

Newsletter

1st Quarter * 2022



Restoring hope. Transforming lives.



Message shared by Jackie...

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going." - attributed to both Joseph P Kennedy, (father of President John F. Kennedy) and Norwegian born, American Football Player Knute Rockne.



Military & Emergency Services

An Ounce of Prevention is worth a Pound of Cure. ~B. Franklin

In the height of the Global War on Terrorism with wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, the Army knew

Soldiers needed to be equipped with resiliency skills so they employed top notch programming that was easy to understand and tailorable to fit each individual. Combining my training and experience as an Army Resiliency Master Trainer and our team's vast experience with Equine Assisted Psychotherapy we are ready to offer a top notch resiliency program designed to help better equip teens and adults for these difficult times.

Resiliency is defined as the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness; the ability of a substance or object to spring back into shape; elasticity. At Peace Ranch we say "stretch not snap" and "keep the bubble between the lines". As we put the finishing touches on the program and get ready to launch please think of those in the community that may need/want this training. People in high risk, fast paced jobs like our Emergency Services, community businesses teams and even High School sports teams! Each of the 12 modules we can offer will include both classroom and experiential elements which can be presented on or off the ranch. Email your questions or ideas about PRRP to me at chadbrown@peacerranchtc.org.

-Chad Brown, Program Director

The Tough Get Going

With war abroad, national unrest, and difficult times in our community, our team has joined the battle to reclaim lives devastated by abuse, neglect, war, and now systemic trauma caused by the pandemic. We increased service personnel, added new programming and partnerships to broaden our capacity and ability to help. In January we hit the ground running in partnership with the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center. A collaboration begun in 2021 with the Father Fred Foundation is expanding and later this year we will receive referrals from

Northern Lakes Community Mental Health for children/youth dealing with a broad range of trauma based issues.

Internally we are on track in our long term plan of stabilization and succession planning. This year we will add a FT Caretaker to manage the ranch and oversee care of the horses and the Peace Ranch Resilience Program (PRRP) is ready to launch. With all that's happening around us, I am exceedingly grateful to be part of such an amazing team dedicated to restoring hope and transforming lives.

From the Horse's Mouth

Benevelo del Sol y Sombra here, my friends call me Ben. I was roped into writing because I've been at Peace Ranch since the program's beginning. I was



a national competitor at only 3 years old but the pressure ruined me. The preparation for competition consumed my "childhood" and the rigors of harsh training took their toll on my body and mind. When I was 4 I just shut down, I couldn't do it anymore. I guess this happens to people too. They tried to "rehabilitate" me for 4 years and I ended up a rescue that no one wanted. I was 8 when I came to Peace Ranch for Sanctuary. I was fearful, surly, withdrawn, and really uptight. A big part of my recovery was becoming part of a healthy herd and learning to trust horses and humans so I could gain confidence. Hard to believe that was 13 years ago. Now I love my work, helping horses and humans like me heal. Many thanks to my sponsor Dorothea for supporting me this year and helping to make it all possible. We still have horses needing sponsorship. If you're interested you can email Jackie at execdir@peaceranchtc.org or call 231 499-4736

Our Mission is to provide Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Learning to all in need.

Our Vision is to create a PEACE-ful experiential center, a therapeutic community dedicated to cultivate growth and learning to rehabilitate those who are ill or suffering that they may turn or return to productive living.



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Volunteer News

April 30, 2022 Peace Ranch will hold the first Volunteer Orientation since before the pandemic. Our leadership team will present an overview of the ranch, our vision, needs, and some practical information for existing volunteers including how to plug in.

What does Volunteering at Peace Ranch look like? Volunteers help maintain our entire facility both indoor and out. All Committees of the Board are "staffed" by Volunteers as well including: Finance, Events, Marketing, and

Facility. Each of these committees need knowledgeable people with skills in those areas willing and able to commit time and talent.

If you are interested in volunteering please plan to attend orientation April 30. You can register AND fill out the volunteer application. Both can be accessed through our website at www.peaceranchtc.com. For questions or information please email pennyszcz@gmail.com



Strengthening Our Team & Others

When horses perceive a threat, they literally come together. The same is true when people are facing a crisis. It's a natural, survival response for humans and animals alike. In the face of the current mental health crisis, Peace Ranch alongside two community leaders are pulling together to make a difference.

The Traverse Bay Child Advocacy Center is our regional response center for reporting crimes against children in six counties in Northern Michigan. Through a generous grant from the Clark Family Foundation our teams are collaborating to seamlessly add experiential equine assisted psychotherapy at Peace Ranch for children who are referred to TBCAC. The collaboration benefits clients maximizing the amazing work that TBCAC is already doing and provides cross-training and support for staff from both agencies to learn new skills and develop teamwork, a factor in building resiliency and preventing burnout or

compassion fatigue.

The Father Fred Foundation, a cornerstone of support to northern Michigan residents since 1989, provides food, clothing, household goods, financial assistance and a message of hope for those who find themselves in difficult times. Together Father Fred Foundation and Peace Ranch are identifying people in crisis needing mental health services who were 'falling through the cracks' so they can get the support they need at Peace Ranch. Through this collaboration Father Fred is meeting practical needs for people in crisis facing homelessness, single parent households fleeing unsafe circumstances and helping children with trauma. In crisis, there is opportunity to pull together. Working together, we can do good things.

For more information go to www.peaceranchtc.com, email jan@peaceranchtc.org, call 231.499.4736