

**November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Dear Riders, Friends,  
Family and Neighbors of  
Blue Rider Stables:**

As 2025 comes to a close, the staff, Board members, volunteers, and equines thank you for your ongoing friendship and generous support.



In October, a rabid skunk entered our barn and triggered a state-mandated quarantine. We are shut down until December 1<sup>st</sup> with tremendous loss of revenue. We are incredibly grateful for the response that we received from the community, our tireless staff, our volunteers, our clients, and all our friends for pulling us through this crisis. Looking to re-opening, we need to maintain positive momentum and keep moving our programs forward. Without your support, we could never do this.

We invite you to **make a donation today**. So many of you donated recently to offset lost revenues due to our quarantine shutdown. We are so grateful for every contribution, and now we're asking those who can contribute again to help cover ongoing operational expenses. A gift, no matter how big or small, is essential to keeping our equines and riders safe and fulfilled, training and maintaining excellent staff, and expanding our current operations. We enclose an envelope for your convenience, and we also welcome donations at <https://bluerider.org/donate/>.

*"I chose to do a fundraiser for a project in my genius hour class. I wanted to raise money for Blue Rider Stables because I spend a lot of time with*



*the horses at this barn and I care a lot about them. Caring for horses costs a lot of money, especially when many of the horses need special foods and medicines and so I wanted to help them out as much as I could. The way I chose to fundraise was by doing a bake sale. We sold baked goods for two days in a row in school at lunch. Through my fundraiser, I successfully raised more money than my goal." - Kayli Vella, age 13.*

This is what our work is about - healing people of all abilities through being here, one individual at a time. More than half of our lessons are for kids, teens and adults with serious physical, neurological or mental health challenges. Many of our clients have been with us for years, some as many as 34.

Our horses are the heroes of this work, and we are committed to treating them ethically and honoring their individual needs.

The miracle of Blue Rider is in our unique approach to our students and to the equines that serve them. Our horse-centric philosophy entails a holistic approach to health, including careful nutrition, movement and grazing (i.e. no stalls), chiropractic, body work and riding and working for horse health. We strive to



honor the horses as individuals and as a species. For our students, we teach each one how to use body, energy, intention to communicate desires to their horse, how to ride through conversation and feel, rather than force. This all requires significant resources, not just with individualized instruction (1 or 2 instructors per student depending on their needs), but also thorough and individualized care given to each equine. In 2025, cost of feed, supplements, shoeing and veterinary care exceed \$80,000; barn and field maintenance costs exceed \$40,000. In addition, Blue Rider staff spend over 130 hours per week caring for our 16 equines. Daily hands-on, eyes-on care for each equine is labor intensive and expensive, but critical to ensure the happiness and health of the herd.

We are here to serve our students and equines that need us and thrive through knowing and working with us. We are only here because of you, our donors. Without you, our important work could not continue.

Our accomplishments are a testimony of trust from our community. If you have not visited Blue Rider Stables recently, please come by and experience it for yourself.

To learn more about Blue Rider Stables ongoing work, visit our [website](#), or contact us directly to arrange a visit.

The Board, the staff, and the herd all thank you in advance for your support and continued interest in Blue Rider Stables.

Sincerely,

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Christine Sierau  
Founding Director



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Donald Chester  
Chairman of the Board