

Program Report to the Board of Trustees

Quarter: 1: July - Aug, 2018

Date: 9/12/2018

Program Update

1. Program Outputs
 - a. Weekly participants: **Summer** 93 Individuals + 18 Group Participants + 4 Community Lesson Participants = **115 Total Weekly Participants**
 - i. Optimal Total Weekly Participants: 130 Difference: -15 (88% of optimum capacity)
 - b. Inquiries & Wait List
 - i. 38 New inquiries this quarter.
 - ii. 17 New participants enrolled this quarter.
 - iii. 18 Pending Assessment or on Waitlist. Several variables impact participants moving from wait list to program including availability of appropriate class, horse and volunteers, and participant's availability.
 - c. 8 Risk Management Reports submitted this quarter and reviewed by Safety Council.
 - d. Financial Aid Awarded: \$6,710 for Summer Semester/ \$31,453 for 18-19 Academic Semester.
2. Outreach Efforts this Quarter (including volunteer recruitment events)
 - a. 2 Outreach events held or attended, including:
 - i. Midsummer Festival July 28, 2018
 - ii. Veterans Coffee House July 6, 2018
 - b. 1 Field Trip (Safe Futures) (19 people served)
3. Program Outcomes:
 - a. Top three skills developed this quarter (based on rider notes/GAS goals):
 - i. Steering, which develops fine motor skills
 - ii. Half Seat, which improves posture, tone and coordination
 - iii. Riding a 10 step cones course, which involves sequencing and problem solving.
 - b. Favorite story of the quarter: One young rider with extreme sensitivity to noise became afraid to ride his horse after his horse sneezed one day. One of our instructors, Rachel, has been helping him to overcome his fear by first riding "Hope" (the new Equicizer, which he loves!) for 10 minutes, and then going to get on his horse. His fears are steadily subsiding and we hope for him to have a great Academic Semester!
4. Program News: High Hopes provided a wonderful staff development opportunity by bringing in Nicole Birkholzer of Mindful Connections in for a workshop focused on being in the present and how our awareness can positively impact our horse's welfare. We plan to host another one for volunteers in the near future. All instructional staff are also completing the Mandated Reporter Training in addition to our other annual CEUs. Summer Camp programs were such a huge success that we had multiple inquiries for children to continue in our year-round programs, and now have a waiting list. A SWOT analysis was conducted by the program team on our Carriage Driving Program, resulting in efforts to bring greater awareness to the benefits of this program and play with class format in order to bring these benefits to a broader population. We have also had a couple of inquiries that we are exploring for partnerships with OTs and mental health clinicians. All BOT members are invited to our Annual Celebrate! Participant & Volunteer Appreciation Event on Sunday, Oct 7th at 1:00.

Special Programs Update

1. Special Program Info
 - a. Immersion Program 11 individuals enrolled/served
 - b. Summer Camp 66 individuals enrolled 61 individuals served
 - c. Horse Sense 10 individuals enrolled/served

- d. Vet Kids 17 individuals enrolled/served
 - e. Total Special Programs Participants YTD: 104
2. Internships
- a. 3 summer interns from June – August
 - i. Kristin- Interested in Occupational Therapy, self-fulfilling internship
 - ii. Michael- Per Vet Student,- self-fulfilling internship
 - iii. Elizabeth- Interested in Occupational Therapy, self-fulfilling internship
3. Other News: The second year of VetKids was a success, and we hope to continue to develop that program to serve this population. We also partnered with Safe Futures this summer, providing weekly riding & equine learning program lessons, a field trip, and two Horse Sense spots. These programs have helped the participant increase confidence, develop communication techniques, and discover a sense of community through the shared bond with the horse.

Volunteers Update

1. Volunteer Recruitment & Engagements
- a. 60 New inquiries this quarter
 - b. 55 Attended General Orientation & Sidewalker Training (includes 18 expected to attend in Sept)
 - c. 16 Attended Leader and/or Longliner Training
 - d. 28 of 38 or 74% Assigned to permanent or sub volunteer spot (based only on July/Aug trainings)
 - i. One of our metrics for improvement this year is the Volunteer Engagement Rate, which is the percentage of volunteers in the last 12 months who have become an active volunteer after going through training.
 - ii. Current Volunteer Engagement Rate: 70%
 - e. Trainings have been capped at around 15 as we've been filling each training. We have seen a consistently higher engagement rate the past few trainings from May through the present (2 trainings in July) at 79%, 81%, 81%, 86% and then 80%. All of these show significant improvement from the previous year and a positive trajectory for the engagement rate.
 - f. In the hopes of bringing recognition and awareness to the Carriage Driving Program we ran a Header training on August 21st with a total of 7 volunteers attending. All 7 of those volunteers are currently in permanent volunteer roles.
2. Volunteer Coverage
- a. 70% of program (Leader, Sidewalker, and Barn) needs filled
 - b. 79% of feeder and facility needs filled
 - c. 94% of office and administrative needs filled
3. Volunteer Groups: Dominion came on July 12, 2018 for trail maintenance and fence post repair.
4. Volunteer News & Retention Efforts
- a. Volunteer Annual Awards Selected
 - i. Nancy Cash Program Volunteer Award: Larry Lee
 - ii. Barn Volunteer Award: Kim Kaiser
 - iii. Youth Volunteer Award: Aoife Samuelson
 - iv. Office Volunteer Award: Barbara Benjamin
 - v. "Spotlight Award" for Excellence in Volunteering: Kim Bienkowski
 - b. Volunteer Strategic Planning Process – See separate presentation