

Grace Lake Ministries

Quarterly Newsletter 2022

Issue 1

www.gracelakeministries.org



2021 was a great year at Grace Lake! We had many firsts happen last year. We offered our first Equine Assisted Physical Therapy classes. We partnered with our new horse, Chewy. We offered our first Winter Session of the Groundwork Connection Program. We had our first budget over \$150,000 (Thanks to Targets for Christ and our generous donors). And as a result, we served more participants offering our services 6 days a week!

We anticipate continued growth in 2022 and we are grateful for you!

Thank You 2021 Donors!



Important Dates

- 1/8-Winter Session Begins
- 2/1-New Participant Paperwork due for Spring Session
- 2/18-Fundraising Committee Sign-up Due
- 2/19-Training for new Volunteers
- 3/5-Spring Session Begins
- 5/14-Horse Show

[Online Calendar Link](#)



Grace Lake received an \$85,000 check from the Targets for

We would like to extend a special thank you to everyone who gave so generously to Grace Lake this past year. Your donations allowed us to:

- *Start 2 new Equine Assisted programs: Groundwork Connection and Equine Assisted Physical Therapy
- *Hire a new staff position of Barn Coordinator
- *Purchase new and needed equipment and adaptive riding tack for special needs riders
- *Replace horse fencing
- *Upgrade the office for use of Physical Therapy treatments
- *Enhance our website to include online form submission
- *Add a french drain to ensure wheelchair accessibility
- *Purchase an upgraded aluminum mounting ramp
- *Add arena lights to operate in the evening hours after dark

Our mission continues because of you!

WALK

John Bailey, Melody Blackburn, Tobie Carcano, Carlene Chambers, Diane Collins, Mary Beth Cranfill, James & JoAnn Gee, Valerie Goar, Laura A. Green, Patricia Hanner, Sandra Hargrove, Kroger Community Rewards, Debbie Lewis, Heather McDonald, Alexandra McFassel, Jody Morris, Nancy Neal in honor of Ainsley Wooddell's 17th birthday, Network for Good, Thomas Palmer, Pepsico, Tom Thumb, Michael Tucker, Jamie Wooddell in honor of Ainsley Wooddell's 17th birthday, 3 anonymous

TROT

Christ Skeet Shoot event held on September 23rd! Did you get that...\$85,000!! We feel truly blessed to have had this opportunity to participate. Words cannot express our gratitude as this is a game changer for our organization. Thank You, Mart Armstrong for your generosity and vision that will open the doors of growth for Grace Lake! targetsforchrist.org



Thank you, Randy Christopher for your years of service as Grace Lake's Board of Directors President! We appreciate all that you have done for Grace Lake and wish you well in your new endeavors.

AmazonSmile Foundation, Elizabeth Culley, Evan & Karen Crump, James & JoAnn Gee, Amie Mitchell, Pamela Simpson, Michaline Yeager, 2 anonymous

CANTER

Michael Barr, Kathleen Bates, Cutting Edge Pediatric & Adult Therapy, Reinhard & Shelley Egger, Tasha Escoto, Tony Pellegrini, Kyle & Holly Robinson, Jim & Cheryl Stroup, Charlotte Strouse, Bill & Katie Weaver Charitable Trust

GALLOP

Randy & Connie Christopher in honor of Chanda Smith, God's Gift, Tracy Matern, Targets for Christ, 2 anonymous

Jeff Robinson Memorial-Mark & Nancy Barnett, Brad Bates, Elaine Berdan, Milton & Cheryl Bergman, James & Annette Bradley, GG & Amoret Cain & Cain Custom Builders team (Shannon, Susan, Jeff, Rich, Glen), Ray & Carlene Chambers, Alisha Cofield, Kelly Cook, Travis & Kay Coursey, Linnet Deily, Benny Dinsmore, James Ray Flemons, James & JoAnn Gee, Laura A. Green, Rollie & Marilyn Little, Rena McGlurg, Jason & Heather McDonald, Laura McDonald, Lori McDonald, Jim and Ellen Montgomery, Robert & Margaret Pace, Trudy Payne, Floyd & Susan Prozanski, Cheryl Ridgley, Braxton & Angela Roberts, Dianna Sanders, Deborah Siddens, Ted & Janis Sprunger, Mr. & Mrs. Ben Whisenant, Sue Windham, 2 anonymous



Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity that involves planning events, talking with potential sponsors, coming up with innovative ideas for raising money? If so, join our Fundraising Committee! Email Holly Robinson at director@gracelakeministries.org for more information.

Horse Retirement

We want to give a shout-out to our retired therapy horses who have graciously served at Grace Lake (as well as the good homes they went to). Some of them are pictured below.



What are some reasons a horse would need to retire from Grace Lake?

1. Many of our horses are leased from private owners and the horse becomes needed elsewhere.
2. Being a therapy horse is very demanding physically due to unbalanced riders and demanding mentally due to different



Check out our new website highlighting ALL 3 of our Equine Assisted Services/Programs.

[LINK](#)

Thank you, Amazon shoppers! Grace Lake received \$70.08 this past quarter because you selected us as your charity. To date we have received \$860.46!! That is FREE money that costs the shopper \$0. When you shop, Amazon automatically sends us .05%.

It's easy to set up! Go to settings and select AmazonSmile.

people handling them in different ways. Some horses aren't suited for the job in the long haul.

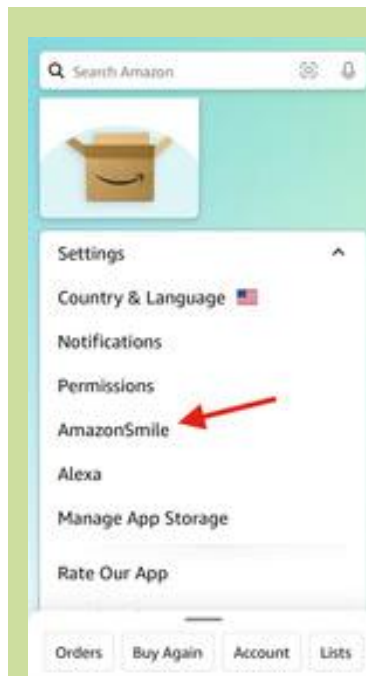
3. Older horses seem to be suited best for this job, which means that age related issues give way to retirement.

What happens when a horse is retired from Grace Lake?

In the best case scenario, the horse is returned to their previous home. The younger horses that still have a long and productive life ahead are sold to a new owner. The horses that are ready to have rest in retirement are very valued and carefully handled. With horses being so expensive to care for, especially in their later years, the options are few and far between. This is a very challenging part of operating a therapy center (imagine rehoming your dog in his last years).

At Grace Lake, much time, effort, and prayer go into giving the best possible retirement to each horse. This is an area that we truly give God the glory for giving our therapy horses WONDERFUL HOMES for retirement!

Making the Team/Herd



Search and select Grace Lake Ministries and the next time you make a purchase, Amazon sends us a donation!





Have you ever wondered if your horse would make a good therapy horse? We have added a list of qualities that we look for on our website. You can access that [HERE](#). There's also an online form there to fill out if you would like to submit your horse for consideration.

Our therapy herd is the foundation upon which all of our programming is built. These horses are incredible animals, providing connection, patience, and movement to those who need it. Because of the important role they play within our organization, we must be selective in determining which horses are accepted.



Follow us on Facebook to see pictures of classes and other happenings around the barn.

[Link](#)

Psalm 73:26 ~ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

GRACE LAKE VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SATURDAY
Feb. 19, 2022
1:00-3:00 PM

9611 FM
1827
Anna, TX
75409

Looking for a rewarding way to give back to your community? Become a Sidewalker! Sidewalkers walk along side the rider of their class. Horse experience not required. Must be at least 14 years old and able to stand and on uneven ground for 30 to 45 minutes.

R.S.V.P. to admin@gracelakeministries.org

We need lots of volunteers for our upcoming Spring session that begins March 5th. With our Volunteer Registration form now online, you can easily get the process started! 1. Submit your application form [HERE](#). 2. RSVP to training by emailing admin@gracelakeministries.org. 3. Attend training on February 19th.

Grace Lake's mission is to partner with horses to develop life skills and God centered wholeness for those with diverse physical, developmental, and emotional needs.