



2023 H.E.L.P. ANNUAL REPORT

Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time



A message from our Executive Director

2023 was a year of change in a variety of ways at H.E.L.P. From the board, herd, and more, the work at H.E.L.P. never ends. We could not continue our program without the amazing support of the community and volunteers who show up week in and week out for H.E.L.P.

H.E.L.P. is excited to celebrate our **40th anniversary of Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time in 2024**. Our focus has been, and remains, to provide lessons in horsemanship and riding which encourages each rider to connect with their horse and volunteer team in order to grow in strength, confidence and independence. When I became an instructor in 2010, my passion was for helping riders learn how to connect with their horses so they could see how much they could achieve with the wonderful horse partners we have. The past 14 years of instructing and 10 years at H.E.L.P. have taught me so much more about how horses can truly change lives. Not just the riders, but also the families, volunteers and mine. The clients at H.E.L.P. teach me just as much as I teach them.

Stephanie Powell

2023 IMPACT SNAPSHOT

360

Service Hours to Clients

20

Clients Served

4,300

Volunteer Hours Served



40 Years of H.E.L.P.

Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time

1984

Peggy Haecker had a dream and started H.E.L.P. with her horse, Apollo, in a rented barn on Gregg Lane

1987

H.E.L.P. officially became a 501(c)3 and Incorporated in the state of Texas

1986

H.E.L.P. became a NARHA (North American Riding for the Handicapped) Member Center

1989

The 20 acre facility next door offered the land to H.E.L.P. for use and the lease was signed in Sept.



1990

The herd had grown to 6 horses with Peggy, Linda, and Cindy teaching as the Certified Instructors on a volunteer basis.

2000s

H.E.L.P. continued to grow under Linda's leadership, operating solely as volunteer run. Also partnered with a rescue organization.



1990s

Peggy asked Linda to step in as Executive Director due to health issues.

2012

Lisa joined as ED and Julie as head Instructor bringing her ABA training to H.E.L.P.'s clients.



40 Years of H.E.L.P.

Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time

2012

Name changed officially from The Handicapped Equestrian Learning Program to Horse Empowered Learning Programs, Inc.

2017-2018

Board of Directors growth, Strategic Plan, and increased ridership and community outreach.

2014

Stephanie joined as Executive Director and Head Instructor

2018

A small plat of land donated to H.E.L.P. was sold and funds strategically invested.



2018-2020

Continued Board of Directors, Herd, and Facility growth and improvements. Community outreach at various new events.

2021

Due to the sale of our home since 1987, relocated to Villarreal Ranch Co. in March/April. Lessons resumed in May 2021.

2020

Hired first Volunteer Coordinator. Adjusted to Virtual Therapeutic Riding programming due to COVID-19

2024

Celebrating our 40th anniversary of Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time.



Horse Empowered Learning Programs, Inc.

Empowering Lives One Hoofbeat at a Time

Mission: H.E.L.P.'s mission is to help those with physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges grow in strength and independence through personalized activities in partnership with the horse.

Vision: H.E.L.P. will be viewed as a regional Center of Excellence, setting the standard for equine-assisted learning and horsemanship. H.E.L.P. will be known as a trusted leader and presence in the Central Texas region and aims to become a PATH Int'l Premier Accredited Center.



Professional Association of Therapeutic
Horsemanship International

— MEMBER —



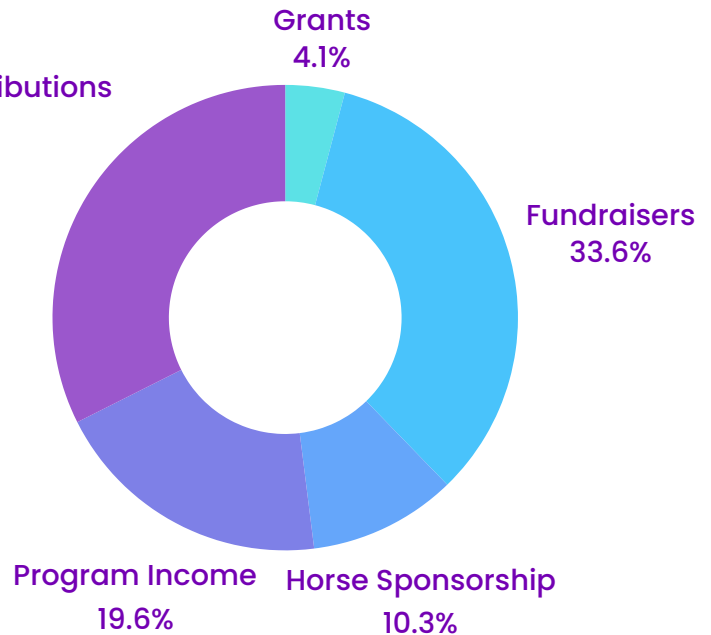
Accreditation: H.E.L.P., a 501c3 non-profit organization, is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH Intl.) Member Center committed to upholding the highest standards of safety in the industry.



FUNDS RAISED

\$125,414

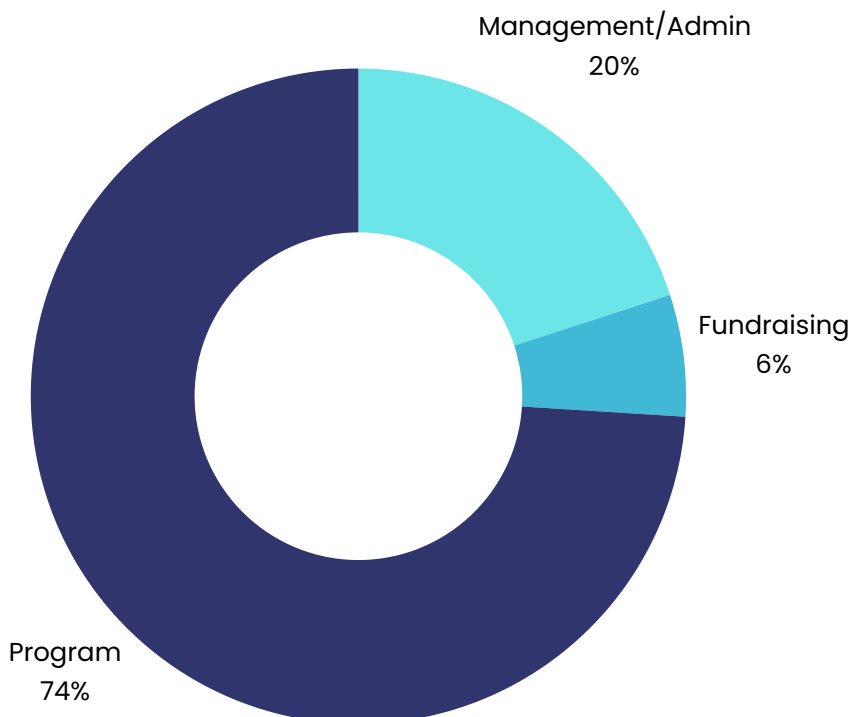
Indiv/Bus. Contributions
32.4%



We've worked hard to expand our income opportunities while staying true to our mission. Our goal is to continue to diversify our income streams by increasing grant and corporate sponsorships in 2024.

How Funds are Used

100% of your donation is used to further H.E.L.P.'s mission



Like any other business, our staff and infrastructure is vital to ensuring the day-to-day operations can continue smoothly. While keeping expenses as low as possible, 80% of your donation is still directly used for our programming and fundraising.

The H.E.L.P. Herd

To carry out our mission, we need to have a superior herd – and we can confidently say that we do. The needs of each of our herd members is closely assessed with changes made to provide the highest standard in all-around quality of care. This includes closely monitoring all feed and consulting regularly with our vet and industry experts to ensure proper diet and nutrition is being met based on the horse's weight and overall condition. Our Equine Committee evaluates our herd's turnout, workload, and exercise schedules to allow for the best balance of their physical and mental health.

2023 total herd care costs : \$26,435

Feeding the Herd



Grain - Nutrena Empower, Hallway Pure & Simple, Standlee Beet Pulp Pellets, and Dumor Timothy/Alfalfa Pellets

15 lbs per day



Hay - Square and Round Bales as needed

65 lbs per day



Hooves in the Dirt

The H.E.L.P. herd partnered with our riders, clients, and the public with over **665 hours** in 2023.



The Volunteers

H.E.L.P. could not function without the dedicated corps of volunteers that come out weekly, monthly, and throughout the year. This includes weekly regular volunteers for lessons, herd care, feeding twice a day (rain, heat, or shine), board members, committees, outreach events, admin assistance, facility maintenance, and so much more. H.E.L.P. also welcomes service groups and have had the assistance from local boy scout troops, Michael's, UT Pre-Vet students, and more!

2023 volunteer hours value : \$143,100

Boots in the Dirt

The H.E.L.P. volunteers partnered with our riders, clients, and the public with over **4500 hours** in 2023.



Committees

Equine - 5 members help with overall herd management, nutrition, workload tracking, and testing new possible herd members.

Scholarship - 3 members fundraise and help with reviewing applications every 6 months as well as awarding funding based on financial need.

Horsepower - A great team of various volunteers and supporters who work diligently year-round to plan and execute our annual fundraiser.





WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



Herd Support Team

Drs. Ashbrook and Whitaker from BVEH-Salado
Alan Fee with AF Shoeing
UHVRC Campaign partnered with Merck
Equi-puncture Integrated Veterinary Services
Andi Gleeson Equine



Herd HELPers

Gretchen W.
Marilyn S.
Elaine C.
Paul & Debbie T.
Ariel M.
Nadia Q.
Nancy D.
Bonnie W.
Jenni G.
Shari M. (Puma)

Year Round Supporters

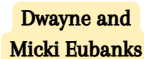
Pflugerville Lion's Club
Dover Saddlery
BVEH - Salado
Chelsea Croissant Photography

Bubbles Buddies

Micki E.
Marjorie P.
Elizabeth M.
Shannon C.
Marcia H.
Gale M.
Katey L.
Laxminarasimhan V.
Andrea K.

Horsepower 2023 Sponsors

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

 Director@HelpCenterofAustin.org

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