



partners for progress

Dear _____



There are few things more wonderful than watching a child grow and reach their highest potential. A child who couldn't talk can now ask a horse to "Walk On." A child who wasn't expected to walk can now do exercises while riding a horse. And none of this would be possible without your help. I can't begin to tell you how much we appreciate your support over the past year regarding the work we do for Partners for Progress NFP and was hopeful you _____ might consider supporting us at the **Partners for Progress (PFP) 15th Annual Hoe Down this September 7th.**

This year alone, through more than 8,000 therapeutic hours, we have helped over 200 children and adults with physical, mental and emotional disabilities improve their quality of life through the activities, lessons and therapy our horses and programs offer. This year, we want to help even more people overcome their challenges to live life to the fullest. People like our student Evan. Here is his story, as told by his parents:

Twenty-four years ago, our youngest son, Evan, was a frustrated (and frustrating) toddler, diagnosed with pervasive developmental delays, including severe speech and communication disabilities. We sought out the best doctors, therapists and special needs teachers we could find, but there were no answers or quick fixes. It was clear that Evan's future would most likely be limited. After graduating at 21 from our district's special education program, we found a placement for him in a sheltered workshop for challenged adults. It was there that he took a riding class at PFP. At first, he refused. The second time he rode, the smile on his face was indescribable. Before long, he was riding independently. In January 2008 Evan began a part-time job at PFP that completely changed his life. He started to open up, talk more and make new friends. Evan's father says, "Some days when I take Evan to the barn, I watch him with the horses and I can't help but wonder what his life would have been if he wasn't introduced to this program. It gives him so much joy and confidence, and watching him brings tears to my eyes. What seemed to have been a limited future is now a pathway to freedom and independence for Evan, all because of the people, programs and horses at PFP."



Evan with his recent medal!

Please join us on Saturday, September 7th as we celebrate the partnership of our students, horses and volunteers at the **Annual Hoe Down** at the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. The money raised at this event helps offset the cost of care for our incredible therapist partners – the PFP horses. With a special high quality diet, weekly exercise and training and regular veterinary care to make sure they are always in top form to meet each rider's needs. In fact, **Partners for Progress is recognized for providing many of the highest quality therapeutic horses in the country.**

You can help guarantee the continued success of our students by participating in one of our community sponsorships. A sponsorship offers the opportunity to be recognized by 500 guests at the Hoe Down as well as by the more than 200 families that visit the PFP barn each week. Please review the sponsorships on the next page and consider the one that best fits your budget.

We are deeply grateful for your support and generosity. We couldn't offer the quality of life, quality of horses and quality of programs we offer our students without you. We look forward to seeing you at the Hoe Down!

Thank you from all of us at PFP!



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Quality of Life, Quality of Horses, Quality of Programs