

STOMPING THE DIVOTS RETURNS TO THE POLO FIELDS!



POLO • DINNER • DANCING • AUCTION

After a two-year hiatus, we are thrilled to announce the return of our annual fundraiser, Stomping the Divots, on Saturday, August 13!

As our most significant fundraiser of the year, this event raises over half of JHTR's annual operating budget making it possible to achieve our mission. Your attendance supports our ability to empower, inspire, and enrich lives. So, gather your friends and reserve your tickets/tables as the stage is set for one of the most anticipated summertime events in Jackson Hole!

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Scan to Learn More



A LOOK AT THE SEASON AHEAD

On May 2nd, Jackson Hole Therapeutic Riding welcomed back participants for Spring Session 2022. Feeling more like winter than spring, staff, volunteers, and participants were nonetheless eager to get back in the saddle after a long winter away from the barn. In addition to familiar faces, many new volunteers and participants have joined us this year. Together, we look forward to an exciting season ahead. Please mark your calendars:

SESSION DATES

SESSION 1: May 2nd – 27th
SESSION 2: Jun 13th – Jul 29th
SESSION 3: Aug 15th – Sep 2nd
SESSION 4: Sep 19th – Oct 14th

STOMPING THE DIVOTS

returns to the Melody Ranch Polo Fields on August 13th



OLD BILL'S FUN RUN

Don't miss out on the fun-filled community event supporting local nonprofits on Saturday, September 10th



JHTR EARNS SILVER

For the fourth year in a row, JHTR has been voted as one of the top three nonprofits in Jackson through Best of JH!



DIEHL GALLERY EXHIBITION

will donate a portion of all proceeds to benefit JHTR
AUG 18TH – SEP 3RD

GRANT FUNDING PROVIDES SHELTER

As our clientele has grown, so too has the need to expand our program resources. At the most fundamental level, more riders require more horses. More horses in turn necessitate other additional resources, such as shelter.

As JHTR does not have onsite pasture, horses must be housed in stalls Monday through Friday. With space for only ten horses in our existing permanent stalls, additional stalls have become necessary.

In April, just before the start of session, the JHTR staff worked together to construct four stalls and shade structures. An unexpected snow storm made for a wet, chilly build day and highlighted the necessity of the shelters.

JHTR wishes to thank to the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole and the Manne McGregor Charitable Fund whose grant funding made this project possible. We are immensely grateful for their support and generosity in sheltering our most critical resource—our horses.

thank you!

EMPOWERED, INVIGORATED, AND HUMBLERED JHTR AIMS FOR FULL CAPACITY



Last year, ridership capacity was reduced to roughly 60% in order to protect the health and safety of participants, volunteers, and staff amid coronavirus concerns. Today, as the country emerges from the restrictions of the last two years, we are excited to announce our plan to return to full capacity!

With more participants seeking our services this year than ever before, it is evident that increasing our capacity is essential. But it also means an even greater need for volunteers, horses,

and financial support in order for JHTR to reach this goal while continuing to deliver effective and affordable services.

Increased capacity, however, does not mean a return to our pre-COVID state. Throughout the pandemic, we learned valuable information, gained profound insight, adopted new tools, and discovered innovative approaches to service delivery. Our team grew stronger, wiser, and more resilient. As an organization, we became even more grounded and clear on our mission.

“Increased capacity, however, does not mean a return to our pre-COVID state.”

As we return to full capacity, we do so equipped with the knowledge gained, and more empowered, invigorated, and humbled than ever before. We know that the realization of our mission cannot be accomplished by us alone—we need help from people like you. We ask that you please consider a contribution of time or resources as we seek to sustain our exceptional programs and maximize our impact moving forward.

TORI PLENNES
Executive Director

WHAT MAKES A THERAPY HORSE?

In the world of equine assisted services, horses are—understandably—a requisite for program delivery. Simply having four legs, a mane and tail, however, does not a suitable therapy horse make. To be a therapy horse requires innate personality traits that cannot be taught. Therapy horses are naturally quiet, patient and forgiving animals. They are tolerant of their environment and of their riders, enjoy attention, have exceptional ground manners, and are accepting of people on all sides of them while being ridden. Because participants' actions are not always predictable, a therapy horse must also tolerate a sudden shout or spastic movement.

Due to their vital role, we are extremely selective in determining which horses are accepted into our herd. We use a set of strict criteria and a multi-step evaluation process to ensure a horse will adequately fulfill our program needs and safety requirements.

Initial Evaluation: Here we consider the horse's age, health history, conformation, temperament, and soundness.

Site Visit: If deemed a prospect, a site visit is scheduled to evaluate the horse in its current environment. JHTR staff assess the horse on the ground and under saddle, exposing them to various props and circumstances common in our programs.

Trial Period: If a horse passes all mandatory evaluation criteria and meets the current needs of the program, it will move onto a 14-day trial period at the JHTR facility. The horse's aptitude for the program is thoroughly evaluated through the abovementioned tests, as well as exposure to various therapy equipment, including our overhead lift. The horse's reactions, ongoing soundness, happiness, and ability to be stalled mid-week as well as turned out with our current herd are scrutinized and graded.



Veterinary Check: Upon successful completion of the trial period, the horse must pass a comprehensive veterinary check to rule out any health concerns or unforeseen issues that might present excessive costs of care.

Purchase: After a nearly month-long process, JHTR eagerly welcomes the new horse to the herd. Ongoing training throughout the horse's tenure with the program will further develop and maintain skills critical to therapeutic activities.

Not all horses are equipped for work at a therapeutic riding facility. It takes a unique and special animal to fulfill this role. We are tremendously grateful for the exceptional horses that make up our herd and invite you to stop by the arena to witness them as they enrich the lives of those we serve.

JHTR is currently in need of four horses. If you know a horse that meets the criteria listed above, please consider contacting us!

TORI PLENNES
Executive Director

DIFFERENT STORIES, SAME BELIEF



At JHTR, volunteers are the backbone of our organization and an essential component of our ability to offer services to our participants. But where do these volunteers come from and why are they drawn to JHTR?

Volunteers come to JHTR for many reasons and from many walks of life. They are young high school kids looking to fulfill community service hours, college-aged students interested in pursuing a career in equine assisted services, adults searching for a meaningful way to impact their community, and retirees making valuable use of their free time.

Some volunteers have connections to the participants outside of JHTR. They may be current or former educators

who wish to continue having an impact on their student's life outside of the classroom. They might even be a fellow student, friend, or sibling to a participant.

Many local businesses that support JHTR philanthropically also encourage their staff to be involved as a volunteer.

No matter how individuals come to volunteer with us, they all have something in common—they believe in what JHTR stands for and are committed to giving back and empowering ability in the lives of our participants. We are tremendously grateful for their time and effort at the arena and the impact they have on those we serve!

Contact us today to learn more!

MARA KINGSCOTT
Volunteer Coordinator