



2011 Year in Review



2011 was a very successful year for In-Stride with Therapeutic Riding, Inc. We ended 2011 with 34 students, 5 program horses and approximately 25 volunteers. We also offered a winter riding program this year to those riders who are already achieving independence.



Our success can be contributed to the hard work of our volunteers, our volunteer coordinator, our board of directors, our Program Director/instructor, friends of our organization and our students.

So many thanks to:

Drue Bellora – Volunteer coordinator

Drue came to us with very little horse experience and was just looking to get involved as she had retired from the Peter's Township School District where she served as a counselor. She was familiar with children with disabilities and thought she would enjoy volunteering. In 2010 we approached Drue with the position of Volunteer Coordinator, which she happily accepted. Drue also has become a member of our Board of Directors. Drue spends countless hours every week from March through November contacting volunteers, organizing the schedule, coordinating with the Program Director, searching for ways to obtain more volunteers, communicating information to our volunteers, etc.

Volunteers:

Julia, Dana, Sara, Ronda, Rachel, Arlene, Kelly, Kelsey, Pam, Audrey, Mary, Erin, Andrea, Trinity, Ann, John, Carley, Logan, Stacie, Carrie, Holly, Kristen, Debbie, Nicole, Anne, Virginia, Beth, Doreen, Sabrina and Jerrod. These individuals come week after week and donate their time to help during lessons, help with horse training, clean tack, and any other tasks that need attending.



Board of Directors:

Debra Warfield
Cheryl Mantzouridis
Holly Stabile
Dennis Popojas
Drue Bellora
Leah Mitchell



Program Director/Instructor:

Dana Flaherty

Our Horses:

India
Cowboy
Ginger
Beauty
Sonny
Cianna (Morning Star Horse)



Our Students:

Vaughn, Scarlette, Aarush, Sabrina, Kristy, Kimmy, Lara, Daniel, Jessica, Jon, Hayleigh, Hope, Lilyanna, Rachel, Sarah, Bella, Katie, Emily B., Christopher, Lela, Emily, Reid, Tony, Jack, Jarrod, Joel, Michael, Ryan, MaryJane, Nick, Hannah, Tiffinay, Dora, and Ella – every one of these students worked very hard and achieved great things in 2011



Supporters:

Thank you to anyone who made a donation to In-Stride in 2011, whether it was tack, a horse or a monetary donation, thank you!

Morning Star Stables – thank you for allowing us to be part of your facility.



Out with the old and in with the New!

2012 is now upon us. The holidays are over and the decorations have been packed away. Shortly spring will begin to peek through the winter grey and it will be time to begin our 2012 riding season. Hopefully 2012 will be just as successful as 2011. We are looking to add additional lesson days in April. Our goal for 2012 is to expand the program to accommodate 60 students. Enrollment will begin in mid February.

Lessons will begin on March 18, 2012 at Morning Star Stables (weather permitting). Rider packets will be sent out mid February. Please make sure you review the contents and confirm your spot.

If you would like more information about In-Stride, please contact instride@hotmail.com or (412) 302-5393.

As always, we can use volunteers, for interest in volunteering, please contact instride@hotmail.com.

Fundraising News

Donations: We are always in need of donations. Your contribution can provide reduced cost lessons for students, health care for horses and much needed equipment. All donations are tax deductible. You can also sponsor a horse and/or a student. We are also in need of tack and barn supplies. If you are interested in making a donation, please check our website wish list to see how you can help.



Reflections from the director....

Winter presents many challenges for those of us that are involved with horses. Usually I take the winter off, but this year with 5 program horses and riders that were excelling, I decided to start the winter riding program. So far things are going great! The riders are excelling, the horses are getting worked and trained and the volunteers are able to participate through the winter. I look forward to sharing my journey with each of the program horses during 2012. I wish everyone a wonderful and blessed 2012.

Dana Flaherty



Volunteer News:

We have a very wonderful group of Volunteers and quite a few new faces this year. I am thankful for every one of you and hope you are enjoying the ride as much as I am.

We are in need of volunteers for both Sunday and Thursday.

As Always volunteers are needed for more information contact instride@hotmail.com



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Holly Stabile, Esquire
412-310-8039

Donate your old horse tack. In-Stride is always in need of horse tack and supplies, donate today! Check our wish list for the items we need.

