

## JHTR EARNs BRONZE BEST NONPROFIT



Jackson Hole Therapeutic Riding is proud to accept the award of "Bronze Best Nonprofit" through the Best of JH 2021! With 200+ nonprofits in Teton County, Wyoming, JHTR recognizes the significance of this honor and the overwhelming community support it represents. Since 2019, the organization has ranked in the top three (Silver- 2019, 2020; Bronze- 2021), demonstrating a deep appreciation for our mission and the work we do to empower ability.

We would like to thank our many volunteers, supporters, board/staff members, and horses who—despite the challenges of COVID-19—have continued to work tirelessly to ensure our participants have access to safe, meaningful, and life-enhancing services. We would also like to thank all who voted. The recognition inspires and encourages us to continue doing our very best for those we serve, regardless of obstacles faced.

**Congratulations**  
to all the 2021 Best of JH Winners!





# OPERATIONAL PLAN ADJUSTMENTS & SAFETY

The team at Jackson Hole Therapeutic Riding is excited to resume serving our community through in-person programming. In order to do so while ensuring the health and safety of our participants, volunteers, staff and supporters, we've made necessary modifications to our operations. Our decisions will continue to be guided by our core values and modified as necessary based on state, local, and CDC guidelines and recommendations.

**COVID-19 SCREENING**  
mandatory for all entering JHTR property

**MASKS MANDATORY**  
for everyone at all times while on JHTR grounds

**STRICT SANITATION PROTOCOLS**  
upheld on a daily and weekly basis



**REDUCED CAPACITY**  
of 60% to reduce exposure by minimizing number of individuals on site



**SESSION DATES**  
SESSION 1: May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>  
SESSION 2: Jun 14<sup>th</sup> – Jul 2<sup>nd</sup>  
SESSION 3: July 12<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>  
SESSION 4: Aug 9<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>  
SESSION 5: Sep 13<sup>th</sup> – Oct 8<sup>th</sup>

**STOMPING THE DIVOTS**  
to be replaced by "Back in the Saddle" campaign; more information to follow

## JHTR HERD RETURNS TO THE ARENA

After too long away, the horse herd at JHTR is back at the facility! Most of the horses are refreshed from their full year out of our arena and ready to get back to work. Josh is especially excited to see participants and volunteers coming back to the arena. He looks excitedly at each person who comes up the driveway. Buckwheat, Henry, and Rodger spent 2020 at different locations learning new skills to help them serve our community. Our two new additions to our herd, Tuck and Tater, are becoming accustomed to life in town and are learning their roles as mounts at JHTR. Duke, Dakota, Charlie Brown, Taco, and Two Socks are back in the routine of lessons. They are eager to meet the newest participants and to help them feel confident in the saddle.

It is wonderful to have full stalls and active arenas at JHTR so we can fulfill our mission for 2021. We would love for you to stop by and say hi to the herd...and they would appreciate a treat for all their hard work!

**EMILY STEPHENS**  
Equine Manager

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

After a year of missing our smiling volunteer faces, it has been a pleasure to welcome volunteers (new and returning) back to the arena. It has been fun to see participants reunite with their favorite horse and volunteers whom they have not seen in over a year.

While several volunteers have returned to JHTR, we have seen a sharp decrease in volunteer numbers—likely due to concerns over COVID-19. We understand the pandemic has heightened everyone's sense of security, but want to ensure volunteers we have implemented strict safety measures to protect all who enter our doors. Various safety measures include passing the COVID check in station and alerting volunteers on Volgistics if a participant cannot wear a mask for medical reasons. It is of the utmost importance to us that our volunteers feel

comfortable carrying out their role, whatever it may be.

Training is another area we have changed with safety in mind. Volunteers no longer need to schedule a time to come into the facility, but can instead train via video! This makes training quick and easy, as individuals can refresh their skills (or learn new ones) from the comfort of their home.

With these safety measures in mind, we hope that you will find comfort in returning to the arena. Your help is critical in ensuring we can provide services to our participants who so greatly benefit from this work.

We hope to see you at the arena soon!

**MARA KINGSCOTT**  
Volunteer Coordinator

## OVERCOMING CHALLENGES & GETTING BACK IN THE SADDLE



After a disappointing year-long closure due to COVID-19, Jackson Hole Therapeutic Riding is thrilled to announce that our facility has officially reopened for the 2021 season! On May 3rd, staff and horses enthusiastically welcomed participants, volunteers, and families back to the arena. While masks have blocked familiar smiles from being seen, the joy and excitement has been evident in the bright, eager eyes of all who've entered our doors.

Horse and human alike have been delighted to return to their active roles of empowering, inspiring, and enriching lives. However, while restrictions have eased and traditional programming has resumed, COVID-19 remains an active concern—one that continues to impact both operations and funds.

To protect the health and safety of our participants, volunteers, and staff, the center is currently operating at a reduced ridership capacity

of 60%. And while participation levels have temporarily decreased, staffing needs have conversely increased in an effort to address the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. Strict sanitizing protocols, reduced volunteerism, and the COVID-19 screening station necessitate supplementary personnel. Likewise, health concerns have mandated the purchase of PPE and ample sanitation supplies. Overall, the potential for earned revenue through lesson fees has decreased sharply while employee and supply expenses have risen exponentially.

Decreased income and increased costs are not the only challenge faced. JHTR has once again made the difficult decision to cancel our in-person Stomping the Divots fundraiser. This annual event is responsible for raising nearly 65% of the program's annual operating budget. Without it, JHTR is left with a funding gap of \$300,000. This would be a difficult loss in a normal year; during the times of COVID, a loss this significant would be detrimental. We invite you to participate in our "Back in the Saddle" campaign to help bridge this gap.

As we adapt to these new economic realities, we urge you to consider supporting JHTR to the degree you are able. Whether it is a financial contribution or a donation of time or resources, your support is needed now more than ever before.

In times like this, we're reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community. Without you, none of it is possible.

**TORI PLENNES**  
Executive Director

## DEDICATION TO ADAPTABILITY

Adapting (*verb*): to adjust oneself to different conditions, environments, etc. The act of adapting has always been at the forefront of our decision making at JHTR. We adapt the sport of horseback riding to fit the needs of our participants. We adapt the way we teach, the tack we use, the languages spoken and the support included. We believe that adaptation is a crucial element in empowering ability.

This belief in the power of adaptability has proved increasingly important as we continue to navigate the changes in our world. We have faced numerous new obstacles as we have reopened

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our doors. The lack of socialization has impacted many of our participants on varying levels, making the transition back to riding and resuming other daily activities both jarring and challenging. As a team, we continue to adapt the ways we communicate, encourage, set goals and work together to best support these participants. Additionally, our programming has seen both logistical and curricular changes, all with the goal to acclimate to new needs while maintaining our dedication to serving our community. These changes include extending our Virtual Engagement Programming into a year-round offering to ensure we are serving those participants who aren't able to be with us in person.

Our dedication to adaptability will continue to be a key factor in all of our programming to ensure that we can continue to empower, inspire and enrich lives no matter the circumstances.

**ADRIENE HENDERSON**  
Program Director

