

## Equine-Assisted Therapy, Inc.

3369 Hwy 109 Wildwood MO 63038 www.eatherapy.org 314-971-0605 Board of Directors:

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May 10, 2024

Dear Local Business,

Greetings from Equine-Assisted Therapy, Inc. (EAT). We are a 501C3 nonprofit that provides horsemanship activities to those with mental, physical, and psychological disabilities and challenges to enhance the quality and productivity of their lives. We turn no one away for financial reasons, and never charge veterans or children in the foster care system. We are strictly a therapy barn, so we do not do any horse boarding or public lessons. While we do charge a nominal fee to our clients, our main source of funding comes from fundraisers, donations from individuals and businesses, foundations, and our community.

What is Equine Therapy and why horses? Equine Therapy is the use of horses and Certified Equine Therapy Instructors to enhance physical and emotional well-being. Our focus is not only helping our clients achieve self-confidence, but also strength, balance, and relationship skills all while bonding with their 1200lb teammates. Horses are prey animals and live in "flight or fight" or survival mode. When you think of our friends who are challenged with a disability or trauma, they too are living in survival mode. The horse is able to meet the client where they are, and they help each other persevere.

We collaborate with many community programs such as St. Louis ARC, Colton's Cause, DASA, The Foster and Adoption Coalition, Alzheimer's Assoc., Cancer Support Community, and local public and private schools. **This year marks our 20**th **anniversary of helping humans through horses.** We service over 160 clients each week and utilize 200 plus trained volunteers each week.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is our *Annual Hoedown for Hope.* This event brings in 350-500 guests and includes live music, a catered dinner, beverages, a live and silent auction, plus activities for the kids. It helps to fund our participant scholarship fund, the feed and care of our horses, and to maintain our 25-acre property used solely for the purpose of our mission. We would be honored to have your support for this event.

We welcome you to join us on Saturday September 28, 2024, starting at 5pm at our Wildwood location for a wonderful dinner, drinks, and dancing to help us raise money for our organization. In addition, we are asking for your support with sponsorship, donation of auction items, baskets, gift cards, and community collaboration. Your contribution ensures that our mission of providing only therapeutic horsemanship services, regardless of the ability to pay, will continue.

We will be happy to pick up your tax-deductible donation/sponsorship or you can mail them to the address above. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact us at 314-971-0605 or at info@eatherapy.org We thank you so much for reading about or organization and considering a donation or sponsorship.

With gratitude,

Lulu Bogolin

Lulu Bogolin

Executive Director