

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



“Words will never be able to thank you enough for the gift you have given me. The gift of enjoying my life. I will forever be in your debt.”

★ Louis Favela ★

SSgt. USAF Medical Corp (Retired)

Transforming Post Traumatic Stress into Post Traumatic Growth™

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H.O.O.V.E.S.™

CREATED FOR VETERANS, BY A VETERAN

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another impactful year, we at H.O.O.V.E.S. are filled with gratitude for the lives transformed through our equine-assisted healing programs. This year, we have expanded our reach, strengthened our programs, and deepened our commitment to helping veterans and first responders reclaim their lives. We have seen incredible breakthroughs—stories of resilience, courage, and hope that continue to inspire our work. Our rescue horses have played a vital role in these transformations, serving as powerful mirrors and partners in the healing process.

Through the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers, and the unwavering commitment of our staff, we have been able to provide life-changing experiences for those who need them most. Each milestone achieved this year is a testament to the collective power of our community, and we are excited to continue building on this momentum in the years ahead.

Your unwavering support has made all of this possible, and we are honored to share our progress with you. Thank you for standing beside us as we change lives, one horse and one hero at a time.

With gratitude,

Amanda Held

Founder & CEO, H.O.O.V.E.S. ★



LETTER FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear H.O.O.V.E.S. Community,

I am honored to step into the role of Board President for this incredible organization. H.O.O.V.E.S. has had a profound impact on the lives of so many veterans, first responders, and their families, and I am excited to contribute to its continued growth and success.

After attending a H.O.O.V.E.S. event a few years ago, I was deeply moved by the transformative healing this organization provides. Volunteering with H.O.O.V.E.S. fuels my passion for making a meaningful impact in our community, allowing me to contribute to a cause that changes lives and spreads hope.

I bring nearly two decades of experience in marketing and media, with roles at organizations such as The Toledo Mud Hens, Buckeye Broadband, and WTVG 13abc. Now, as a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, I am committed to representing women in the financial services industry while supporting initiatives that create lasting change.

I am a Toledo native, devoted wife to my husband Jason, and proud mother to our three children, Anne, George, and Johnny. My commitment to H.O.O.V.E.S. is driven by a deep belief in the power of community and the impact we can have when we work together. I look forward to leading alongside our dedicated team and ensuring that H.O.O.V.E.S. continues to thrive.

With gratitude,

Heather Beier

Board President, H.O.O.V.E.S.



H.O.O.V.E.S. IMPACT IN NUMBERS

The H.O.O.V.E.S. (Healing of Our Veterans Equine Services) program continues to make a transformative impact on the lives of veterans. With 109 participants this year, 89 completed the program, achieving an **82% completion rate**. This unique approach to healing, grounded in equine-assisted services, has delivered outstanding outcomes:

- ★ **Over \$100,000** raised from community-driven fundraising efforts.
- ★ **96.6% of participants** reported that H.O.O.V.E.S. helped with their mental health struggles.
- ★ Participants highlighted a shift in perspective, improved emotional processing, and a newfound sense of **connection** through working **with horses**.

A **third-party data** study conducted by Horses for Mental Health and analyzed by Nerds for Herds, **confirming** the measurable **impact** of our programs on veteran and first responder well-being.



- ★ **109 veterans and three first responders** participated in our healing intensives across 18 states and one from Germany.



- ★ **34 rescue rehabilitated horses** providing healing for our veterans.
- ★ **4 wild mustangs** rescued and adopted out.



- ★ **74 volunteers** donated **3,139.25 hours** of volunteer service.



- ★ **Miles 2 Freedom cycling** program expanded **nationwide** with three veterans receiving bicycles.

13

YEARS OF IMPACT

800+

VETERANS SUPPORTED

92%

REDUCTION IN SUICIDAL IDEATION



68%

REDUCTION IN SUBSTANCE COPING



73%

IMPROVEMENT OF UNCONTROLLABLE ANGER OR RAGE



MISSION

We bring veterans and rescued horses together in life-changing experiences, creating powerful bonds that heal, restore purpose, and **empower new beginnings**.

VISION

Our vision is to create a world where **veterans have access to transformative healing and personal growth**. Through the power of nature and the strength of community, we guide individuals to thrive with purpose, resilience, and joy. Beyond healing, we are a movement, fostering a ripple effect that inspires change and leaves a legacy of hope for generations to come.

CORE VALUES

Compassion: Serving with empathy and understanding.

Resilience: Empowering veterans to reclaim their strength and hope.

Community: Building a network of support for veterans and their families.

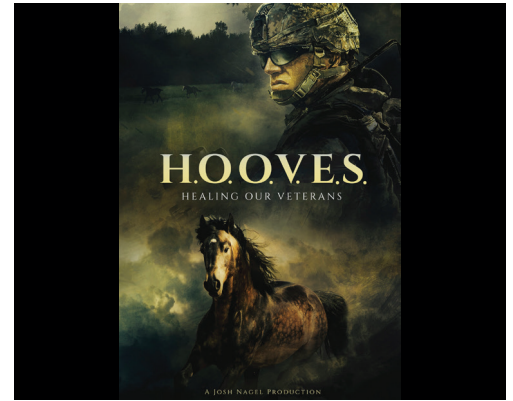
Integrity: Upholding the highest standards in our mission and work.



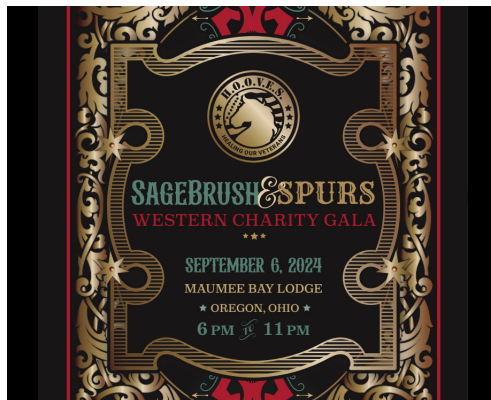
- ★ Delivered 2 impactful workshops for **horse-guided healing for teens**.
- ★ Partnered with the Swanton and Patrick Henry school districts to expand programming.



- ★ **H.O.O.V.E.S. | Healing Our Veterans** won **1st place at the EQUUS Film and Arts Festival** and **Honorable Mention at Cannes Film Festival**
- ★ Screened in Colorado, South Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, and Canada.



- ★ Hosted our first Western Gala to celebrate and raise funds for our mission.
- ★ Launched our inaugural **Suicide Awareness Breakfast** to spark conversations and build awareness.



- ★ Welcomed a new **Board President, Treasurer, and Secretary**.
- ★ Added **Director of Impact and Outreach, Tiffani C. Hollis** to strengthen our mission.



TESTIMONIALS

Looking ahead, the program aims to expand access and enhance its offerings to reach more veterans in need, supported by the generosity of donors like you. Together, we are helping veterans reclaim their lives and thrive.

“H.O.O.V.E.S. saved my life! I truly believe they helped me find a reason to live again.”

★ ★ ★

“The horses reflected my emotions back to me. It was eye-opening and life-changing.”

★ ★ ★

“The facilitators treated us like family, creating a safe space to heal and grow.”

★ ★ ★

“H.O.O.V.E.S. gave me the tools to rebuild my relationships and find joy again.”

★ ★ ★

“I walked in broken and left whole, with a new perspective on life and hope for the future.”

★ ★ ★

“This was the most transformative program I’ve ever experienced. I left feeling hopeful and strong.”

★ ★ ★

“I no longer have suicidal thoughts. For the first time in years, I feel at peace with myself.”

★ ★ ★

“I’ve learned to trust myself, manage my emotions, and embrace my purpose in life.”

★ ★ ★

“For years, I felt stuck in my trauma. This program showed me a way forward.”

★ ★ ★

KEY FACTS

Founded:
2011

Headquarters:
Northwest Ohio
4055 Wilkins Road
Swanton, OH 43558

Participants Served:
Hundreds of veterans and their families nationally

Programs Offered:
Healing Intensives, Horse-Guided Workshops, and Community Events for veterans and their families

Service Reach:
Local, regional, and national



OUR PARTNERS AS OF 4.8.2025

Our partners are our lifblood at H.O.O.V.E.S. Whether through financial contributions, providing food for Healing Intensives, professional services, or lending extra hands, each act of generosity fuels our ability to serve veterans. We are deeply grateful for their steadfast support, as it allows us to continue healing and empowering those who have given so much for others. Together, we make a lasting impact!



MISSION PARTNERS

Financial contributions support specific programs, activities, and essential services, as well as general operations like workshops, facility upkeep, and staff support.

FREEDOM: \$100,000+

LIBERTY: \$50,000 - \$99,000

- ★ Horses For Mental Health
- ★ Lucas County Veterans Commission

VALOR: \$25,000 - \$49,999

- ★ VFW Post 2898

HONOR: \$10,000 - \$24,999

- ★ Miles and Janice O'Mailia
- ★ Kevin Thornton
- ★ American Legion Murbach-Seifert Post #479
- ★ American Legion Auxiliary, Dept. of Ohio, Inc.
- ★ Mary Kathryn Currier-Ford - on behalf of Kosciuszky - Currier Memorial
- ★ Tom Spy
- ★ Marvin and Brenda Schmidt

WARRIOR CHALLENGE \$5,000 - \$9,999

- ★ VFW Post 2898
- ★ DEWESoft LLC
- ★ Son's of the American Legion - Murbach-Seifert Post #479
- ★ Buckeye Broadband
- ★ Dana Charitable Foundation
- ★ Stephany & Paul Johnson
- ★ Meijer- Store #116
- ★ McMaster Foundation
- ★ Sterling Paper Company
- ★ Marsha Wofter
- ★ Worthington Steel
- ★ Jennie Buckenberger

PATRIOT | \$2,500 - \$4,999

- ★ Selfridge Base Community Council
- ★ Ron & Pam Hudson

STARS & STRIPES | \$1,000 - \$2,499

- ★ Jimmy & Karen Spurgat
- ★ Mary Jane Flores
- ★ In Memory of Duane Whitmire

HERITAGE | \$500 - \$999

- ★ American Legion Aux Whitehouse Unit 384

SAVE 22 CLUB | \$250

Amanda Held, Annie Pack, Cheryl Kerwin, Deborah Dixon, Denise Stump, Dianne M Stroshine, Ed Beczynski, Gaby Favela, Harold Ritchie, Henrike Klein, Jane Ridenour, Jenni Wallace, Jody Spencer, Judit Vass, Keith Lamb, LeAnn Shapter, Lisa Azoni, Lisa L. Lomont, Lori Williamson, Louise Kahle, Maria Gorny, Marsha J Baker Mary Boehnlein, Michelle Miller, Nate Pearson, Nolan R Baker, Pamela Coale, Robin Owens, Sara Best, Sarah Hess, Steven Murray, Susan Outen, Susanne M Kasaras, Tammy Tappan, Tom Hewitt, Tracie Gildea



FOOD PARTNERS

Our food donors play a vital role in ensuring our veterans receive the proper nutrition needed to fuel their healing journey during our intensives.

- ★ CK Sweets Coffee & Bakeshop
- ★ Focaccia's
- ★ JoJo's Pizzeria
- ★ Kitchens Cakery
- ★ Local Thyme Restaurant
- ★ Mail Pouch Saloon
- ★ Marco's Pizza - Swanton
- ★ OTR Smokehouse LLC
- ★ Outlaw Smokehouse
- ★ Panera Bread

- ★ PizzAroma
- ★ Rooster's
- ★ Sidelines
- ★ Steve & Deb Murray
- ★ Tano's Pizza
- ★ Vito's Pizza
- ★ Warrior Wings
- ★ Whitehouse Inn



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our donors who give their time and helping hands are the heart of our community. Their dedication and hard work create a supportive environment where healing and connection thrive.

- ★ Bee Free Yoga by Sheila Watson
- ★ Black & White Transportation
- ★ Dr. Michael Hollerbach of Anthony Wayne Community Chiropractic
- ★ "Diamond Dave" Shelton - Apiarist (Beekeeper)
- ★ Energetic Healing & Support by Christina Futrell
- ★ Essential Connection Oils by Karla Gleason
- ★ Heather Tarolli - Artist
- ★ Jennifer Gunderson Photography
- ★ Labrador Lane Photography
- ★ Lowe's Home Improvement - Central Avenue
- ★ Megan Smits Photography
- ★ Meijer - Oregon
- ★ Mia Isaacson Photography
- ★ Minuteman Press Toledo
- ★ Sean McConnell Photography
- ★ SKP Massage - Stephanie Phillips



OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Along with our amazing volunteers, this group of professional and caring individuals bring their expertise to our table. From being behind the scenes to being on the front lines, we are thankful for their contributions.



KATY HUBBARD

Associate Director and Director of Youth Services

Katy plays a vital role in coordinating programs and events while also leading **The Patriot Project**. She empowers youth and military families through resilience-building initiatives and socio-emotional learning programs. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**



JUSTIN HELD

Facility Manager & Program Director for Miles 2 Freedom

Justin oversees the H.O.O.V.E.S. facilities, ensuring they remain a safe and welcoming environment. He also leads the **Miles 2 Freedom** program, combining his expertise in operations and logistics with his dedication to supporting veterans. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**



SARAH HESS

Director of Brand Marketing

Sarah spearheads efforts to maintain and grow H.O.O.V.E.S.' brand identity, creating impactful storytelling and consistent communication to amplify the organization's mission and reach. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**



TIFFANI C. HOLLIS

Director of Outreach and Impact

Tiffani cultivates partnerships, expands community outreach, and measures the effectiveness of H.O.O.V.E.S. programs, ensuring their continued growth and sustainability. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**



RANDY ROBERTS

Chief Safety and Compliance Office

Randy oversees safety protocols for all programs, events, and facility operations, ensuring a secure environment for participants, staff, and horses. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**



MATTHEW DICK

Chief Technology Officer

Matthew leads H.O.O.V.E.S.' technological initiatives, managing infrastructure and implementing innovative solutions to support the organization's programs and digital presence. **H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus.**

OUR ADVISORY BOARD



HEATHER BEIER

President

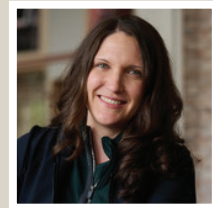
Financial Advisor, Edward Jones



STEPHANIE SYNCLAIR

Secretary

Entrepreneur, Founder La Rue 1680



HENRIKE KLEIN

Treasurer

Entrepreneur, International Business Consultant, H.O.O.V.E.S. Alumnus



DOUG HANCOCK

Board Member

Sons of the American Legion



Healing Of Our Veterans
Equine Services

H.O.O.V.E.S.

SANCTUARY AND HEALING CENTER

4055 Wilkins Road

Swanton, OH 43558

Tel: (419) 930-7936

Email: info@hooves.us

Web: hooves.us

GET IN TOUCH

Tiffany C. Hollis

Director of Impact & Outreach

Email: tiffani.h@hooves.us

Phone: (708) 638-6799

EIN: 61-1609848

Riverbend Equine Therapy Services
DBA as H.O.O.V.E.S.

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Donations are tax deductible to the extent
allowed by law.

Follow us on social media
to stay connected with our
journey.



HOOVES.US

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