



DECEMBER 2018

The Gift Of Your Time

Another year has passed and with it another successful year of Journeys programming. We appreciate that many of you come from a distance every week and show up to work in all kinds of weather. During the last year we've had dumps of snow and cold weather, that required layering of clothes in order to stay warm, to the other extreme when popsicles were needed between classes to try to cool down – sometimes within a week or two!

We know that many of you juggle responsibilities: children, aging parents, school and work commitments to volunteer. Journeys is fortunate to have such a committed team of volunteers who ensure that the program runs smoothly and provides a safe and enjoyable experience for the students. Thank you for your support, your willingness to help, your contribution to the esprit de corps and the gift of your time.

We couldn't manage without you.

Sheena Taggart

In helping others we shall help ourselves, for whatever good we give out completes the circle and comes back to us.

Flora Edwards

A message from the JTRS Instructors

We are all tremendously grateful for the opportunity to work with Journeys Therapeutic Riding Society riders & volunteers.

The 2018 season is behind us and it wasn't without its crazy weather challenges! Who can forget the washed-out driveway in the spring and the snow storm in the fall that halted classes? Everyone showed up and dug in no matter the trials. The absence of Chloe is still felt by many.

You are an outstanding group of people who continue to dedicate so many hours to ensure the success of this program. We feel deeply connected to all of you and extend our heartfelt gratitude.

Everyone brings unique and special qualities to ensure the students feel a sense of accomplishment each week. From the moment students arrive their joy is evident. We are encouraged when you let us know that the program does as much for you as it does the riders. The 2018 season was filled with rider's firsts and this keeps us all striving to do better.

The extra kindness and care shown towards the horses ensures the safety and success for everyone. Our long-term horses carry on their duties as we introduce new horses to the program.

We look forward to 2019 and more treasured Journeys moments at the Winning Strides arena.

Sincerely,

Laurie Messner, Program Director

Vernon Lundy & Sarah Olsen, CHA IRD Instructors

Kelsey Fath, Assistant Instructor

Gone but not forgotten

Remembering Chloe:

Students and volunteers shared in the loss of Chloe in late summer. Chloe gave special comfort to students, was the best program mascot and was always happy to keep chairs warm.

We miss you sweet girl xx



Rafferty 1998 – 2018



Rafferty will always be remembered as a kind and gentle soul who helped so many students during his life as a therapeutic riding pony.

Photo courtesy of Tanja Schneider

In Lane Holmes' memory we believe that... For every rider there is a horse... For every horse there is a rider... And for every horse and rider there is a journey.



2018 Accomplishments By the Numbers

24 Volunteers

contributed 818 hours

There is a reason the Journeys program is so successful. We have the best volunteers! Every week 20 – 24 volunteers arrive and commit to doing their best job. We cannot say it often enough. We couldn't run the program without you!

10 Year Celebration

Members of the JTRS Board, instructors and students represented Journeys during the Nanton Days Parade. Much to our delight our float received a red ribbon for our efforts!

4 Amazing Program Staff

Program Director Laurie Messner and her team of instructors Sarah Olsen, Vernon Lundy and Kelsey Fath work hard to ensure that the Journeys program is safe, relevant and fun for students and volunteers alike.

3 Royal Visitors

Journeys was thrilled to welcome the Calgary Stampede Royal Trio in May 2018. The visit was made even more special because one of the princesses is a familiar face to the program students and volunteers. Jaden Holle is a Journeys volunteer and we are very proud of her accomplishments.

Jaden was recently crowned Miss Rodeo Canada and we wish her another successful reign.

2 Great Photographers

We are lucky to have 2 women that capture some fantastic moments for us. Thank you to Avril Chattaway and Sylvia Hunter for your wonderful photographs that help to tell the Journeys story.

2 Fantastic Programs!

2018 Spring and Fall programs were fully subscribed and feedback from students and volunteers was positive. We are happy that the Equine Assisted Learning Program returned to Journeys last spring with facilitators Ronda Cann and Pat Minor. We look forward to resuming the program next spring.

Behind the Scenes

We'd like to extend a great big Journeys thank you to the following women who help the program run smoothly.

Heather Baese:

Heather arrives early every week to help bring in the horses and start grooming in preparation for the day's classes.

Nancy Longson:

All year long Nancy has made sure that the volunteers have homemade delicious snacks to enjoy during breaks.

Jean Thompson:

Jean is an early bird so getting to the arena to help set up the volunteer hospitality area is no problem for her!

Thanks ladies!



A message from the JTRS Board

Each year we are blessed in so many ways, be it the commitment from our volunteers, the skillfully guided lessons from the instructors, to the soundness of our therapeutic riding horses. Together, these incredible assets create a safe and memorable experience for our riders.

We are also indebted for the more than \$30,000 we received this year from our dear and valued donors:

- Vernon Lundy
- Schneider Electric Canada
- EQUUS
- Ed and Marilyn Nikkel
- Doug and Carole Goodwin

The successful 2018 season has paved the way to an even greater one in 2019!

JTRS Board & Executive

