

Robinson Outreach at RiverCross Ranch
2023 Annual Report

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 50 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 also offer EAL and other activities to seniors. Spending time with an animal companion gives seniors a sense of purpose, and seniors often find interacting with a therapy animal very therapeutic. Horses, in particular, bring back many memories of an older generation that used horses for working the farms and even for transportation.

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.



May Highlight

ROARR was granted by Shaw's Birdies for Kids as a recipient of their annual match challenge. Thanks to Shaw, we raised \$45,433.



September Highlight

ROARR's 6th Annual Gala brought in a record high for donations. Thanks to the Gala attendees, over \$469,497 was raised!

THE RANCH GALA



December Highlight

We honor every volunteer and donor who helped raise \$98,050, a 4% increase from last year. We are so grateful for their continued support !





OUR ANNUAL IMPACT



557

Senior Participants



458

Youth Participants



125

Volunteers



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

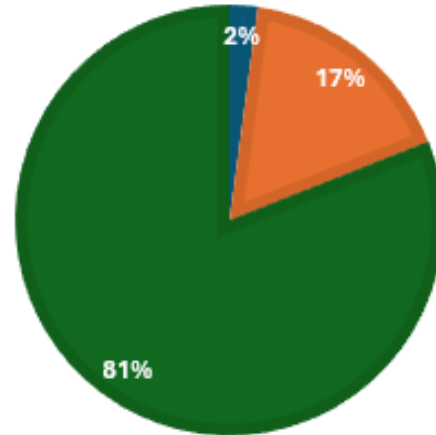
Complete financial reports available upon request.

\$567,547

Donations & Fundraising

ROARR INCOME

■ Government Subsidy - 2% ■ Donations - 17% ■ Fundraising - 81%

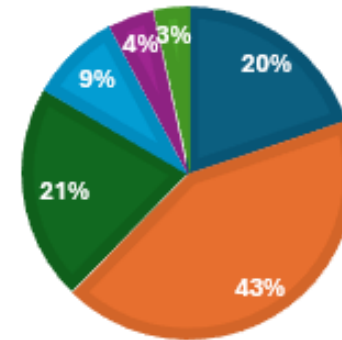


\$14,824

Grants

ROARR EXPENSES

■ Salaries - 20% ■ Program Exps - 43%
■ Fundraising Exps & Advertising - 21% ■ Office & Admin / Rent / Insurance - 9%
■ Repairs - 4% ■ Prof Fees - 3%



*Treasurer,
Teresa Klotz*

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 Wellnes
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

Barry & Lorna Mjolsness

Greig and Brenda Nicholls

Glen and Jeanette Richardson

Glen and Erin Rumpel

Shannon Seaman

Swartout Holdings

Gerry and Elaine Wood

Green Drop

Presidents Circle

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Travis Peckham

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Mark and Rochelle Zemlak

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Spray Lake Sawmills

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\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Leslie Bissett

Larry and Yvonne Boland

Al and Brenda Driver

Dustin and Niki Flundra

Fred and Nicole Harris

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

Director's Circle

Larry and Patti O'Connor

David Scott

Heather Shaw

Mike and Sandra Smith

Doug and Chris Sutton

CMP Automotive

UFA Co-operative Ltd.

Wilson M Beck Insurance Services

Members Circle

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Chuck & Norma Childers

Marshall and Teresa Copithorne

John and Carol Fitzsimmons

Daryl and Bonnie Gilbert

Sheldon and Deena Harris

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
Chairman



Cyndi Baum
Secretary



Katrina Robinson



Ryan Caswell



Deanne
Robinson



Rochelle
Zemplak



Cathy
Morrison
Emeritus Director



Doug Grant



Teresa Klotz
Treasurer

Thanks

to our Sponsors

**Bordeaux
Canlin Energy
Cam Clark Ford
CMP Automotive
Cochrane Toyota
Cooper Construction
Douglas Homes
Green Drop Ltd.
Gustafson Wealth
Management
HCS Investment Holdings Ltd.
Lexus of Calgary**

**Morten Paulsen Group
Northland Wealth Management
Nutrien
Swartout Holdings
Spray Lake Sawmills
Woodridge Ford Lincoln
United Farmer's Association
Val Vista Ranch
Wilson M. 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

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Charity Information

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