



HIGHHOPES

Horses and Humans Improving Lives

High Hopes fosters a vibrant community where horse and human interactions improve lives.

1,405

people benefited from life changing services provided by 15 instructors

387 volunteers

devoted 12,697 hours

22 horses

4,500 bales of hay totaling 180,000 pounds per year

375 bags of grain totaling 18,750 pounds per year

91,250 gallons of water per year



Working with horses provides our participants with social, emotional and physical opportunities they aren't able to experience in their day to day lives.

Thank you **Essex Savings Bank** and its customers for special consideration of **High Hopes** in our **50th anniversary year**

The logo consists of the word "one" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font above the word "HEALTH" in a white, uppercase, sans-serif font, both centered within a solid green square.

one
HEALTH

one health countless opportunities

Every day, we see the High Hopes mission come to life as our participants take the reins. It never ceases to inspire us, watching the incredible strides they make by building trust and confidence through the shared, unspoken connection with a horse.

That relationship between horses and humans is the heart of our purpose, but it goes much deeper. Our **One Health** approach recognizes that the **health of people** is closely connected to the **health of animals** and our **shared environment**. This philosophy goes hand in hand with our mission and creates new opportunities to better serve our participants, horses, farm, and beyond.



Our Vision:

High Hopes' participants
and the community
will be enriched by the
provision of unique and
impactful services which
respond to the changing
needs of our community
with flexibility, creativity
and quality.

For more information or to volunteer
please visit us at
<https://highhopestr.org/>
High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.
36 Town Woods Rd
Old Lyme, CT 06371
860.434.1974

One Health for people.

- **Participants:** Providing direct therapeutic services for people with diagnoses, veterans, and others in need
- **Families and Caregivers:** Improving outcomes for loved ones in a community of unconditional acceptance
- **Volunteers:** Enriching lives by providing the opportunity to help others and receive training, education, and appreciation
- **Staff:** Prioritizing a workplace culture of kindness and respect that makes employees feel appreciated and empowered

One Health for animals.

- **Wellness:** Providing the highest quality routine and emergency care for our horses
- **Stables:** Maintaining optimal living conditions that are clean, safe, and tailored to each equine's needs
- **Grounds:** Creating a garden to promote a pollinator-friendly habitat and encourage green space to respect all wildlife
- **Education:** Collaborating with Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center (RTPEC) for educational programs and staffing

how we're bringing One Health to life



One Health for the environment.

- **Maintenance:** Dedicating year-round staff to protect and care for the property, trails, and wetlands
- **Protection:** Transferring development rights to the state to protect the future use of the farm
- **Reuse and Recycle:** Practicing responsible manure management as part of initiatives to recycle and minimize waste
- **Green Practices:** Using environmentally sensitive pest and weed control methods



50
YEARS

HIGHHOPES

50 Years of Empowering Lives

A central graphic with a white background and a green border. At the top is a stylized horse head logo composed of orange and blue lines. Below the logo, the text "50 YEARS" is written in orange, "HIGHHOPES" in blue, and "50 Years of Empowering Lives" in orange.



High Hopes Therapeutic Riding 2022–2023 Annual Report

Founded in 1974 by Sis Gould and a dedicated group of volunteers, High Hopes Therapeutic Riding has grown into a premier accredited therapeutic riding center. The mission of High Hopes is to foster a vibrant community where horse and human interactions improve lives. We serve people with physical, emotional, and developmental disabilities.

Our One Health approach recognizes that the health of people is interconnected with the health of animals and our shared environment. We've watched participants bring newfound confidence back to their communities, we've witnessed the shared pride between horses and participants, and we've felt the wide environmental impact of caring for our trails and wetlands.

Our year-round programs in equine assisted services include therapeutic riding, carriage driving, and equine learning. We also offer experiential learning through outreach programs, an integrated summer camp program, and a variety of volunteer opportunities.

Our training and education opportunities attract students from all over the world. We provide continuing professional education for anyone seeking increased education and lifelong learning.

High Hopes envisions a future where equine assisted services and programs transform and enrich the lives of our participants and volunteers promoting a more engaged, resilient, and fulfilled life.



50 Years of Empowering Lives

Message from Board Chair, Peter Watt
and Executive Director, Kitty Stalsburg

There are milestones in every organization that inspire a reflective pause and celebration. March of 2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Lower Connecticut Valley Educational Riding, Assoc. (or more fondly known as LCVERA) and today, what we know and love as High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

The privilege of serving the community through the years, watching lives change, children grow, volunteers smile and horses trotting around the arena has been profound. The ability to impact so many in different ways, and to empower and improve lives, has been the driving force behind this organization.

This annual report provides a reflection of progress through the decades and a path to the future with the unveiling of a new Strategic Plan. We look forward to an impactful future serving the evolving needs of our community. We are deeply grateful for the support of our donors, volunteers and staff who empower the High Hopes mission.



Annual Report Message from 50th Anniversary Co-Chairs

50 years of empowering lives. Our humble beginnings in 1974 began with a single horse and an idea. Today, we celebrate each milestone over the past 50 years. 2024 will be a year of remembrance, reunion and community. From historical photos on social media to recordings of our oral history, we are capturing the journey from Lower Connecticut Educational Riding Association, (LCVERA) to High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc. From nomad to permanent home, from children and adults with disabilities to volunteers of all ages, High Hopes has touched the lives of thousands over the past 50 years. Each week will bring more memories, each event more opportunities to gather and share. We hope you enjoy the ride through history as shared in the annual report. High Hopes invites you to be a part of the celebration. Whether from near or far, share your story or come for a visit. Keep an eye on the website for events throughout the year. Happy 50th!

Jane and Keith Bolles
Holly and Jeff Ridgway
50th Anniversary Co-Chairs





The Lower Connecticut Valley Educational Riding Association had life-transforming aspirations. That legacy guides us today and into the future.

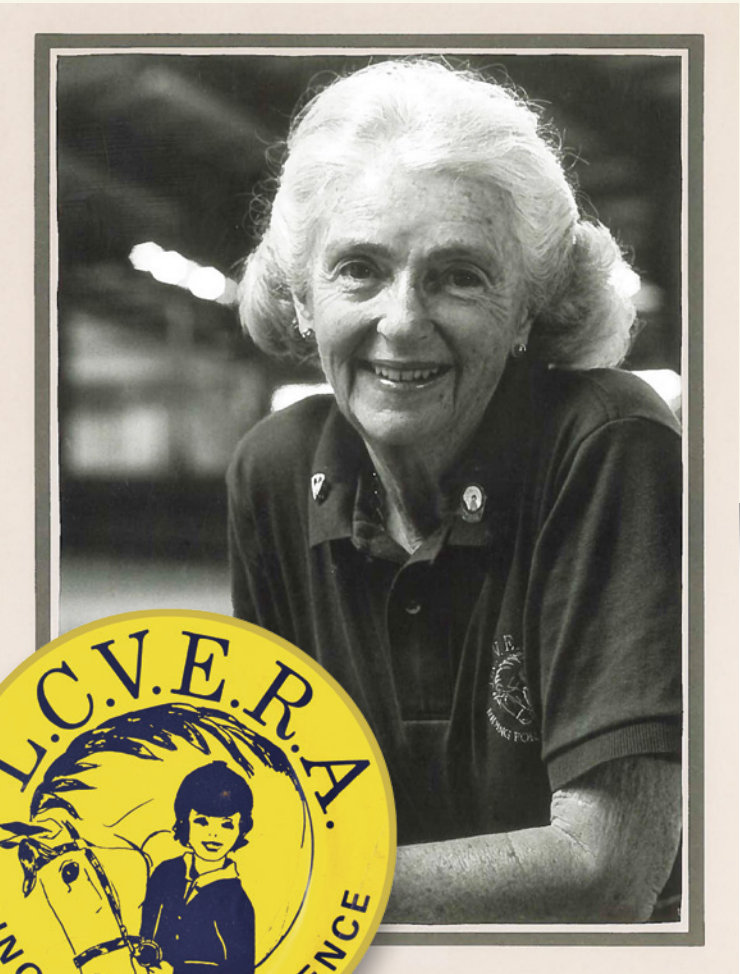
Inspiring Hope

1974-1983

Major Events

- ★ 1974 – Lower Connecticut Valley Educational Riding Association founded by Sis Gould. Eight riders from Essex Elementary School, 10 volunteers, eight riders and borrowed horses.
- ★ 1977 – High Hopes passed a rigorous review to receive a provisional accreditation by PATH International (formerly NARHA).
- ★ By 1979 High Hopes had 28 riders, 32 volunteers and a paid riding instructor, operating in three separate rented locations. In 1979 High Hopes also became one of the first therapeutic riding centers in the country to receive full accreditation from PATH International (formerly NARHA)
- ★ Spring 1979 – inception of volunteer training program. First seminar was a four hour session. “A well-trained core of volunteers is the single most important key to the success of this program.”
- ★ Expanded to three locations in 1979 – three CP children receiving therapy at the Gould’s, six learning disabled children from Essex Elementary School at Crickelwood Farm in Lyme, and 18 children from Madison/Guilford at Race Hill Farm in North Madison.

Sis worked tirelessly to make the experience of horses and horseback riding available to all people, especially those with physical, mental, or emotional needs. She was convinced that horses, riding them and caring for them, could do wonders for confidence and self-esteem.



Foundation of Hope 1984-1993

Major Events

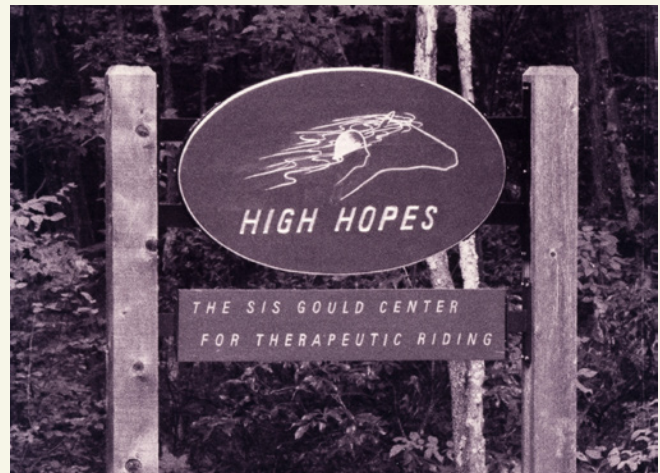
- ★ 1985 we purchased two horse trailers, hired an executive director, hired a part-time physical therapist and added a volunteer instructor/physical therapist to our therapy team. We were serving 69 riders with 74 volunteers. Operating out of four different locations made it difficult to deliver our services and care for the horses.
- ★ Friday, June 27, 1986 first Symphony in the Meadow, hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamilton in Hadlyme. New Haven Symphony Orchestra performed. Mrs. George Bush was honorary chairman of the event.
- ★ In 1986 we were able to lease a facility in Lyme, Connecticut.
- ★ October 4, 1987 designated National Ride-A-Thon Day in the state of Connecticut by Governor William

O'Neill in tribute to the members of the Lower Connecticut Valley Educational Riding Association and in support and appreciation of its work.

- ★ Leased with option to buy Mr. and Mrs. John Roberts' land on Town Woods Road with State of Connecticut approval for use.
- ★ April 1989 – name change contest – 77 suggestions winnowed to four. The winner was Cookie Strong with “High Hopes.”
- ★ 1990 – Named for the founder of High Hopes, the Sis Gould Center for Therapeutic Riding opened in Old Lyme in 1990, providing a single permanent home for High Hopes. We began operations in the new center with nine staff members and 13 horses, serving 85 participants per week with help from 150 to 200 volunteers.



In 1989 new logo is executed by Lionetti but the design was by former board member Bruce McGhie.



- ★ October 1990 – Dedication ceremony and opening day celebration at 36 Town Woods Road. Executive Director Judith Lovelace. Served 80 participants ages 2-56, with 210 volunteers and 12 horses.
- ★ November 1990 – Delta Society awarded High Hopes the International Model Therapeutic Riding Program Award, recognizing High Hopes for “setting a standard of excellence to which all other therapeutic riding programs should aspire.” Delta Society is an international organization dedicated to promoting the animal-human bond through research and education.
- ★ 1992 – An anonymous challenge grant of \$100,000 is given to High Hopes and met! The Scholarship program is initiated. Ronald McDonald Children’s Charities gives High Hopes a major grant to pave stable aisles, build a new mounting ramp and purchase an overhead lift – all to facilitate handicap access.

- ★ 1991 – first winter program - 5 weeks indoors
- ★ Host site for the 1993 Connecticut Special Olympics Equestrian Games on June 11, 1993. Over 40 athletes from Connecticut competed.
- ★ 1993 – Opening ceremonies for the newly rebuilt Baldwin Bridge. We rode across on horseback.



Organizing Hope

1994-2003



Major Events

- ★ High Hopes was the first independent therapeutic riding center approved to teach the PATH Intl. instructor training course. Only five centers nationwide are approved to teach this course which is designed to prepare students for NARHA's three-level instructor certification exam.
- ★ 1995 – High Hopes loses its founder, Sis Gould.
- ★ 2000 – High Hopes program director, Kitty Stalsburg is elected President of NARHA Board of Directors; Kathy Heller named 2000 NARHA National Adult Independent Rider of the Year; Anita P. “Tia” Smith named 2000 NARHA Region I Volunteer of the Year; Cody 2000 NARHA Region I Horse of the Year.
- ★ 1999-2000 – Acquired an additional 62 acres of land contiguous to existing property for a total of 125 acres, thanks to both Daitch and Guitar families.



In 1995, High Hopes hosted the Equestrian events in the Special Olympics World Games, attracting 174 riders from 22 states and 30 foreign countries, resulting in national recognition beyond the therapeutic riding industry.



- ★ 2000 – Completed \$2.6 million Capital & Endowment Campaign for the renovation and expansion of the Sis Gould Center for Therapeutic Riding.
- ★ By 2001, High Hopes had completed another milestone campaign that provided the funds to expand the facility to include a classroom, therapy room and office space for its growing staff.
- ★ July 2002 – Hosted the NARHA Region 1 Conference attended by 150 professionals and volunteers from other therapeutic riding centers in the Northeast. Conference was kicked off with our first ever ITC reunion.

- ★ 2002 – The Cain family established a fund for High Hopes in member of George Cain, FDNY Ladder 7 firefighter who lost his life in the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001
- ★ Teddy named PATH Region I Horse of the year.
- ★ Sarah Miller named PATH Region I Credentialed Professional of the Year.



Building Hope

2004-2013

Major Events

- ★ 2005 – September 29, 2005 declared High Hopes Volunteer Day throughout the state of Connecticut by proclamation from Governor Jodie Rell.
- ★ 2007 – We are named a Horse Farm of Environmental Distinction per the Connecticut Horse Environmental Awareness Program.
- ★ 2009 – First High Hopes Hoedown.
- ★ 2009 – First year of Horses for Heros veterans program.
- ★ 2009 – First year collaborating with L&M Hospital. Project was first year of week-long Autism Immersion camp.
- ★ 2009 – First year for Horse Sense summer program.
- ★ 2009 – High Hopes received a Connecticut General Assembly Official Citation with congratulations in recognition of the 35th anniversary.
- ★ 2012 – High Hopes chosen as a “Champion in Action” by Citizens Bank. Award includes a \$10,000 grant.
- ★ 2012 – Created the Legacy Society.
- ★ 2013 – Camp Harkness pilot program. Half Pint, Buddy, and Hummer were chosen for riding lessons. Candy and Lightning were the carriage driving horses.



Horse Sense was created in 2009 to meet an increasing focus of High Hopes' program development to meet the needs of young people in crisis.



Planning Hope

2014-2023

Major Events

- ★ 2014 – We have a new, 21st century logo.
 - ★ 2019 – Successful completion of \$3 million Share Hope endowment campaign.
 - ★ 2019 – Recognized as a 2019 Equus Foundation Guardian.
 - ★ 2020 – 3/17/2020 at 12pm, High Hopes closes due to Covid-19.
 - ★ 2021 – Tailgate Big Barn Bash
 - ★ 2023 – First Nature Day in collaboration with Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, Friends of the Forest, and Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center.
- ★ 2023 – April – Wellness retreat for 30 women – with therapeutic journaling, yoga and mindfulness with horses.
 - ★ 2023 – May – First Responders/Veterans Open House in collaboration with Groton and Southern Police Departments, IHeart Radio and featuring seven police comfort dogs.
 - ★ 2023 – Summer – piloted new “Healing Hearts” program for women with stress/anxiety/depression/PTSD/grief – a weekly unmounted program.
 - ★ 2023 – Equus Foundation awarded High Hopes the Guardian Seal of Transparency.
 - ★ 2023 – Equus Foundation awarded High Hopes the Horse Whisperers Award.



From 2019 to 2023 High Hopes is named a PATH International Premier Accredited Center.





Annual Giving



High Hopes greatly appreciates the individual donors who have invested in our mission.

Scan QR code for a complete list of donors, or please visit:

<https://highhopestr.org/about/annual-reports/2022-2023-individual-donors/>



Foundation Support

Branford Community Foundation
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT
Chester Kitchings Family Foundation
Chichester duPont Foundation, Inc.
Citizens Charitable Foundation
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
Community Foundation of Middlesex County, Inc.
EBB Tithes, Inc. The Eleanor Rickel Charitable Foundation
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Frank Loomis Palmer Fund
Gardiner Family Foundation
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
Howe Charitable Fund
Kitchings Family Foundation
Laura J. Niles Foundation, Inc.
MHK Foundation
Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation
Nordson Corporation Foundation
Old Saybrook Rotary Club Foundation
Pine Bar Cornerstone Foundation
Prtichard Family Foundation
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The Equus Foundation, Inc.
The Hope Goddard Iselin Foundation
The Howard Bayne Fund
The Louise H. & David S. Ingalls Foundation
The Madison Foundation
The R.S. Gernon Trust
The Rockfall Foundation
The SPOUT Foundation
The Taft Foundation
The Westbrook Foundation
Thompson Family Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation
United Way of Central and Northeastern CT
Vermont Community Foundation
Wireless Zone Gives



Corporate Support

A.J. Shea Construction LLC
All American Waste, LLC
All Pro Automotive
Alternative Business Accommodations
Aludium
Amanda Surveski Wildlife Art
Amazonian Skinfood
American Cruise Lines
Andre Prost, Inc.
Annalyn Jewellery
Anonymous
Ariston Floral Boutique
Artemisia, Inc
Atlas Holdings LLC
Atlas Outdoor Living
Autumn & Violet
Beacon Hill Books & Cafe
Benchmark Wealth Management, LLC
Benedetto Heating & A.C., LLC
Big Y
Birdling Bags
Black Hawk Fishing
Black Orchid Skincare
Bridgewell Resources
Brushlie Design
Bureau's Sugarhouse and Maple
Kettle Korn
Burnett's Landscaping, Inc.
Carefree Boat Club - Southeastern CT
Carlex
CarolHuntsDesigns
Cartier Optical, Inc.
Cash True Value
Center Street Soap Company
Centerbrook Architects and Planners
Charter Oak Credit Union
Chelsea Groton Bank
Clif Bar and Company
Citizens Securities - Ted Schaaf

Coffee's Country Market
Colchester Curry House
Cold Spring Farm
Connecticut Club
Managers Association
Connecticut Dressage Association
Connecticut Orthopaedics in Essex
CorePlus Credit Union
Cottage Potter
Crunchy Diva Designs
Cybergrants
Daniels Energy, Inc.
Detail Freak
Deveaux Lawn & Landscape
Dime Bank
Dominion Energy
Dragon Fly Jewelry
Dreamscapes Marketing & Design
Duncan Downie's Septic & Excavation
Durham Equestrian
East Haddam Fish and Game Club
Eastern CT Chamber of Commerce
Elea
Empowered by Wellness, LLC
Environmental Systems Corp
Equine Insight
Erin DeLuca Jewelry
Essex Marine Group
Essex Savings Bank
Eversource
Excessorize
Exencial Wealth Advisors
Essence Center for
Beauty and Wellness
Fiber & Mud - Flatland Alpacas
Fidelity Charitable
Finch Paper LLC
Finkeldey BMJ
Fit Focused
Flanders Fish Market & Restaurant
Fos Scale Models
Four Dogs Woodworking, LLC

Franklin Organic Mushrooms, Inc.
Fromage Fine Foods & Coffees
Fryborg
Generators On Demand
Geneve Corporation
Gold Goats farm
Gold Leaf Home
Gordon ADR
Grand Prix Equine
Grand Wine & Spirits
Granite Shore Power
Granny's Pie Factory
Guilford Savings Bank
Gull Associates
Hall Communications, Inc.
Heidi Taschen
Holm-Hansen Woodturning
Homeward Collective
Ice Cream Emergency
International Wire Group
JD Guenther Associates LLC
Jean and John King
The Herb Chambers Companies
Julia Balfour, LLC
Junk 2 Junque
K Blake and Company
Killam & Bassette Farmstead, LLC.
Killingworth Lions Club
Kindle Energy
Kingsville Grower Nursery
Kiwanis Club of New London
La Fonda on the Plaza
La Gondola Providence Inc.
Lawrence + Memorial Hospital
Laysville Center Hardware
Liberty Bank
Little Bee of Connecticut
Lorensen Auto Group
LSC Communications
Lydia.Tucci Jewelry
Mahi Gold Outfitters
MAR Florals



Corporate Support

continued

Marcal Paper
Marilyn Mae Farm LLC
MarnaRooms
Matunuck Oyster Bar
Mellifera Pottery
Meriano's Bakery & Cannoli Truck
Middlesex Health
Millar Western Forest Products
Mohegan Tribe
Morgan Stanley - Dave Adams
Munchies Food Truck, LLC
Musical Masterworks
New England Power Equipment
Nic and the Newfie
Novak Brothers Landscaping
NPX ONE LLC
Ocean Visits
 Underwater Photography
Oh Fudge and More, LLC
Old Lyme Landscape
Overabove, LLC
Paulson Training Programs, Inc.
Pearls & Plaid
Penny Lane Pub & Restaurant
Perfect Poundcake
Permasteelisa Group
Polished Medspa
Pough Interiors
Power Posse Productions
Principle Wealth Partners
Purring Pottery
Queenvanna Creations
R.J. Julie Booksellers
Red Built
Reynolds' Subaru & Reynolds Boats
River Valley Periodontics
 & Implant Dentistry
Robinson+Cole

Rotary Club of Deep River
S.D. Hallahan Housewright, Inc.
Sabina Furst Designs
Salon Pure
Sandy Thurston
Sankow's Beaver Brook Farm
Santa Fe Opera
Saxco International LLC
Saybrook Home
Saybrook Point Resort and Marina
Shagbark Lumber & Farm Supplies
Shetucket Valley Pony Club
Shoreline Eye Group
Shoreline Ladies Golf League
Shoreline Pediatric Neuro-
 psychological Services, LLC
Simply K Studio
Slocum & Sons
Smith Brothers Insurance
Southern Reins
 Center for Equine Therapy
SP Richards Co
Spark Brighter Thinking
Sperry View Farm
Stanley Black and Decker
Stonington Vineyards
Stryten Energy
Sunset Farm
SuperSeedz
Supreme Hot Dog
Sweet Seidner's
Taylor Rental Party Plus
Terra Firma Farm
The Blue Hound
The Capitol Grille
The Chocolate Shell
The E List
The Ear Inn
The Florence Griswold Museum
The Guilford Savings Bank
The Hartford
The Ivoryton Playhouse

The RiverLane
The Rolling Tomato
The Spring Wellness
The Study at Yale
The Tardy Twins
The Williams School
The Ocean House
The Woolly Sisters
Thierry, Inc.
Timothy Pamment Salon
Tops Products
Tower Laboratories
Town of Old Lyme
Travelers Community Connections
Treasures
Treatzles
Treefort N saturals
Twin Rivers Paper Company
Two B's Accessories
United Ag & Turf
United Parking LLC
Valenti Auto Group
Vegetable Ivory
Veritas Steel LLC
VFW Post 1467
VFW Post 4608
Water-Flo Inc.
Waterford High School
Waterview Landscaping
Waystone Farm, LLC
Wendy Clare Designs
Wicked Tulips
Wild Carrot Woven
William Pitt/Sotheby's
 International Realty
Wolf Tree Landscape
 Architecture, LLC
Yali Stonington
You, Me and The Sea Essex



In Honor Of

Barbara & John Kashanski
Cemmy and Michael Ryland
Churro
Clay Gilbert
Cole and Warrior
Debbie and John Welles
Ed and Mary Jane Fegan
Emma Smith
Greg and Tina Szoka Rheume & the 4 leggeds
Holly Ridgway
Holly Webb
Janet M. Romanowski
Josh Webster
Lynn Fuda
Maris Wacs
Mark Czmyr
Matthew, James and Andrew Scotella
Melinda Stelzner
Michael Gumbardo
Oliver
Olusegun I Akinwande and Funmilayo O Akinwande
Our Horses
Pat Carta
Patti Coyle
Peter Curley and Elaine Gordon
Rachel Halterman
Reese Harvey Harris III
Robin Wallace
Ronald and Janet Romanowski
Ryan and Linda Romanowski
Sandy Mulligan
Sarah Hill Canning
Savannah
Scotella Boys
Sue Chodorov and Bob Crane
The Curley-Scotella Family
Tommy Willis
Trudy and Todd Burgess
Wilhem Meya and Barbara Willkens

In Memory Of

Aileen Livingston
Allison Bond
Anne Murphy Hall
Annette M. Pelletier
Ashley Key
Bill Prout
Candy
Charmer
Chris Coyle
Christina Watson
Cissie Keogh
Dan Marderosian
Danielle Fogle
David Regan
Dawn Fisher
Don Schmaling and his huge love of horses
Donald Morrell
Dr. Robert C. Recor
Ellen Au-Yang
Gurdon B. Wattles
Hillary McCurdy
Jake Jacobs
Joanne Centola
Joe Elnisky
John Greene
John Poer
Jon-Paul Moore
Joseph Curley
Joy Hewitt
Julian Colelli
Kathleen Colangelo Record
Lousie C. Fezza
Margot Donkin Morgan
Nancy Cash
Nancy Harris
Natalie Bieber
Peter Bierrie
Petra Shearer
Siborg Memorial
Sis Gould
Steve Manne
Steve Slanoc
Tony Thurston
UC Songmaster
Vodka and Cali





The Legacy Society recognizes donors who have established a planned gift. These meaningful intentions ensure High Hopes can deliver on our mission for years to come. The Legacy Garden overlooking Hartman Pond is a tranquil place celebrating members of the Society.

Legacy Society

Anonymous
Matt Abrams and Dr. Barbara Abrams
Mary Bell
Barbara Benjamin
Jane and Keith Bolles
Eleanor Bonafonte
Gary F. Borla
John M. and Athana Catlett
Hannah Childs
James M. Childs
Susan K. Childs
Susan Crane-Chodorov and Robert Crane
Judith Cohen
Marjorie (Marge) Curtis
Elizabeth L. David
Janie Davison*
Emily T. Fisher
Sherley and Michael Furgueson
Koko Gildersleeve
Hon. Elaine Gordon and Peter J. Curley
Cheryl Heffernan
Joanne M. Ives
Frank E. Jarrabeck and Francis C. Cowgill
Judith* and Richard Lightfoot
Barbara McGhie*
Sandy and Robert Mulligan
Margaret and Earl Mummert
Penny Nelson
John and Heidi Niblack
Susan Peacock
John and Lee Pritchard
Jeffrey and Holly Ridgway
Linda Rogers
Matthew and Cheryl Sheridan
Roger* and Marcia Smith
Seymour and Tia Smith
Deb Tietjen-Smith
Kitty Stalsburg and Robert Hageman
Anthony* and Sandy Thurston
Maris Wacs

* deceased





A Vision for the Future

As a former Board Chair and a former Executive Director, we were honored to Co-Chair the Strategic Planning Task Force. Over the past 18 months, the Task Force, High Hopes staff and Board have worked diligently to gather and analyze information from internal and external sources. These activities enabled us to identify four strategic initiatives which determine organizational focus into the future.

Workforce Development

High Hopes will recruit, develop and retain a relevant workforce, (staff and volunteer) to foster the successful execution of its mission and respond to the evolving needs of the organization.

Serving the Community

High Hopes will deliver professional and compassionate programming and services that are innovative, impactful, accessible, inclusive and responsive.

Finance

High Hopes will create a robust and sustainable operating model to support future program innovation and growth through diversification and expansion of funding sources.

Communications

High Hopes will build and strengthen community awareness of its mission and the impact of its evolving services.



As we look toward the future, the Board and staff have recommitted to the Mission, Vision and Values.

Our Mission:

The mission of High hopes is to foster a vibrant community where horse and human interactions improve lives.

Our Vision:

High Hopes envisions a future where equine assisted services and programs transform and enrich the lives of our participants and volunteers promoting a more engaged, resilient and fulfilled life.

Our Values:

- Quality
- Teamwork
- Education
- Leadership and Innovation
- Serving the Community



Margaret (Mac) Mummert
Alison Zack Darrell



THIS YEAR AT HIGH HOPES

6,151 services provided
to 1,405 participants
by 15 instructors
22 horses



127-acre farm protected from development
30 acres of pastures, 3 miles of riding and driving trails

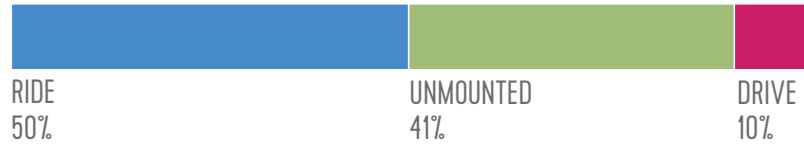


387 volunteers
12,679 hours donated
\$438,186 value of donated service hours
92% – percentage of workforce served by volunteers

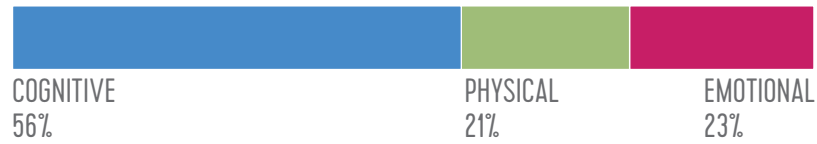


\$1,372,000 new gifts and pledges to support current operations
\$600,000 new planned gifts to support our future
1,367 donors
More than 500 guests and \$372,000 raised at the Big Barn Bash

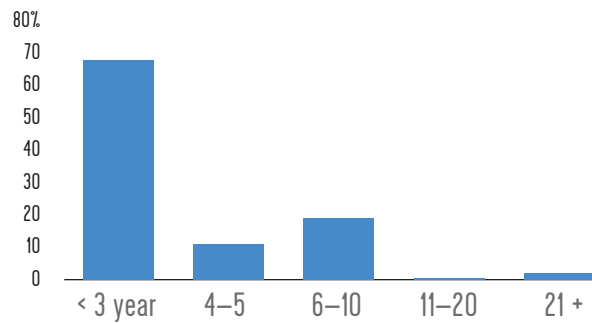
Equine Assisted Activities



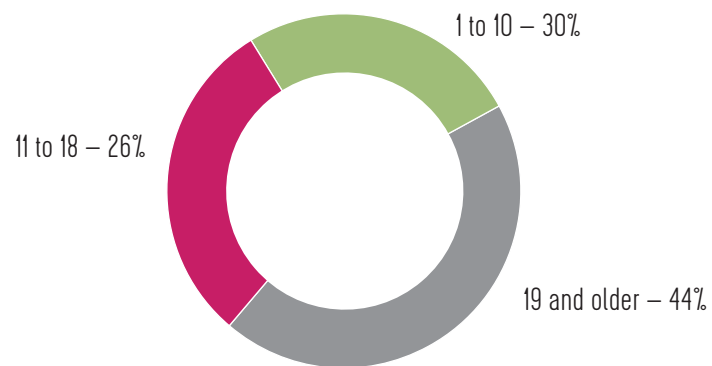
Primary Declared Diagnosis



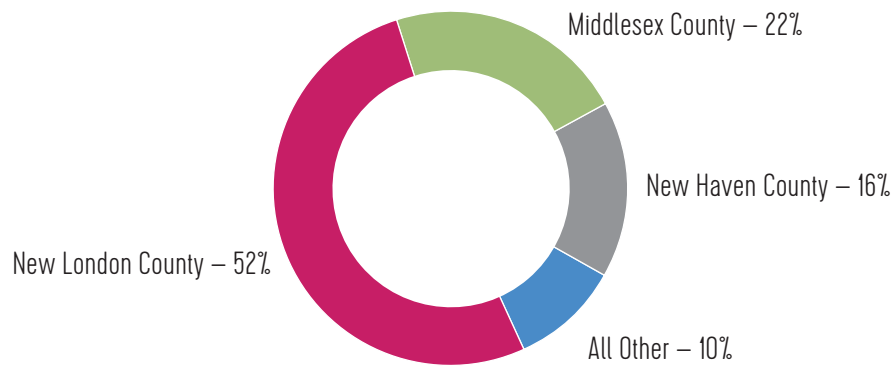
Volunteers: Length of Service



Ages of our Participants by Percent



Home Locations of Participants



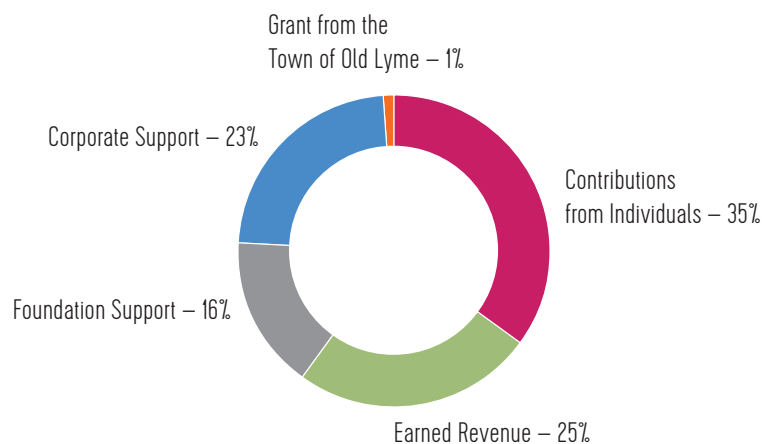


Statement of Financial Position

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

Assets	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$167,598
Pledge and Other Receivables	365,756
Prepaid Expenses	2,664
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$536,018
Property and Equipment – Net	\$1,375,998
LONG-TERM ASSETS	
Investments	6,473,249
TOTAL LONG-TERM ASSETS	\$6,473,249
TOTAL ASSETS	\$8,385,265

Support and Revenue



Liabilities and Net Assets

CURRENT LIABILITIES

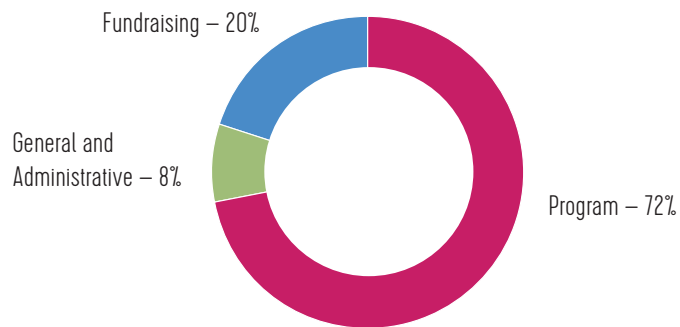
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$83,402
Note Payable	5,204
Advance Fees for Services	46,117
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$134,723

NET ASSETS

Without Donor Restrictions	\$1,427,476
With Donor Restrictions	6,823,066
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$8,250,542

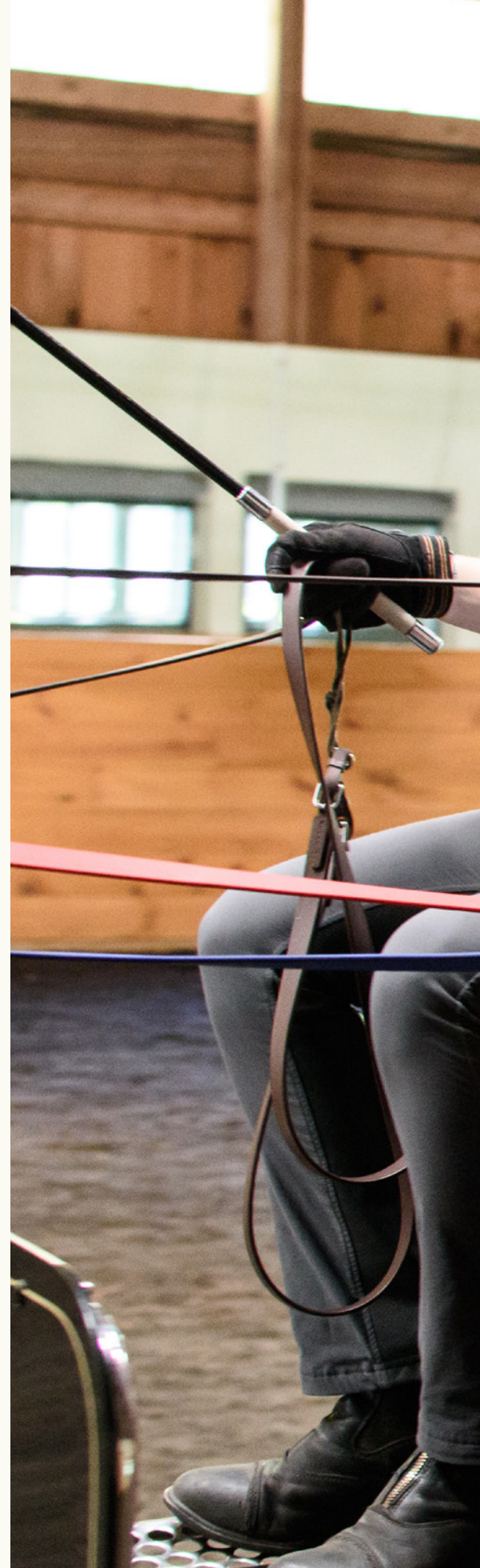
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$8,385,265
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Functional Expenses



Trustees

Sarah Hill Canning
John Catlett
Liz Doering
Scott Douglas
Mark Fader
Jackie Kangley
Sarah Kitchings Keenan
Todd Machnik
Margaret Mummert
Landon Potts
Jeff Ridgway
Gary Rogers
Priya Tandon
Greg Varga
Maris Wacs
Peter Watt
Natalie Yonker







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