

Helping others find Joy and Happiness

While the year brought many unique challenges, ROARR successfully implemented more programs for a growing number of participants.





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A message from our **Founder** Katrina Robinson

Founded in 2017, my “pioneer” mother-in-law’s vision of helping others with horses became a reality at the family ranch in Springbank, Alberta. Today, ROARR has over 30 partners who participate in our EAL programs. For our youth, many face social, emotional and behavioural challenges that hinder their ability to thrive in traditional and social settings. Equine-assisted learning allows them to develop essential life skills in a compassionate, non-judgemental environment. Working with horses, these youth learn about communication, trust, empathy, and leadership - vital for personal growth and societal integration.



Our programs also cater to seniors, particularly those who experience isolation, depression, or cognitive challenges. Interaction with horses and nature stimulates physical and mental activity and helps to improve their quality of life. The companionship of horses and fellow participants helps reduce loneliness and alienation, promoting community and belonging.

Our participants experience a sense of rejuvenation and connection through these gentle giants. The calm presence of a horse can significantly reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation, promoting mental health and well-being. At ROARR, we are committed to nurturing these transformative experiences, fostering an environment where horses bring hope and happiness to those who need it most.



OUR Mission

The purpose for which we were established

- To address and prevent problems faced by youth at risk by providing equine-assisted learning programs and activities
- To relieve conditions associated with the aged by providing equine-assisted programs and activities
- To undertake activities related to the attainment of the above charitable purposes

OUR Vision Statement

“Empowering youth and enriching the lives of seniors through transformative equine-assisted experiences, fostering resilience, and building brighter futures in a nurturing environment.”

Rationale



For Youth

- Many of the young individuals we serve face social, emotional, and behavioral challenges that hinder their ability to thrive in traditional educational and social settings. Equine-assisted learning (EAL) allows these youth to develop essential life skills in a compassionate, non-judgmental environment. Working alongside horses, participants learn about communication, trust, empathy, and leadership, which are vital for personal growth and societal integration. Our goal is to provide these young people with the tools they need to overcome challenges, improve their self-esteem, and foster a positive outlook on life.

For Seniors

- Our programs cater to seniors, particularly those who experience isolation, depression, or cognitive challenges. Interaction with horses and nature stimulates physical and mental activity and helps improve seniors' quality of life. The companionship of horses and fellow participants helps reduce loneliness and alienation, promoting community and belonging.

The year in review

January Highlight

Our tiered donor program was established to recognize those who showed a strong belief and support in our mission.



September Highlight

ROARR's 6th Annual Gala brought in a record high for donations. Thanks to the Gala attendees, over \$387,000 was raised!



May Highlight

ROARR was granted by Shaw's Birdies for Kids as a recipient of their annual match challenge. Thanks to Shaw, we raised \$37010



December Highlight

We honor every volunteer and donor who helped raise another record-high amount of funds for our beneficiaries. We are so grateful for their continued support!





our annual impact



557 Senior Participants

125 Volunteers



458 Youth Participants

500 Donors



"The first step for many people is asking for help. When that happens, we want to be there to provide everything they need."

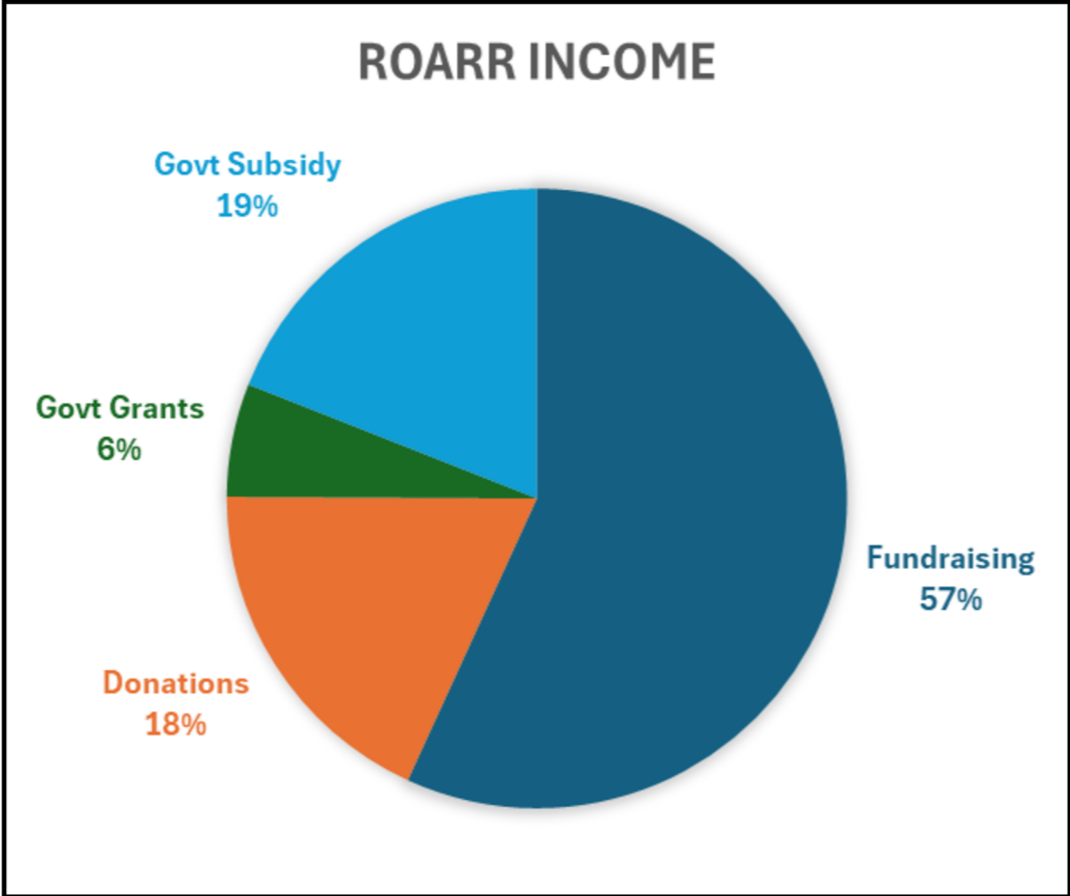
- - ROARR Board member



Financial report



Complete financial reports available upon request.



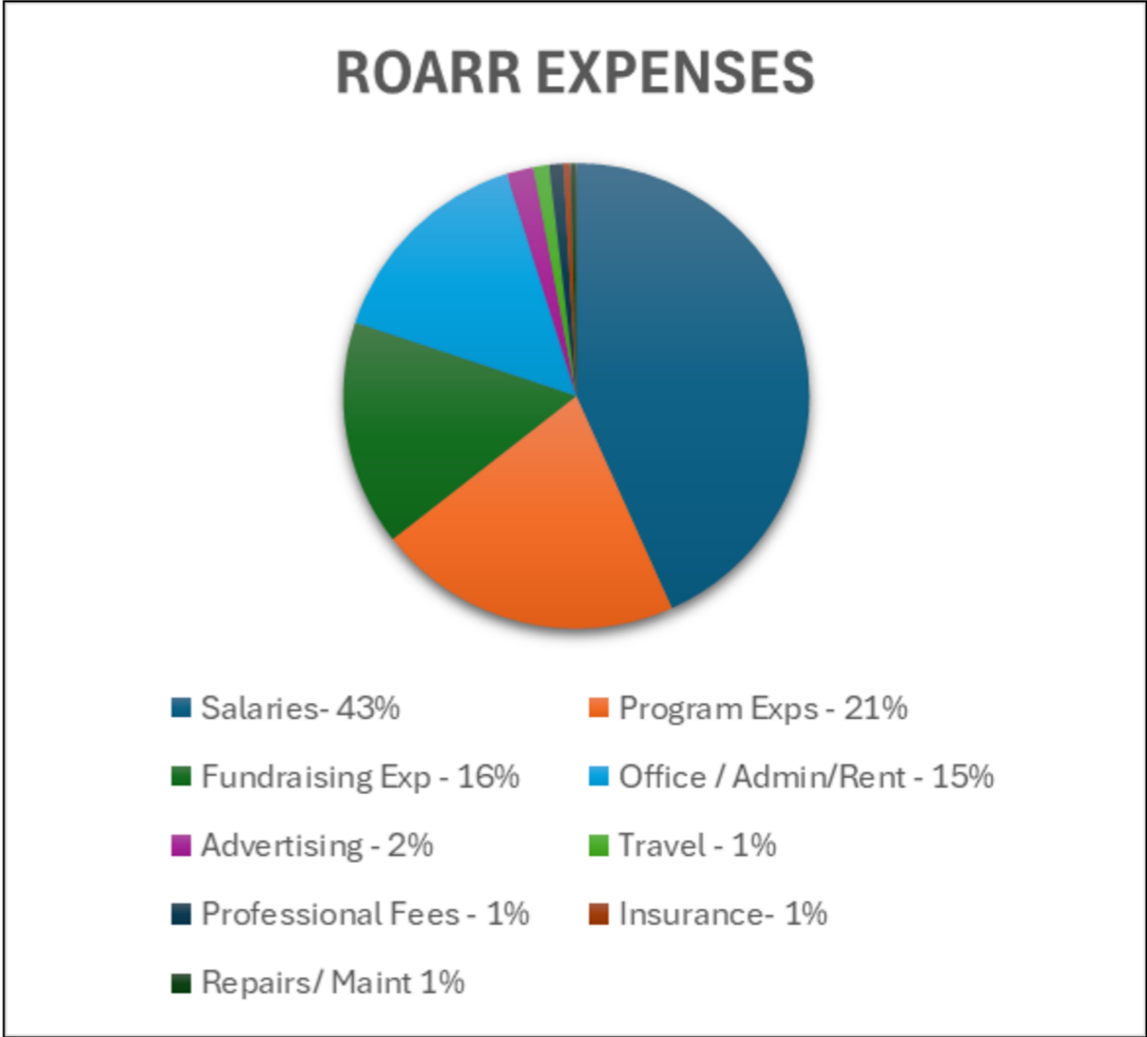
Treasurer,

Teresa Klotz



\$387,801 Donations

\$30,500 Grants



ROARR Horses and Care

Several years ago, on one ordinary day, I stopped at RiverCross. I came back again and again. The atmosphere, the energy, the horses—they all blend so well. These were the early days of ROARR, and this charity has evolved from then to the present. I currently serve as an "Equine Advisor" on the ROARR board.

Over the past year, ROARR's equine companions have been the backbone of our programs, interacting with seniors and youth at risk. Their unique role, marked by grace and sensitivity, has left an indelible mark on these groups and all who work with them.

Our horses receive exemplary care from all members of the equine staff and volunteers to ensure they are healthy, happy, and well-prepared to engage in therapeutic activities. The needs of each horse are met by tailoring requirements to the individual equine. This will involve regular health checks, proper nutrition, and time for rest and play. They love horseplay. We pay meticulous attention to their well-being, which upholds our commitment to animal welfare and enhances the effectiveness of our programs.

Our horses, large and small, establish profound connections with program participants, providing a foundation for emotional healing, personal growth, and comfort. I witness our horses' extraordinary impact on our community with joy and support. Their role in emotional healing, personal growth, and comfort is truly remarkable.

**Cathy Morrison,
Emeritus Board Member
Equine Wellness Advisor at ROARR**

Thank you **to our Partners**

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Bethany Cochrane

Evanston Summit

Evanston Grand Village

Age Care Walton Heights

Age Care Estates

Big Hill Lodge

Covenant Living

Cambridge Manor

Age Care Glenmore

Hawthorne Optimal Living

Colonel Belcher

Optima Living Seniors

Manor Building at Signature Park

Ponchos Family School

Hawthorn Senior Living

Bethany Calgary

Brenda Stafford - Cambridge Manor

Brenda Stafford - Bow View Manor

Silva For Seniors

Shalem Senior Living

Kerby Center Unison Elder Abuse

Shelter

Age Care Seton

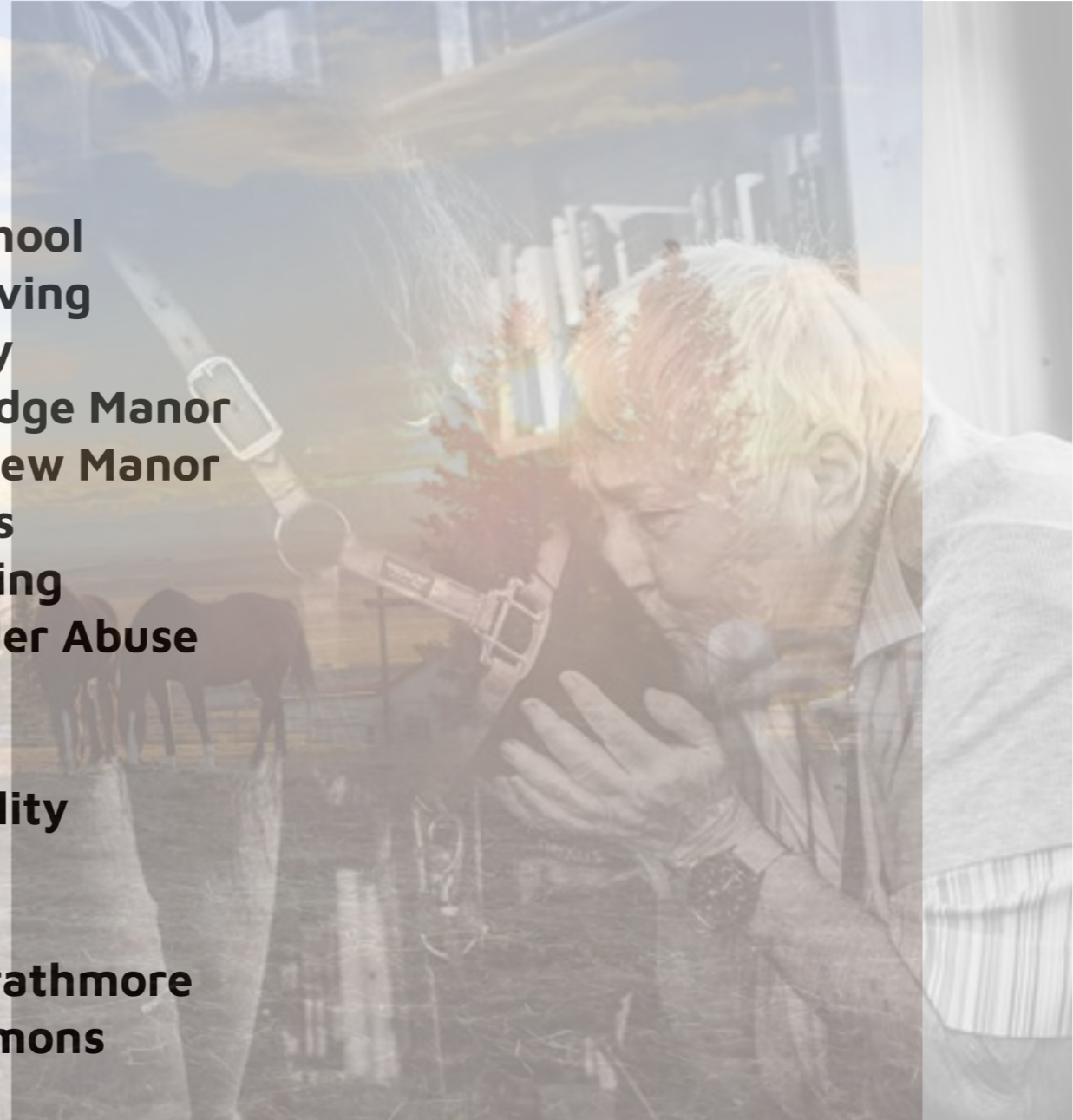
Seton Seniors Facility

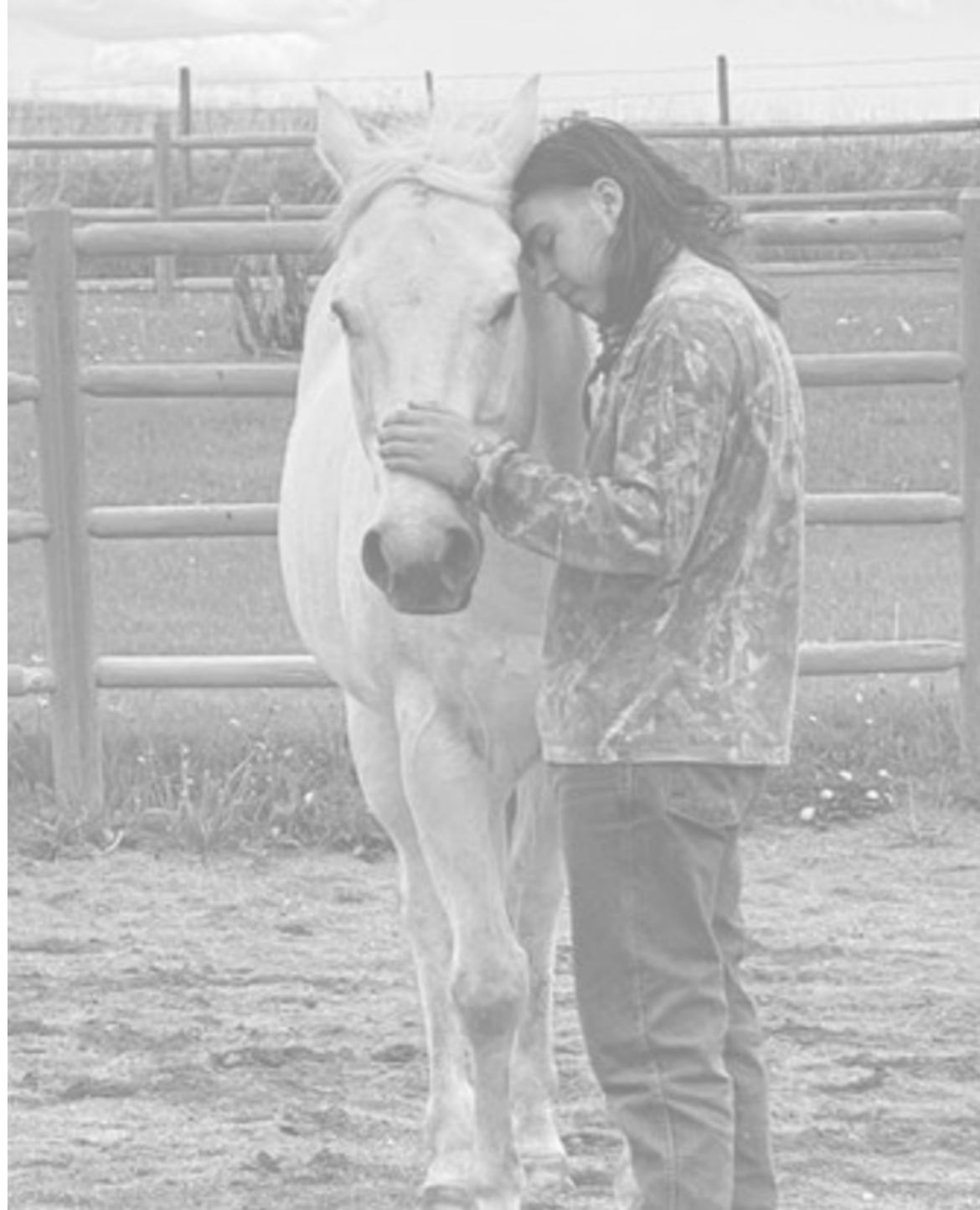
Clifton House

Clifton Manor

Age Care Sagewood, Strathmore

Silvera Spruce Commons





YOUTH EAL PROGRAMS

**Calgary Police Youth
Foundation
MAAST
Woods Homes
William Taylor - Woods Homes
Hull Homes
William Roper - Hull
Big Brothers, Big Sisters
Rocky View Country
Glenbow School, Cochrane
RJ Hawkeyek, Airdrie
Terry Fox School
Jack James
Connect Behavior**

**Stony Nation
Haven Wellness
Renunification Program
Kids Cancer Care
Trellis
Calgary Board of Education
Bowcroft
Queen Elizabeth Youth
Forest LawnArbour Lake
John Ware School
AHS Addictions
Boys and Girls Clubs
Apraxia School**

Thank you to all our donors and volunteers



The ROARR equine staff and volunteers enjoy traveling with our miniature horses to off-site visits, which include: The Children's Hospital, Dulce, Hospice, senior homes, and many more sites to go!



ROARR DONOR'S PRIDE SOCIETY

Chairman's Circle \$10,000 and Above

Alex and Cyndie Baum
Graham Becker
Jane Grad
Gustafson Wealth Management
Dale and Merleen Hodgson
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Green Drop

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Spray Lakes Sawmill

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Kent and Marla Hystad
Kelly Kimmett
Joe and Theresa Klassen
Scott & Elan Lees
Fred Mannix
Jim and Tina McKee
Brian McKersie and
Campion Swartout
Keston Merrill

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Heather Shaw
Mike and Sandra Smith
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UFA Co-operative Ltd.
Wilson M Beck Insurance Services

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Marshall and Teresa Copithorne
John and Carol Fitzsimmons
Daryl and Bonnie Gilbert
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Tyler Hebblethwaite
Elaine Moses
Morten and Ivette Paulsen
Edward and Shari Sonntag
Graham and Nicole Thomas
Gary and Monique Wellinger
Calgary Foundation
Enlightened Oils
Half Diamond JE
Lexus of Royal Oak
Longshore Resources



2023 board of Directors



Merleen
Hodgson



Cyndi
Baum



Katrina
Robinson



Ryan
Caswell



Deanne
Robinson



Rochelle
Zemlak



Cathy
Morrison

Thanks to our Sponsors for their
continued support!!

Bordeaux

Canlin Energy

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CMP Automotive

Cochrane Toyota

Cooper Construction

Douglas Homes

Green Drop Ltd.

Gustafson Wealth

Management

HCS Investment Holdings Ltd.

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Northland Wealth Management

Nutrien

Swartout Holdings

Spray Lake Sawmills

Woodridge Ford Lincoln

United Farmer's Association

Val Vista Ranch

Wilson Beck Insurance

Testimony to ROARR

“With very promising research showing the effectiveness of Equine Assisted Learning for at-risk children and youth, MASST has been extremely lucky to have established a valued partnership with Robinson Outreach at River Ranch (ROARR). Our collaboration began just over three years ago when we were connected with Janet Robinson. At that time, it was decided that we would plan to offer two Summer Equine Assisted Learning camps to MASST participants during the months of July and August. Over the last two and a half years, this has grown to include, not only Summer Camps, but to offering Spring Break Equine Camps and 6-week Day Camps each Saturday (during the Spring and Fall) for MASST participants. During our collaboration, we have reached close to 100 at-risk kids to provide impactful services and we hope to continue doing so for the years to come. Feedback from our Campers and their parents has been incredible. Two of our parents had provided very positive feedback and appreciation for allowing the family to be involved in the MASST/ROARR Equine Assisted Learning Camps. They noted that they were “absolutely blown away” by how beautiful and therapeutic the experience was for their children”.

**Calgary Police Youth Foundation, MAAST
program staff member**

A message from our **Executive Director**

Kristein Johnson



As ROARR's Executive Director, I am honored to join an organization with a rich history of impact and innovation. Reflecting on 2023's achievements, I am inspired by the dedication of our team and the profound transformations witnessed through our programs.

ROARR has an impressive foundation of success, and I'm excited to lead it into an exciting new chapter. Our 2024 strategic vision includes expanding and enhancing our existing programs. I believe passionately in the healing power of these horse connections and their potential to empower individuals of all ages. Together with our dedicated team, incredible volunteers, supportive donors, and valued partners, we will explore new horizons and create opportunities for an even greater positive impact in our community.

Our volunteers are the backbone of ROARR, and their unwavering dedication makes everything we do possible. ROARR appreciates the 100+ volunteers who dedicate time and passion to serving at ROARR. It is essential that we ensure that our volunteers remain motivated and skilled, and, with the ROARR team, our volunteers are ready to face new and exciting means to benefit our participants

Our unbelievably supportive donors are invaluable as we shape the future of ROARR together. Come out to RiverCross and volunteer! Bring a friend! With your help, ROARR will continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

Kristein Johnson



Contact us

**Robinson Outreach at RiverCross Ranch
243233 Range Road 40
Calgary, Alberta T3Z 2G8
Phone: 403-733-6277**

**CRA registered charity registration #
747332724RR0001**

Registered Charity Information return: T3010

Return Charity email address: hello@roarr.org

Charity website: <https://www.roarr.org>

**Kristein Johnson, Executive Director -
kristein@roarr.org**