



Adaptive Riding Institute a.k.a. H.O.R.S.E.S. Ltd.

2008 Annual Report
For Fiscal year 7-1-07 thru 6-30-08

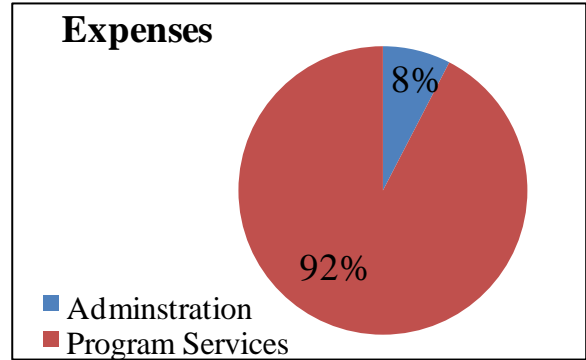
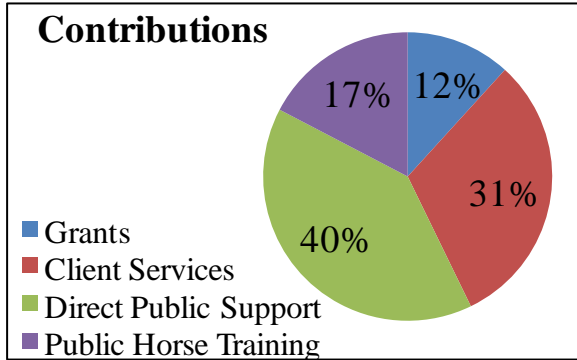
The mission of Adaptive Riding Institute is to provide therapeutic and recreational horse activities and services for people with disabilities. These life enriching experiences should be available to all people, regardless of their abilities, and any person who has the desire to pursue such activities also has the right to follow that desire.

| Camps | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Camp Taloali | 70 children |
| MDA Camp | 30 children |
| OSB sports camp | <u>7 children</u> |
| Total | 107 |

| Client Sessions | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Recreational Therapy | 953 |
| Personal Development & Learning | <u>228</u> |
| Total | 1181 |

| Increases | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Donations: | 62% |
| Program Services: | 48% |

| Facts | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Clients under 18 yrs: | 88% |
| Clients over 18 yrs: | 12% |
| Volunteer Hours: | 3,934 |
| In-Kind Support: | \$11,000 |



Program:

During the past year the number of program participants has nearly doubled. Our staff offered spring, summer, and fall sessions at Ridge Top Ranch in Salem. Our off site activities were; a camping trip with trail riding at Silver Falls State Park, two weeks of equine activities at Camp Taloali (a camp for hearing impaired youth) in Stayton, Oregon and a day of riding for children at a Muscular Dystrophy camp in Welches, Oregon. Two horses were located, trained and placed with persons with disabilities.

Community Support:

Our Community Stakeholders include Oregon School for the Blind, Oregon State Hospital, Oregon Equestrian Trails, and Silverton High School. The number of volunteers increased. Some of our volunteers have been with us for 18 years. Grants were received from three foundations totaling \$11,500, with the majority of those funds being used for a new horse trailer. We have partnerships with several local occupational and physical therapists bringing clients for therapy sessions.

Our Purpose: To provide *Health, Happiness and Healing* to children and adults with physical disabilities, emotional challenges, and those who are behaviorally at-risk, through their interactions with highly trained horses, professional staff and skilled volunteers.

Horses have been in our midst for thousands of years. When the horse accepted man onto his back and chose to carry his burdens, it changed the world. Horses have aided mankind through his most arduous and treacherous endeavors, from the sword to the plow. Humanity owes an incalculable debt to the horse. The horse has tilled our soils, aided us in war, policed our cities, and yet in spite of their unearthly strength, they have an inherent gentleness that allows the most fragile child sit safe upon their backs. Man has yet to develop a therapeutic tool that can mimic a human's three dimensional walking gait as well as the horse.

We respect and value our riders, our volunteers, our horses, and our community. We strive for excellence in our field and operate with compassion, safety, and honesty. Our riders are diverse and have different needs and dreams. They come from many different backgrounds. Riders are referred to us from hospitals, rehabilitation program and therapists. Our horses help them to reconnect with a world that has sometimes forgotten them. How? Humans and horses have kindred spirits. Horses live in the moment and they have the ability to heal broken dreams and spirits and to set our soul free. Our highly trained equines offer children the sense of physical empowerment and freedom. Through evidence based research (available upon request) children with Cerebral Palsy and other disabilities reduce spasticity and show great overall improvements after a 10 week horseback therapy session. The children's self confidence grows as they begin to experience 'normalized' movement, as our programs are designed to enhance physical therapy while enjoying a recreational activity.

Our skilled instructors and dedicated volunteers match the right horse to the rider. This enhances the rider's physical function, improves self-esteem, and ultimately changes lives. Through the unity of rider and horse the healing begins. Hearts begin to soar, physical improvements are made, self esteem and independence increase.

We offer: Professional equine assisted recreational therapy in a safe and caring environment; highly trained horses; guidance from experienced staff and trained volunteers; physical and recreational therapy in a unique setting; partnerships with respected local community organizations and professionals.

Our riders can improve:

Physically - improve strength, muscle tone, balance, posture, and range of motion

Cognitively – increase attention span, concentration, sensory integration, sequencing, communication

Emotionally – self-esteem, self confidence, independence, self awareness

Our leadership is solid: Our Board of Directors offers a unique set of professional skills and guides our program to its high level of effectiveness. They understand our mission and are involved in realistic planning. Our instructors are highly skilled individuals with a combined 50 years experience training horses and working with people with disabilities.

We served approximately 50 clients per week in 5 different locations using 11 horses with the help of over 30 committed volunteers in programs designed to serve clients with chronic issues. Children are bonding to horses and improving their lives forever.

Adaptive Riding Institute dba HORSES Ltd. is a 501(c)(3). For additional information visit our website www.adaptiveridinginstitute.org. A copy of our 990 can be found at www.guidestar.org under H.O.R.S.E.S. Ltd.