

Shining Hope Farms

Annual Report Based on Fiscal Year 2022

Shining Hope Farms is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to enable children and adults to reach their full potential through the use of equine assisted activities and therapies.

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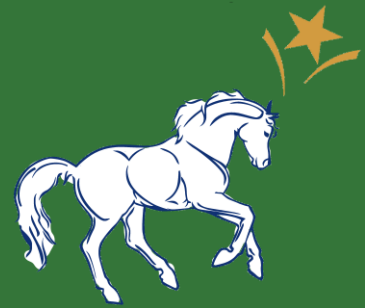
Financial Report

Total Revenue	\$1,095,175
Total Expenses	\$1,190,589
<hr/>	
Revenue	
Less Expenses	(\$95,414)*
<i>The cost to operate Shining Hope Farms for one day in 2022 was \$3,262.</i>	

**In the case of our 2022 fiscal year, the \$95,414 net loss reported is attributed to the utilization of restricted funds received in the previous year.*

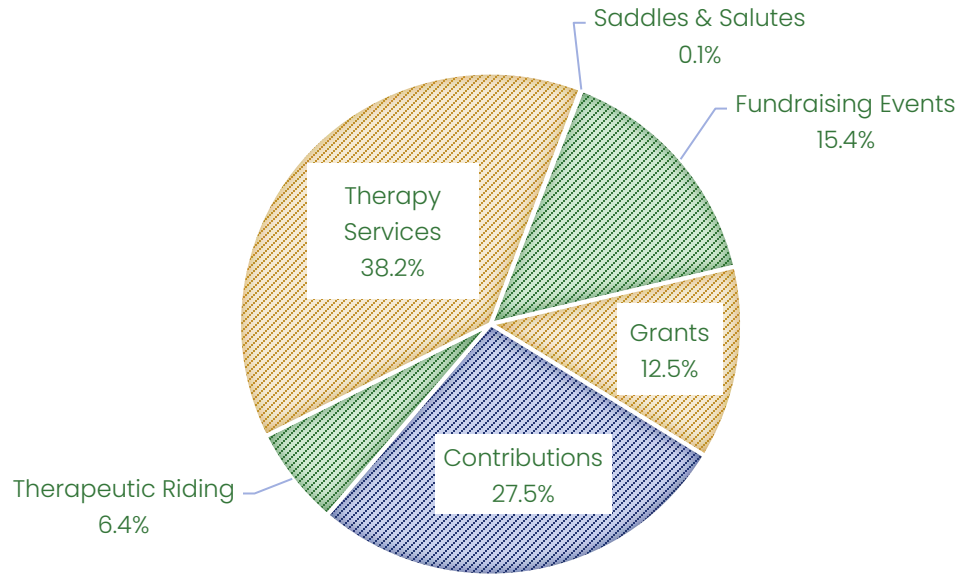
Restricted funds are donations or funds that come with specific conditions or limitations on their use. These restrictions may be set by donors or governing authorities to ensure that the funds are used for specific purposes or projects. In this context, it means that Shining Hope Farms received funds in the prior year that were earmarked for particular programs or expenses.

During the 2022 fiscal year, we utilized these restricted funds to cover specific costs or programs that were incurred during the year. The change in net assets without donor restrictions, however, showed a positive \$7,000. This positive change in net assets is a good indicator of our overall financial health as of December 31, 2022.

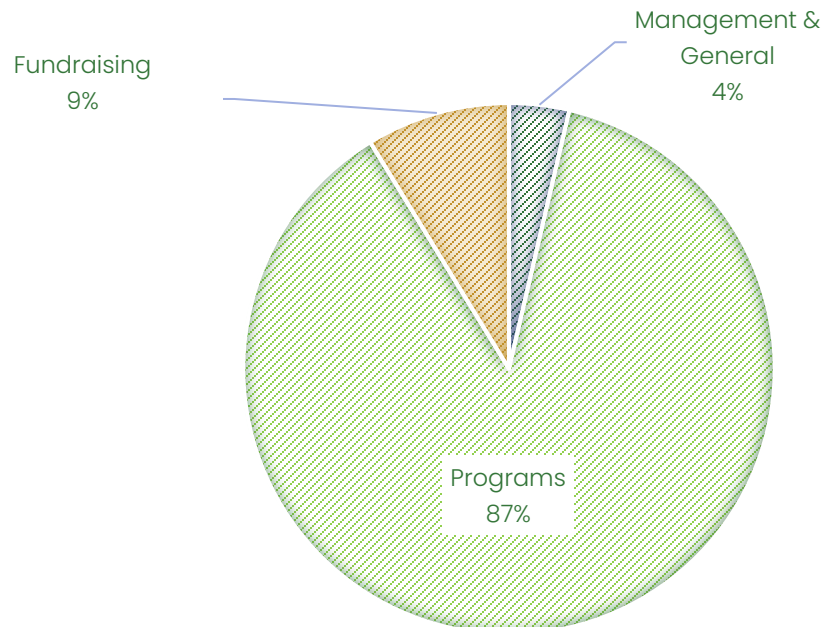


88 cents of
every
dollar was
spent on
our
programs
in 2022

INCOME



EXPENSES



Our Programs in 2022

THERAPY SERVICES

Our THERAPY SERVICES PROGRAM is conducted by licensed healthcare professionals and includes equine assisted psychotherapy, occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT) and speech-language pathology (SLP) that incorporate hippotherapy as one of the treatment tools in the overall therapy plan. The term hippotherapy refers to how OT, PT and SLP professionals use evidence-based practices and clinical reasoning in the purposeful manipulation of equine movement to engage in sensory, neuromotor and cognitive systems to achieve functional outcomes. Onsite clinics are used for off-mounted activities to help achieve goals.

In 2022, our Therapy Services program served 181 patients over the course of 4,452 visits between our three locations. Historically, 85% of patients who received OT, PT or SLP treatment have made functional gains helping to improve their quality of life.

An emphasis is placed on serving low income families in the community, and the majority of the clients in 2022 were able to access our program without any out-of-pocket costs.

THERAPEUTIC RIDING

Our THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM provides goal-oriented, recreational group or private lessons and is conducted by a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International certified riding instructor. Clients typically have a physical or cognitive disability. Clients participate in games

and activities while learning riding and horsemanship skills. Improvements are made in the areas of emotional stability, social interaction, cognition and physical abilities. A horse leader and side-walkers assist the riders, which provide an enjoyable social environment.

In 2022, our Therapeutic Riding program served 177 clients over the course of 2,068 lessons, most on a weekly basis.

In order to serve the low-income community, services are provided at an affordable rate and scholarships are offered when necessary.

SADDLES & SALUTES

SADDLES AND SALUTES is a program at Shining Hope Farms that serves Veterans as a part of their community support system for Veteran wellness. Our goal is to help the Veteran thrive in the process of re-integrating from a military community to a civilian community through equine assisted activities and therapies (EAAT). Veterans are given the opportunity to decide which of our EAAT service offerings they feel would be the best fit for them on their wellness journey. Primarily Veterans choose from therapeutic riding and group and individual mental health counseling that utilizes equine assisted psychotherapy.

In 2022 we served 15 Veterans through therapeutic riding over 365 sessions and 11 Veterans in mental health counseling over 21 group sessions. All Veterans were able to access our program free of charge which is made possible by a partnership with the Wounded Warriors Foundation, grant opportunities and

extensive fundraising efforts including our annual 5K/10K Salute Trail Run to provide scholarships. In 2022, this program received grant funding from the Disabled Veterans National Foundation and the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.).

Our program finds success in a number of factors including the following:

1. Research shows the positive effects of EAAT services on Veterans' physical, mental, and emotional wellness.
2. We're providing Veterans with a fun and motivating approach to wellness.
3. We are giving Veterans an option as to which type of service is best for them (recreational but goal-oriented and therapeutic in nature, or actual mental health counseling that is still engaging and motivating with its equine component).
4. We offer the opportunity for comradery with other Veterans, an important component that can be healing in and of itself.
5. We also offer additional opportunities for engagement for Veterans where they can "stick around" after a session (or come another time) to volunteer in the barn or in our other programs for individuals with disabilities. This is an opportunity that many of our Veterans have enjoyed and found purpose in.
6. Veterans have the opportunity to build a relationship and trust with a non-threatening being (the horse vs. a person), an often much gentler and less-threatening way to gain confidence in rebuilding these skills in their personal lives.
7. We provide a Veteran with a structured, standards-based environment which is often comforting and familiar to a Veteran. It also reminds them

and gives them confidence that they're able to successfully complete tasks which they can then translate into everyday life.

8. We are removing the financial barrier to obtaining these elective services.



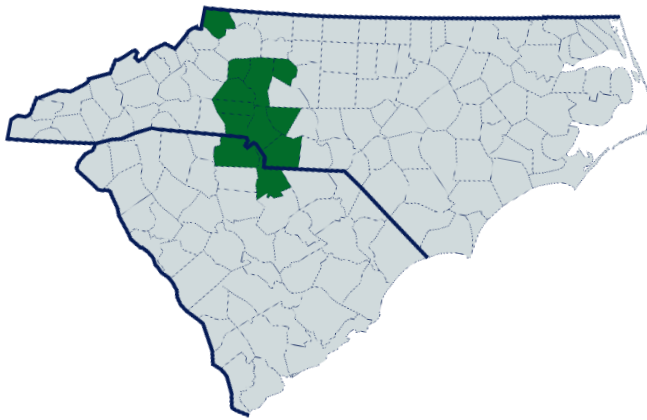
Our Participants

Primary Diagnoses/Disabilities

Served/Treated Include:

Cerebral palsy, autism, Down syndrome, developmental disabilities, brain injuries, hypotonia, and mental health support

The majority of our patients received no bills for therapy in 2022.



Counties Served in North and South Carolina:

Alexander, Ashe, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Davie, Gaston, Iredell, Lancaster SC, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Union, York, SC



Let's Do the Numbers

2022 Year in Review

391 clients were served in our programs

391

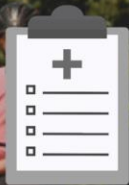


532

532 volunteers gave 8,092 volunteer hours

33 horses worked in our Therapy Services and Therapeutic Riding programs

33



4,163

4,163 physical, occupational, and speech therapy visits conducted

We conducted services at 4 locations in 2022. At SHF facilities in Mt. Holly, Charlotte, and Conover, as well as at Bit of Hope Ranch's facility in Gastonia

4



2,433

2,433 riding lessons were conducted including 365 Veteran therapeutic riding lessons as part of our Saddles & Salutes program

27 Veterans received scholarships and were able to participate in our Saddles & Salutes program free of charge

27



Our Stories

MEET JULIAN

Julian is a happy and outgoing 6-year-old boy. Julian began receiving in home therapy services including physical therapy as a baby. When he turned two and a half Julian and his family found Shining Hope Farms and began outpatient physical therapy services including hippotherapy. Since starting physical therapy services at Shining Hope Farms, Julian has made amazing progress. When initiating services Julian was already walking independently but had to wear a helmet due to frequent falls and not being able to catch himself to prevent injury.

Now Julian is not only able to navigate his home and school safely but is able to run and play with his friends and siblings on the playground. He is able to complete the stairs in his home without assist or supervision and climb into his family's car to go out in the community.

Julian is now school aged and has transitioned safely into the school environment. His attention and ability to transition between tasks as well as try new and more challenging activities has grown significantly over the years as well.

It is so incredible to see the progress Julian makes every week. We loved one week in the fall when Julian came in so excited to tell staff about going trick or treating dressed up with his family as the lion from Wizard of Oz, something that previously would have been challenging for him.



Julian's mom states that the greatest impact has been the improved strength and confidence Julian has gained after years of hard work that allows him to safely navigate his environment. She reports that it has really improved his social skills as well and that he "absolutely loves coming to therapy and seeing the staff and "lights up every time he is on the horse".

Notables

In the tapestry of time, the year 2022 marked a remarkable milestone in our story at Shining Hope Farms. For two decades, with the help of our generous supporters, we've worked to serve as a beacon of hope, illuminating the lives of individuals with disabilities and most recently Veterans and those seeking mental health services. With a heart dedicated to serving the vulnerable in our community, we embarked on a journey that not only touched lives but also transformed them. Join us as we delve into the luminous highlights that defined our 2022—our 20th Anniversary year.

Throughout 2022, we dedicated ourselves to fostering meaningful connections, including within Catawba County, home to our newest farm—our Conover location. We engaged with numerous local businesses and individuals and forged new and impactful partnerships. We were thrilled to demonstrate our commitment to the community through an open house event in May. In December, our efforts culminated in a momentous ribbon-cutting ceremony, in collaboration with the Catawba Chamber of Commerce, symbolizing our shared dedication to fostering growth and partnership in the community.

The pages of 2022 also featured familiar chapters. Our annual tack sale remained a beloved event while supporting our mission. The year also once again brought a prestigious accolade as we were designated an EQUUS Foundation 2022 Guardian—a testament to our dedication to our equines and clients, our commitment to transparency, and to integrity.

As we have for many years, we hosted Elevation Church for their annual Love Week in July where they generously give their time and talents to transform our properties in various ways. However, this year we were surprised at week end by an incredibly generous gift of \$10,000 from the church. The alignment of values and

purpose between Shining Hope Farms and Elevation Church created ripples of hope and positivity that echoed far beyond our stables.

Our common theme of collaboration and community support manifested in practical ways as well. From sensory rooms created with the help of North Hickory Lowes and St. Stephens Volunteer Fire Department to the transformation of our Charlotte property by Corning Optical Communications, our community rallied to enhance our impact.

We were overcome with gratitude after receiving several additional generous gifts throughout the year. One such gift included a contribution of \$10,000 from Corning to support our Saddles & Salutes program. During the holidays we also received a surprise visit from local Gold Bond Building Products, an affiliate company of National Gypsum Company, who made an incredibly generous gift of \$25,000 to support our programs. Another surprise gift of \$25,000 was generously received from Brian King in memory of Stuart Jernigan.

2022 was also a year of elevating skills. Many on our team of dedicated equine professionals expanded their knowledge by becoming certified as Equine Specialists in Mental Health and Learning through PATH Intl.—reaffirming our dedication to providing top-tier therapeutic support. Our staff made good use of these skills in our individual and group mental health counseling sessions including a highly successful special 8-week support group for Veterans we hosted several times throughout the year.

The crown jewel of 2022 was our celebration of our 20th Anniversary. We celebrated throughout the year as well as at a special 20th Anniversary Gala in May. Since our inception in 2002, we've woven a tapestry of support, care and empowerment for individuals in need. Founder Milinda Kirkpatrick's vision has been realized through

unwavering dedication. As we mark this milestone, we do so with gratitude to all of our many supporters for enabling us to touch so many lives, and with a resolute commitment to continue being a beacon of hope in the community.

In 2022 we were fortunate to receive grants from the following organizations:

- The **Patrick O'Leary and Karen Yamaski Charitable Foundation**
- The **Gaston Community Foundation's Run** to support our Mt. Holly farm's programs as well through their **Harold T. Sumner** Professional Education Grant for our staff member Cindy Demers to become certified as an Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning (ESMHL)
- The **Disabled Veterans National Foundation (DVNF)** which went to support our Saddles & Salutes program
- The **North Mecklenburg Women's Club** as a Gold Award grantee to be used for operating support
- The **Carrie E. & Lena V. Glenn Foundation** which went to support our Mt. Holly farm's Therapy Services
- The **Mite Foundation** which went to support our Therapeutic Riding program
- The **Rosendin Foundation** to support our Therapy Services Program
- The **Lincoln County Community Foundation** to ensure Lincoln County clients have affordable access to our equine assisted therapies
- The **Equus Foundation** to help with the care of our horses
- The **Speedway Children's Charity** to support our pediatric Therapy Services program
- **Davidson College** to help us with capacity building in our program operations
- **PATH Intl.** to support Veterans in our Saddles & Salutes program
- **Walmart** stores for general operating support
- **The Bank of America Charitable Foundation** to assist our programs

We are confident that 2022's growth and success will continue on a similar trajectory throughout 2023 as we work to meet the needs of our community at all three locations.

We are grateful for the support of our contributors who help to make this possible.

Our 2022 Leadership

Board of Directors

Kari Saylor, CPA
Board Chair / Treasurer

Sheila Gibson
Vice-Chair / Secretary

Milinda Kirkpatrick
Executive Director (Non-Voting Executive Director)

Alex Bogojevich

Gordon Garrett

Karl Kuehn

Connie Bowman

Caitlin Ignatowicz

Dr. Kevin Monroe

Wayne Carter Jr.

Meagan Ignatowicz, CPA

Jean Penner

Claire Chadwick

Kristen Kannen

Shante Roseboro

Jim Gallagher

Kristin Kirby

Courtney Stuckey Jones

Chief Administrative Personnel

Milinda Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

Jessamyn Farrell
Assistant Director

Kelly Coney-Pacious
Clinical Director

Patrice Gibson
Development Director

Elisabeth Larson
Charlotte Program Director

Morgan Helms
Mt. Holly Program Director

