



**Proposition 202 Tribal Gaming
Application Sponsorship/Support Form
Requesting Pinal County serve as the Fiscal Agent/Pass Through Entity**

Name of the Tribal Community: Gila River Indian Community

Due date of the application to the Tribal community: April 1, 2024

The following information will be used by Pinal County to 1) send the resolution and grant documents for the applicant to submit to the Tribal community, 2) send the funds, if awarded.

Name of the Non-profit: Manes and Miracles

Contact person/title: Lindsey Pittman, Director of Operations

Email address: lindsey@manesandmiraclesaz.org

Address: 43421 N Friend Ave, San Tan Valley, AZ 85140

Project name: Equine-Assisted Therapy Scholarships

Amount being requested: \$14,000

Project summary: Children with special needs from low income families will receive scholarships for equine-assisted physical and occupational therapy

Beneficiaries: Developmentally disabled children 3-21 years old in the Phoenix East Valley

Supervisor District: Supervisor Mike Goodman, District 2

The undersigns hereby certifies they have read and comply with the responsibilities set forth in the PINAL COUNTY TRIBAL GAMING GRANT PROGRAM
Request for fiscal agent/pass through support documentation.

Lindsey Pittman

Director name and signature



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Cover Sheet

Click field or use up/down arrow keys to move among fields

Municipality Information	
1. Date of Application: 1/29/2024	
2. Name of City, Town or County: Pinal County	
3. Mayor (City or Town) or Board of Supervisor's Chairman (County): Mike Goodman	
4. Mailing Address: PO Box 1348	
5. City: Florence	State: Arizona Zip Code: 85132
6. Acknowledgement of Submission by Authorized Municipality Representative: Typed Name/Title: Heather Patel, Grants Administrator Email Address: heather.patel@pinal.gov Signature:	
Applicant Information	
7. Department/Organization Name: Manes and Miracles	
8. Select Organization Type: 501c3 Non-Profit 📄 If Non-profit please attach IRS Determination Letter	
9. Application Contact Person: Lindsey Pittman Title: Co-Founder and CEO	
10. Phone Number: (480)359-6470	
11. Mailing Address: 43421 N Friend Ave	
12. City: San Tan Valley	State: Arizona Zip Code: 85140
13. Email Address: lindsey@manesandmiraclesaz.org Website Address: www.manesandmiraclesaz.org	
Project Information	
14. Project Name: Equine-Assisted Therapy Scholarships	
15. Purpose of Grant: Provide scholarships for occupational and physical therapy with horses to special needs children.	
16. Priority Funding Area	Healthcare
17. Annual amount requested	\$14,000
18. Number of years that funding is requested	3
19. Total amount requested (annual amount x number of years)	\$42,000
20. Has your organization received past funding from GRIC? If yes, list each year and amount	No
21. Geographic area served	Southeast Phoenix- San Tan Valley, Florence, Queen Creek, Mesa, Gilbert, Chandler, Apache Junction, Chandler Heights

For Office Use Only:		
Data Entry	Receipt	Evaluation
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval – Amount/Term		<input type="checkbox"/> Denial



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Narrative

Please structure your proposal to provide the following information in the order indicated. Provide the narrative in paragraph form in the text field provided. Please be thorough but strive for brevity.

1. Briefly describe your organization's history, mission and goals.

Who would imagine that the onset of one disability would be the catalyst of healing many others? This happens daily at Manes and Miracles, a local nonprofit with a mission of affordably bringing hope, happiness, and healing to developmentally disabled children through equine-assisted activities and therapies.

Our founder, Matt Pittman, was forced into early retirement from law enforcement after a tragic on-duty incident left him with a broken back and complex PTSD. It wasn't until he was introduced to equine-assisted therapies as a powerful tool to motivate and aid others in their healing journey that Matt also truly began to heal. Since our founding in 2018, we have grown to include seven specially trained and certified physical or occupational therapist partners, over 230 dedicated volunteers, and a herd of nine equines working together to serve the 67 children on our schedule each week. We have affordably fostered the positive physical, mental, emotional, and cognitive benefits of horses for over 300 children with life-long disabilities in Maricopa and Pinal counties and have a waitlist of over 100 children hoping for the same opportunity. We specialize in the inclusion of low-income families by providing scholarships to every participant with the amount of the scholarship based on their individual financial needs.

Our goals include raising \$230,000 for the Manes and Miracles Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships to every client based on individual need, to see 90% of those clients accomplish four or more developmental goals throughout the course of one season with us, and to have 100% of our clients experience a better quality of life due to participation in therapy with horses as identified by the caretakers of the client.

2. To determine eligibility for this grant, if the applying organization is non-municipal or non-profit, please describe your relationship with the supporting municipality, how this project will benefit the municipality, and the municipality's role in this project, if applicable. If the applying organization is a municipality or a municipal sub-division please enter the text "Not applicable" and go to item 3.

Manes and Miracles first developed a relationship with Pinal County in April 2019 when we met with Himanshu Patel, then the Community Development Director, and Supervisor Mike Goodman to discuss zoning concerns for our facility. Thanks to their support and guidance, we were able to resolve those zoning issues effectively. In 2021, we received the Board of Supervisors Nonprofit grant. Additionally, we have attended seminars and networking events hosted by various departments within Pinal County and are



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scheduled to present at one such event in February 2024. Pinal effectively represented Manes and Miracles in our grant application to and successful grant award from Ak-Chin Community with funds estimated to arrive by March 9, 2024.

3. Describe the proposed project, objectives, and your plan to implement.

Proposed project: The Manes and Miracles Scholarship will award scholarships to provide for the cost of therapy with horses above and beyond what the family is able to afford. The central goal of this initiative is to break down financial barriers, ensuring that children facing physical, cognitive, and emotional challenges can access the transformational benefits of equine-assisted therapy, no matter their fiscal situation. By offering scholarships, we aim to create a more inclusive and supportive environment where every child, regardless of economic circumstances, has the opportunity to engage in therapeutic experiences with our specially trained equine partners.

Objectives: Our project is designed with multifaceted objectives to address the diverse needs of children with special needs. First, we aim to enhance physical and emotional well-being by tailoring therapy sessions to promote physical strength, coordination, and emotional resilience. Secondly, our focus extends to improving cognitive and social skills through targeted interventions that leverage the unique abilities of equine-therapy. Lastly, we seek to build a supportive special-needs community by fostering connections among participating families, creating a network of shared experiences, understanding, and mutual support. These objectives collectively contribute to a holistic approach to therapeutic interventions that empower children of all abilities to thrive.

Implementation plan: The project will be implemented beginning with the identification of eligible participants through collaboration with our existing therapist partners and the Manes and Miracles waitlist. Current and potential clients will complete an intake form that includes family demographics such as size of family, income, and relevant fiscal circumstances. Based on the request and relevant information on the families abilities to contribute towards the cost of the child's participation in our program, a decision will be made on the amount the scholarship awarded will be. Scholarship funds will be applied to the total balance due before invoices are completed and distributed to each client at the end of the specified term. Invoices of those awarded scholarships directly funded by the GRIC grant will indicate to the client and their families the benefactor of said scholarships.



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The intake form will also include a questionnaire of the child's initial abilities and goals to establish a starting point which will be compared against the child's abilities and accomplished goals at the end of the season, thus verifying our met objectives.

4. Describe how the proposed project satisfies one or more of the priority funding areas identified by the Gila River Indian Community.

Supporting a scholarship fund for children with special needs to engage in equine-assisted therapy aligns seamlessly with the priority funding area of healthcare. By providing financial assistance for these therapeutic sessions, we directly contribute to improving the health and well-being of children facing physical, cognitive, and emotional challenges. Equine-assisted therapy has been shown to have profound positive effects, not only in enhancing physical abilities, but also in fostering emotional resilience and cognitive development. This initiative addresses a critical gap in healthcare accessibility, ensuring that children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have the opportunity to benefit from a holistic and transformative healthcare approach. Through the Scholarship Fund, we will make healthcare inclusivity a reality and promote the overall health and vitality of these deserving children.

5. Identify the needs/problems to be addressed, target population and number of people to be served by the project.

Evidence shows the far-reaching physical, mental, emotional, and cognitive benefits of using horses as highly effective partners in a therapy program for individuals with disabilities. Unfortunately, the high cost of operating such a vast facility generally makes it out of reach for the children and families who benefit from it most. With your help, we will change that!

As a single mother of four disabled children, Kara longed for her children to participate in physical therapy with equines but thought it was not within her means to afford it as other places she looked into charged \$40-\$200 per session. And then she learned about scholarships with Manes and Miracles. Her children received full scholarships for equine-assisted physical therapy and Kara has been amazed at the progress they quickly achieved at the Ranch. Kara's story is quite common. The burden of medical care expenses that families with special needs children are saddled with is immense.

At Manes and Miracles, we firmly believe that finances should not play a role in determining the best plan of care for a child. We seek to lift this burden by offering the life-altering healing that comes



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with equine-assisted therapy at little to no cost. Each therapy session at Manes and Miracles bears an expense of \$285, a cost that would be out of reach for our clients, 18.1% of which are below the poverty level. Our clients range in age from 3-21 years old with 47% female and 53% male. 100% of our clients have a doctor diagnosed developmental disability such as autism (44%), cerebral palsy (37%), epilepsy (21%), Down Syndrome (12%), and other diagnosis. The majority suffer from multiple diagnosis at an average of 2.2 diagnoses per child. 49% of our clients also have disabled family members. 21% of our clients households are at or below poverty level.

We proudly offer a 91%-100% scholarship to every client. However, as we have grown to serve 67 children each week, we have seen a sharp rise in the number of clients in need of financial assistance, creating a heavy burden on the Scholarship Fund. Last year, the Manes and Miracles Scholarship Fund provided \$203,543.71 in scholarship assistance. Additionally, inflation has seen expenses raise as much as 287%, making the Scholarship Fund more vital than ever. Our request for \$14,000 for 3 years will provide scholarships for a three-month term for ten underprivileged children, like Kara's, during each of those 3 years.

6. Define the project as a new or continuing program. Has GRIC previously funded this project?

This is a new project within a continuing program. GRIC has not previously funded this project or any other project within Manes and Miracles.

7. Provide a brief timeline including start and finish dates. Indicate if the timeline is flexible.

The project timeline is flexible as it applies throughout three of our seasons, running from October 14, 2024 through June 1, 2027.

Ongoing: Apply for funding of Scholarship Fund through grants and private donors

Ongoing: Fundraise to build the Scholarship Fund focusing on Giving Tuesday, end of year giving, Qualified Charitable Organization Tax Credit benefits, and annual fundraisers.

9/1/2024- 5/1/2025: Accept 2024-2025 season scholarship applications and intake forms.

10/1/2024- 5/10/2025: Award scholarships and notify recipients within one month of receipt of application. Identify recipients of full scholarship clients as beneficiaries of the funds from the GRIC grant.

11/1/2024- 1/1/2025: Apply GRIC funded scholarship awards to client accounts and send invoices for remaining client responsibilities by month or 3-month term, whichever is requested by the client.



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11/1/2024-6/1/2025: Apply scholarship awards funded through additional partnerships to client accounts and send invoices from remaining client obligations.

The following two years will follow a similar pattern:

9/1/2025- 5/1/2026: Accept 2025-2026 season scholarship applications and intake forms.

10/1/2025- 5/10/2026: Award scholarships and notify recipients within one month of receipt of application. Identify recipients of full scholarship clients as beneficiaries of the funds from the GRIC grant.

11/1/2025- 1/1/2026: Apply GRIC funded scholarship awards to client accounts and send invoices for remaining client responsibilities by month or 3-month term, whichever is requested by the client.

11/1/2025-6/1/2026: Apply scholarship awards funded through additional partnerships to client accounts and send invoices from remaining client obligations.

9/1/2026- 5/1/2027: Accept 2026-2027 season scholarship applications and intake forms.

10/1/2026- 5/10/2027: Award scholarships and notify recipients within one month of receipt of application. Identify recipients of full scholarship clients as beneficiaries of the funds from the GRIC grant.

11/1/2026- 1/1/2027: Apply GRIC funded scholarship awards to client accounts and send invoices for remaining client responsibilities by month or 3-month term, whichever is requested by the client.

11/1/2026-6/1/2027: Apply scholarship awards funded through additional partnerships to client accounts and send invoices from remaining client obligations.

8. Identify other organizations, partners or funders participating in the project and their roles.

The following foundations have previously contributed grants the Scholarship Fund with the commitment or indication of support in consecutive years:

- Brace Foundation
- Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Landon's Legacy
- SRP
- Thunderbird Charities
- Wal-Mart
- Pinal County Board of Supervisors
- Phoenix Suns



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The following businesses or private donors have been significant financial contributors to the Scholarship Fund with a commitment to support in future seasons:

- Diversified Partners, LLC
- Julie Neuman
- Kabat's Ace Hardware
- Home Depot
- Rock Pros
- Mechanicool Heating and Air

SJS Accounting will provide bookkeeping support to ensure Scholarship Funds are distributed honestly and transparently with monthly verification.

SBH Corps will evaluate overall budgeting and fiscal responsibility through an annual audit.

9. Would you be able to implement the proposed plan if your organization received partial funding for this project?

Yes, the proposed plan can be implemented with partial funding.

10. Describe your plan for project financial sustainability beyond the grant period. If this is a program/project previously funded by the Gila River Indian Community describe efforts made towards the previously described sustainability plan.

The Scholarship Fund is a continuing project. To indefinitely sustain our Scholarship Fund once the grant funding from GRIC is exhausted, we have laid out a plan to engage the community through relationships with foundations, in-kind partners, private donors, grantors, and businesses whose visions align with our core values. Additionally, we have previously seen great success with and will continue to utilize fundraisers.

11. Describe your plan to document progress and results.

We will track the number of sessions completed by the children who receive scholarship coverage thanks to the Gila River Indian Community. The appropriate scholarship funding for these sessions will be transferred by and tracked through our scheduling (custom private Google Sheet) and billing system (QuickBooks) by



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Lindsey Pittman, the Director of Operations, and by Bonnie Haverland, the office manager. Intangible results are recorded through surveys of the families we serve. We will proudly report the results (total number of sessions provided and developmental improvements the children have seen because of said sessions) following the end of the season in May of each year 2025-2027 via email, mail, or other Gila River Indian Community preferred method.

12. Indicate any application to and/or awards made by a tribe other than the Gila River Indian Community for state shared revenues for this and any other project for the past five (5) years. If this information is included in a separate attachment, please indicate that here.

Application was made to Ak-Chin Indian Community in July of 2023 and granted with funds being delivered in February 2024. No other application and/or award has been made by a tribe other than the Gila River Indian Community for state shared revenues.



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Project Budget

Budget Period: 10/1/2024- 6/20/2025

For each budget item listed here please provide a narrative description on the following Project Budget Detail page.

Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind contributions	Total Budget
1. Full Scholarships: 2024-2025 Season	\$14,000	\$67,225	\$0	\$81,225
2. Majority Scholarships: 2024-2025 season	\$0	\$148,200	\$0	\$148,200
3. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
8. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
14. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
15. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget	\$14,000	\$215,425	\$0	\$229,425



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Project Budget Detail

Please provide a narrative description for each of the project budget items listed on the previous page. Include the dollar figure and how it was derived.

1. Full Scholarship awards for the 2024-2025 season: Based on the average full-scholarship applications of the past three seasons, we anticipate 30% of our clients will request a full scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 30% of these would be 285 full scholarship sessions at \$285 per session for a total estimate of \$81,225 of full scholarships to be awarded in the 2024-2025 season. With the \$14,000 grant from GRIC, the remaining \$67,225 will be raised through grants, donations, fundraisers and other partnerships.

2. Majority Scholarship awards for the 2024-2025: Based on the average number of families capable of financially needing only a majority scholarship of 87% or less of the total fee as we have seen over the past three seasons, we anticipate 60% of our clients will request a majority scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 60% of these would be 570 requiring \$260 per session for a total estimate of \$148,200 of majority scholarships to be awarded in the 2024-2025 season.

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Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Project Budget

Budget Period: 10/1/2025- 6/20/2026

For each budget item listed here please provide a narrative description on the following Project Budget Detail page.

Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind contributions	Total Budget
1. Full Scholarships: 2025-2026 Season	\$14,000	\$69,220	\$0	\$83,220
2. Majority Scholarships: 2025-2026 season	\$0	\$152,190	\$0	\$152,190
3. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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11. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
14. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
15. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget	\$14,000	\$221,410	\$0	\$235,410



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Project Budget Detail

Please provide a narrative description for each of the project budget items listed on the previous page. Include the dollar figure and how it was derived.

1. Full Scholarship awards for the 2025-2026 season: Based on the average full-scholarship applications, we anticipate 30% of our clients will request a full scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 30% of these would be 285 full scholarship sessions and factoring a 2.5% inflation increase will see a cost of \$292 per session for a total estimate of \$83,220 of full scholarships to be awarded in the 2025-2026 season. With the \$14,000 grant from GRIC, the remaining \$69,220 will be raised through grants, donations, fundraisers and other partnerships.

2. Majority Scholarship awards for the 2025-2026 season: Based on the average number of families capable of financially needing only a majority scholarship of 87% or less of the total fee as we have seen over the past three seasons, we anticipate 60% of our clients will request a majority scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 60% of these would be 570 requiring \$267 (currently \$260 with a 2.5% inflation rate) per session for a total estimate of \$152,190 of majority scholarships to be awarded in the 2025-2026 season.

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Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Project Budget

Budget Period: 10/1/2026- 6/20/2027

For each budget item listed here please provide a narrative description on the following Project Budget Detail page.

Proposed Budget Expense (list each budget item)	Amount requested from GRIC	Amount requested or secured from other sources	In Kind contributions	Total Budget
1. Full Scholarships: 2026-2027 Season	\$14,000	\$71,215	\$0	\$85,215
2. Majority Scholarships: 2026-2027 Season	\$0	\$156,180	\$0	\$156,180
3. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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9. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
12. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
14. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
15. Click here to enter text.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget	\$14,000	\$227,395	\$0	\$241,395



Gila River Indian Community Grant Application Grant Cycle 2024

Project Budget Detail

Please provide a narrative description for each of the project budget items listed on the previous page. Include the dollar figure and how it was derived.

1. Full Scholarship awards for the 2026-2027 season: Based on the average full-scholarship applications, we anticipate 30% of our clients will request a full scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 30% of these would be 285 full scholarship sessions and factoring a 2.5% inflation increase will see a cost of \$299 per session for a total estimate of \$85,215 of full scholarships to be awarded in the 2026-2027 season. With the \$14,000 grant from GRIC, the remaining \$71,215 will be raised through grants, donations, fundraisers and other partnerships..

2. Majority Scholarship awards for the 2026-2027 season: Based on the average number of families capable of financially needing only a majority scholarship of 87% or less of the total fee as we have seen over the past three seasons, we anticipate 60% of our clients will request a majority scholarship. At an average of 950 sessions completed in a season, 60% of these would be 570 requiring \$274 (considering a 2.5% annual inflation rate) per session for a total estimate of \$156,180 of majority scholarships to be awarded in the 2026-2027 season.

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15. Click here to enter text.

Other explanation: Funds from the GRIC grant will be utilized beginning November 1, 2024 and are estimated to be expended January 1, 2027.

To ensure a complete application and proper submission please refer to the Grant Application Instructions.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

MAY 11 2018

MANES AND MIRACLES
1180 W ROSEMARY AVE
QUEEN CREEK, AZ 85140-0000

Employer Identification Number:
82-5409126
DLN:
26053528010188
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
April 20, 2018
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 947

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



So many things in Kyle James' life are hard. He works for every step, every accomplishment. Coming to Manes and Miracles isn't hard. It is FUN. It's a special day for him. He has no idea he is working. -Kyle James' mom



Riding the horse allows her to experience life in a whole new way that her own body is not physically able to do. It is amazing to see the progress and the joy she has found in this. The love of being on the horse brings a whole other level of motivation to work on fine motor skills plus muscle strengthening. - Lucy's Mom



There is power and peace when being here with these horses- it's a feeling that is hard to put into words. They work really hard to keep the cost down, which keeps it affordable for us- compared to many ranches, it's a big difference. - Maverick's Mom



I love Manes and Miracles because it's a safe place for my son to learn and grow. The facility is... full of amazing activities and obstacles to help the physical and mental growth and development of the participants. - Camden's dad

Hippotherapy has been a game changer for my child. On top of meeting her occupational therapy needs, my child is also able to have her emotional needs met by working closely with the horses. Seeing the look of accomplishment on her face [is] awesome! -Mila's mom

