



# THE LEAD LINE

HOPE SPRINGS EQUESTRIAN THERAPY, INC.

SUMMER 2018

## HOPE SPRINGS EQUESTRIAN THERAPY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### CHAIRMAN

Kenneth R. Swimm

### PRESIDENT

Sandra L. Hansen

### VICE PRESIDENT

Jan Brooks

### TREASURER

Ted Aicher

### SECRETARY

Jane Ann Yankelitis

Amy Bullivant

Tammy Gingrich

Julie Kingery

Brad Norford

Mary Ann Plankinton

Kent Smith

Jill Yankelitis

### FOUNDER

Elena Gonzalez Shaffer

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & SENIOR INSTRUCTOR

Jeannie Knowlton

### PROGRAM DIRECTOR & INSTRUCTOR

Dallas Knowlton

### RIDING INSTRUCTORS

Lauren Eder

Helen Garthwaite


Dallas Knowlton

Melanie McCartney

Jesse Bickel

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Lindsay Ferrara

  
Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy  
is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)  
(3) of the Internal Revenue Service.

We are a member of the  
Pennsylvania Association of  
Nonprofit Organizations and  
the PA Council on Therapeutic  
Horsemanship.

### MAILING ADDRESS

Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy, Inc.  
P.O. Box 156  
Chester Springs, PA 19425

### WEBSITE & EMAIL

www.hope-springs.org  
director@hope-springs.org

### FACILITY LOCATION

1800 Art School Rd  
Chester Springs, PA

FOLLOW HOPE SPRINGS  
@HOPESPRINGSORC



## PLEASE SUPPORT HOPE SPRINGS!

Thanks to all of you - the friends and families of Hope Springs!  
We look forward to your continued support this year.

**Please donate using the enclosed envelope  
or give online at [www.hope-springs.org](http://www.hope-springs.org)**

Hope Springs simply could not do what we do without you. With your help, we can provide life-enriching experiences to even more adults and children like Matthew.

*Matthew Williams is a 6-year old boy who has been a Hope Springs rider since February 2017. His father, Ryan, addressed the attendees of the Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy Fall Fundraiser on October 22nd, 2017 where we celebrated our 20th anniversary.*

“**O**ur son has had many different medical issues since birth. Matthew is a great little guy and the strongest boy I have ever known considering all the medical challenges he has faced. He has been participating in several types of therapies as he has grown, including occupational therapy, speech therapy and physical therapy. We decided to investigate alternate therapies because the standard therapies were not working to the extent we were expecting.



*Jeannie Knowlton and Matthew Williams share a happy moment after one of Matthew's rides at Hope Springs.*

My wife Googled “equestrian therapy” and the number one hit was Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy so we scheduled a “Meet & Greet” with the executive director, Jeannie Knowlton. Based on that first visit, we decided we just had to give it a try.

Matthew has always struggled with both his fine and gross motor skills and at times he gets frustrated – he never feels like he is the best at anything. With each lesson, his confidence has grown. One afternoon, six months after learning to ride, Matthew told us, “I am the best horse rider there is.” He has never been so self-assured and the fact that this program can help him feel that way is simply amazing.

I have watched Jeannie grow to love Matthew like her own family. From what I can see, how she cares for Matthew is how she approaches every one of her riders and all the people she works with at Hope Springs.

We live in Elkins Park in eastern Montgomery County and Jeannie was a little bit skeptical at first about our lengthy commute and whether we would stick with it. But my Thursday afternoons are now always blocked out because Matthew and I have a five o'clock appointment at Hope Springs, which is one of the best hours that Matthew has every week.

I want to thank Jeannie and all the instructors and volunteers who have worked with Matthew since February. Everyone has been so caring. You can tell they simply want the best outcomes for each of their riders. It makes me smile from the bottom of my heart.

I would also like to thank everyone here for supporting Hope Springs for the past twenty years. My family has only been involved for one year, but let's make it at least twenty more – if not more than that! *Thank you.*”



# OUR MISSION

The mission of Hope Springs Equestrian Therapy is to enhance the quality of life of individuals with cognitive,

physical, emotional or behavioral disabilities by providing them with affordable therapeutic horseback riding and associated special education of the highest possible quality, in a warm, safe and familiar environment.



Hope Springs  
*Experience the wonder!*

<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>2018</b> July 16-20	HOPE SPRINGS SUMMER CAMP WEEK
	August 6-10	HOPE SPRINGS SUMMER CAMP WEEK
	September 22	HOPE SPRINGS BACK TO SCHOOL SATURDAY CAMP
	October 7	FALL FUNDRAISER: HOPES AND DREAMS 2018
	October 28	THORNCROFT ANNUAL FALL HORSE SHOW
	November 24	HOPE SPRINGS THANKSGIVING SATURDAY CAMP
	November 28	HOPE SPRINGS #GIVINGTUESDAY 2018
	December	END-OF-YEAR PARTY & OPEN HOUSE

Visit our website at  
[WWW.HOPE-SPRINGS.ORG](http://WWW.HOPE-SPRINGS.ORG)  
to register for camps, support upcoming events, or learn more.