucero is no exception. At 16 hands and 1,600 lbs, our powerful Percheron/Paint cross has helped participants large and small with his steady gait and big personality.

"I like his temperament – that he can be sassy – but he's a really good boy," says Lilah, a rider whose favorite horse is Lucero. "When I'm sad, he calms me down."

Unlike horses who might get nervous seeing sudden movement, Lucero's inquisitive nature makes it enjoyable for riders to engage in a variety of arena activities, such as cornhole and catch.

"My favorite activity to do with Lucero so far is broomball and soccer," says Lilah.

Since he has a wider base than most of our equine partners, Lucero easily carries adults who have difficulty balancing. In fact, participants often comment on his smooth trot despite his gigantic size. Although some participants are intimidated at first, they quickly recognize that his size doesn't make him scary.

"I like that he can eat a whole apple in one bite!" exclaims Lilah.

Aside from serving those enrolled in therapeutic riding,

Lucero is a staple in HGR's Equine Services for Heroes and Equine Assisted Learning program. His expressive features offer opportunities for veterans and youth to analyze body language, establish safe boundaries, and develop meaningful trust. He encourages them to listen to their instincts and gain leadership skills week after week.

Not only is Lucero an important part of our weekly lesson schedule, but he has also helped our staff progress in their professional development, allowing HGR's programming to grow at large. Program and Volunteer Coordinator Maggie Robertson began the certification process to become a PATH Instructor prior to the pandemic, but various industry setbacks delayed submitting her application until 2023. Lucero played an integral role in her ultimate success.

Candidates must instruct an able bodied rider to complete a timed pattern at the walk, trot, and canter. The pattern is recorded by video, submitted without editing to PATH Intl., and scored by Advanced Instructors. From start to finish, the rider and horse must understand and follow a series of fast-paced instructions with accuracy and ease. After practicing the pattern with a number of different horse and rider pairings, Maggie asked Abigail Bartlett to try riding the pattern with Lucero. With a big heart and nothing to lose, Lucero gave it his all, and Maggie submitted his first video, confident he'd get it done – and he did!



Lucero came to Heaven's Gait Ranch in September 2019 from the LaBrosse family. His previous owners had him since birth, taking him on trail rides and camping adventures in northern Wisconsin. Heaven's Gait Ranch purchased Lucero and his custom-fit saddle through the generosity of Mark & Karen Reed, and they have graciously sponsored his care every year since.

At 20 years old, Lucero is considered a senior, but he still looks forward to "thundering the trail" whenever his rider is ready to rip. For these reasons and so many more, we are excited Lucero was chosen as HGR's Equine of the Year!



Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center



A Wonderful Life

Recalling the best of 2023, you've given us so much to be grateful for, including the opportunity to know and love Windy. Although we sadly said goodbye to her last fall, we were fortunate to share five years of wonderful memories with this magnificent mare.

Windy was a beautiful, Palomino Appaloosa who was a rockstar for both our kids with special needs and veterans with disabilities. Standing 15hh with an impressive headset, she was generously donated by Kim and Kendall Floryance, with the hope that she might become a therapy horse.

Because of her delightful temperament and stocky build, Windy quickly became one of our most reliable mounts. Primarily serving riders with physical disabilities, she was named HGR's Equine of the Year in 2019. It was life changing to watch her elevate each rider's perspective, especially after some had been sitting in a wheelchair for most of the week. From riders with cerebral palsy to multiple sclerosis, they all left the ranch with smiles, a positive attitude, and renewed confidence in themselves.

Windy not only encouraged those with physical disabilities, but she also became a strong motivator for those with speech and learning delays. As you know, horses are conditioned to respond to verbal cues like "walk on," "woah," and "trot," so when directions differ from rider to rider, we really ask a lot of the horse to respond calmly, confidently, and accurately, hour after hour.



Windy could go from carrying an adult rider in one hour who would clap his hands to go, to carrying a child the next hour who would point or scream. Some might say Windy had a high level of tolerance, but everyone could see that she had a deep understanding of communication – so much so that one rider even said his first word on her back!

Over the years, our beloved blonde also befriended many kids with fears of abandonment. Whether working with children in the foster care system or English language learners, Windy showed a diverse group of riders that animals have a universal love language.

When she started slowing down, our staff, volunteers, and participants began learning more about her internal health, which prompted us to pay close attention to the whole herd's workload and welfare.

She thoroughly enjoyed our Equine Assisted Learning program that evolved after she stopped mounted lessons. From 2022-2023, Windy worked with kids who experienced disruptions at home. She created "Stable Moments" in the barn which gave them something special to look forward to each week. Windy could always tell when her friends were having a hard time, and she always provided a safe place for them to share their big feelings.

During her time at HGR, Windy provided an incredible 814 lessons to those in need. Windy especially thanks her sponsor Helene Meyer for five years of friendship and generosity which provided the best care for her in her senior years.

Financial Review and Budget Summary

It is my pleasure to share with you the following budget review for operating year 2023 and the planned operating budget for 2024. In seven years, we have come a long way, but there is always more to do. As always, we value transparent and timely communication. In the following two pages you will see a detailed breakdown of HGR's expenditures. Although we may reorganize our short-term goals, service to individuals with special needs and veterans with disabilities remain our constant motivation. We are proud every day of what we have accomplished together.

Respectfully,
Brian McClaren
 Co-Founder, Director of Finance and Operations

2023 Annual Report	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
Income			
Rider Fee Income	\$ 45,000	\$ 74,554.59	\$ 85,000.00
Donation Income	\$ 235,000	\$ 305,900.60	\$ 245,000.00
Other Income	\$ 18,500	\$ 27,789.50	\$ 24,000.00
	\$ -		
Total Income	\$ 298,500	\$ 408,245	\$ 354,000
Expenses			
Contractor - Lawn Care/Snow	\$ 9,800	\$ 24,681.25	\$ 3,000.00
Contractor- Farrier	\$ 4,800	\$ 3,798.02	\$ 4,500.00
Contractor - Veterinarian/Afterlife Care	\$ 13,200	\$ 16,710.76	\$ 18,000.00
Wages (Staff)	\$ 168,000	\$ 162,830.50	\$ 192,000.00
<i>Executive Director, MBA, PATH CTRI & CCS Provider</i>	\$ 45,000	\$ 46,615.00	\$ 50,000.00
<i>Program & Volunteer Coordinator, PATH CTRI & CCS</i>	\$ 35,000	\$ 40,133.00	\$ 43,000.00
<i>PATH Certified Instruction/Therapeutic & Rehabilitation Services</i>	\$ 30,000	\$ 36,777.00	\$ 34,000.00
<i>Facilities Management</i>	\$ 33,000	\$ 19,167.00	\$ 20,000.00
<i>Equine Management, Training, Conditioning/Other</i>	\$ 25,000	\$ 9,285.00	\$ 15,000.00
<i>Kim Berggren, ETC, Adv. PATH Instructor, ESMHL & Mentor</i>	\$ -	\$ 10,853.50	\$ 30,000.00
Employee Benefit	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
PATH Membership(s) Annual Dues	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,054.54	\$ 2,500.00
Liability and Property Insurance	\$ 7,534	\$ 8,056.51	\$ 8,250.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$ 5,600	\$ 10,821.00	\$ 9,000.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 3,800	\$ 2,278.44	\$ 3,000.00
Supplies and Program Materials	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,781.58	\$ 9,500.00
Professional Services/Property Care	\$ 3,250	\$ 4,367.82	\$ 5,000.00
Legal/Accounting/Web	\$ 3,500	\$ 5,211.49	\$ 4,000.00
Meals and Entertainment/HGR Events	\$ 3,500	\$ 5,770.14	\$ 6,500.00
Office Supplies (Printing, Hosting, Publications & Mailing)	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,648.06	\$ 7,000.00
Payroll Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,600.00
Payroll Taxes (FICA)	\$ 12,000	\$ 13,921.00	\$ 13,500.00
Real Estate Tax	\$ 10,347	\$ 20,975.83	\$ -
Maintenance of Facility/Equipment	\$ 4,000	\$ 13,977.83	\$ 3,000.00
Utilities (Water/Sewer/Electric/LP/Internet/Trash)	\$ 13,500	\$ 12,183.00	\$ 13,500.00
Horse Feed (Hay/Grain/Supplements)	\$ 9,000	\$ 12,525.00	\$ 14,000.00
Tack + Horses	\$ 2,500	\$ 404.12	\$ 20,000.00
Capital Expenses	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,922.00	\$ 3,000.00
Total Expenses	\$ 297,831	\$ 343,359	\$ 344,850
Carryover Income	\$ 669	\$ 64,885.80	\$ 9,150

On the following page you will find contextual explanations for material variances from the planned budget. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about HGR's financials.

Rider Fee Income – In 2023 HGR provided more than 1,200 lessons. Rider fees were increased for calendar year 2023 and have been again for 2024. We believe that programming of approximately 1,200 lessons per year is sustainable for our team and herd.

Donation Income – 2023 donation income outpaced expectations as some donors moved up their 2024 donations to 2023 to take advantage of the tax deductions in a year when they could better use them. To the extent possible, we have pre-paid some 2024 expenses to help offset the higher-than-expected income. We expect that 2024 donations will be affected by these choices, but we have budgeted to accommodate.

Contractor – Lawn Care/Snow Removal – EZ Signs and Lawn Care, owned and operated by Jeremy Ebert, continues to exceed expectations. He will continue to provide excellent year-round property services. We paid for the 2023 and 2024 property care contracts in calendar year 2023. The 2024 budget should cover property incidental like storm damage and driveway repairs not included in the PM agreement.

Contractor – Veterinarian/Chiro/Afterlife Care – We were over budget in this category for 2023 due to the reality of an aging herd. These expenses include increased costs for farm calls, general veterinary care, medication, euthanasia, and after life care. The budget for 2024 is based on a package from Fredonia Veterinary Clinic which includes preventative care.

Cost of Labor (Staff) – With limited volunteers and human resources to provide certified instruction under PATH Intl., we made several adjustments to our payroll in 2023 to manage turnover, bolster on-site equine management, and increase instructional staff. We also contracted Kim Berggren, a highly credentialed member of PATH Intl., as an interim director of operations to manage some planned staffing shortages at the end of 2023 and 2024. Kim is not a W2 employee.

Employee Benefit – HGR offers the ability to earn a partial match on professionally managed qualified retirement investments to qualifying staff.

PATH Memberships & Annual Dues – As a Premier center, annual dues are slightly higher, and the CE schedule for instructional staff has been updated to every 24 months. We should be able to allocate those expenses over a longer period of time. HGR staff attended the 2023 national conference in North Carolina and presented at the 2024 regional conference in Wisconsin. In 2025, we intend to send staff to the national conference in Denver, CO.

Workers Compensation Insurance – As expected, HGR was audited in 2023 for payroll records & accounts in 2022; the DWD found that we properly reported our WI employment and wages as required. Our WC classification is expensive, but we are required by state and federal law to participate in the WC Insurance Plan. The audit amounts change annually, and coverage runs from April to April so the bills are paid in unequal and unusual installments.

Supplies and Program Materials – The overage in the budget is due to the expenses associated with complying with the PATH Premier Center guidelines. We purchased a new AED and replaced all of the facility's fire extinguishers. This category is expected to grow slightly YOY as we replace other program tools that have reached the end of their useful life.

Meals and Entertainment/HGR events – The overage in the category is associated with increased cost of hosting the annual Hayburner Fundraiser on site and needing to cover a tent rental, portable restrooms, catering etc. The event was a great success, and we plan to host it on site for the foreseeable future.

Legal/Accounting/Web – The overage is due to website redevelopment and hosting changes made late in 2023. The site has been updated, re-secured and some functionality improved. Some additional web work to help streamline administrative processes will be completed in 2024.

Office Supplies (Printing, Hosting, Publications & Mailing) – This category absorbed our very small marketing budget and is the category for daily use office and barn items. We expect usage to remain similar, but costs to increase due to inflation.

Maintenance of Facility and Equipment – This is only over budget because the program prepaid all of the 2024 loan payments for the Toolcat 5600.

Horse Feed 2023 (Hay) – HGR has established an excellent relationship with a local hay supplier whose cost is as reasonable as the hay market can tolerate. Although costs are budgeted to increase for 2024, this agreement includes storage and delivery.

Real Estate Taxes – Both 2022 and 2023 RE taxes were paid in calendar year 2023. Now that HGR is the owner of the property the appropriate applications for partial RE tax relief have been submitted. We expect relief to begin for the 2024 RE taxes which are payable in 2025.

Tack and Horses – We have budgeted to replace three program horses this year and expect each to cost between \$6,000-\$8,000.

Total Expenses – 2024 is planned to be nearly identical to 2023 because of prepaid PM care and RE tax. Inflation is affecting staffing and material costs. HGR continues to work hard to keep the operating costs down and the costs of service as affordable as possible to participants. HGR remains free of any cost to U.S. Military Veterans.

Thank You For Your Support!



Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center

How You Can Help HGR in 2024 & Beyond

1. **Attend our Annual Hayburner Fundraiser.**

Proceeds benefit our equine assisted services for individuals with special needs & veterans with disabilities.

2. **Support our Next Silent Auction.**

Donate an item or help us invite others to support our mission. Popular items include custom goods, gift certificates, baskets, sporting or musical event tickets, overnight stays, and golf packages.

3. **Help our Herd.**

As we search for additional horses to join our herd, we are also searching for annual sponsorship of their care. Annual horse sponsorships are \$2,000 which include veterinary care, farrier trims, and chiropractic adjustments. Sponsorships do not include the cost of hay, grain, stall shavings, horseshoes, supplements, or end of life care.

4. **Consider a Corporate Matching Gift.**

Many businesses offer matching donations, and every little bit helps! Does your employer care about health and human services, military veterans, or animals? Please ask your employer today or let us know if this is an option, and we'd be happy to connect. A huge shout out to our friends at Aurora, AbbVie, Acuity, and Kemps who have advocated on our behalf and made a meaningful difference!

5. **Make a Planned Gift & Leave a Legacy.**

Help HGR build our endowment. Making a gift to Heaven's Gait Ranch, Inc. in your will or living trust, known as a bequest, can guarantee that your legacy endures. Your gift may be a specific dollar amount, stocks, bonds, an estate, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after all other provisions are specified. If you have named HGR in your will or trust, please let us know so we can ensure your gift is used according to your wishes. If you prefer to remain anonymous, we will keep your name and gift in strict confidence. Please contact 920-400-0628 or info@heavensgaitranch.org.



Text to Give: (920) 315-7551
Keyword: horses

Events in 2024:

- Super Bowl Squares: Feb. 11
- Meat Raffle at Kyote's Bar & Grill: March 16
- Rounds for the Ranch, Charity Clay Tournament: June 7, 2024 from 2:00-7:30 PM at Highland Sportsmen's Club in Cascade, WI
- 2024 Hayburner Fundraiser & Silent Auction: September 14, 2024 from 1-4 PM On site at Heaven's Gait Ranch



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