

# ANNUAL REPORT

## April 2025- March 2026



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## CO-FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

As Co-Founder of Centaur Stride, I am deeply grateful to witness the extraordinary impact horses have on people's lives. Through our weekly articles in the *Dunkirk Observer* and *Westfield Republican*, as well as our Facebook page and website, we share stories of transformation while highlighting our programs, the experiences of riders and families, community partnerships, fundraising efforts, and the dedicated people who make our mission possible.

This past year has been especially meaningful. Our Chief Operating Officer, Holly Reslink, Doctor of Physical Therapy, has provided exceptional leadership in strengthening our organization. From securing grant funding and supervising the training of staff, volunteers, and horses to improving our facilities and expanding programs, Holly has helped position Centaur Stride for continued growth.

With guidance from The Capacity Lab and the generous support of foundations and our community, we developed our five-year strategic plan, *Building Up Centaur Stride*. This roadmap has inspired unprecedented grant support and reflects a shared confidence in our vision for the future.

As our organization grows, so does the need for our work. In today's fast-paced, technology-driven world, physical and mental health challenges affect nearly every family. Horses offer something truly remarkable. Their movement, presence, and ability to connect with people create opportunities for healing, learning, confidence, and wellness that are both timeless and increasingly recognized through research.

Centaur Stride remains committed to providing an inclusive, welcoming, accessible, and safe environment where people of all abilities—and their families—can learn, grow, and thrive together. Your support makes this possible. Every donation, volunteer hour, fundraising effort, and shared message expands our reach and strengthens our ability to serve those who need us most.

Every meaningful accomplishment begins with a dream, but its greatest reward comes from bringing that dream to life through relationships, shared experiences, and lasting impact. As we continue *Building Up Centaur Stride*, we look forward to welcoming all who seek the healing, hope, and possibility that horses so generously offer.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for being part of our journey.

Sincerely,

Claudia Monroe

# ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Centaur Stride was the idea of Harry Monroe. It took root after a physical therapy continuing education course that Claudia was encouraged to take, called Hippotherapy and the MS (Multiple Sclerosis) patient. Initially under the umbrella of the 4-H, and with a grassroots team (starting from scratch) of friends and family, a lawyer, and lots of seminars, we became a not-for-profit organization and moved into our facility on Jones Rd, Sherman NY, in July 1993.

Aimed at keeping fees affordable for all, we continue to rely on fundraisers, donations, and volunteers. Grants are never guaranteed, and usually do not cover operating expenses, but are such a blessing when we receive them. Please consider continuing to support our efforts.



**Top left:** Building Up CS Cover replacement was funded and supported by Ralph C. Sheldon foundation.

**Middle left:** Building Up CS Surehands lift supported by The Children's Guild Foundation with staff Tyler, staff Alison, volunteer Kristie, and rider Heavyn demonstrating the lift.

**Middle right:** Ambassador Rider Matt with volunteer Nicole walking in our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Walkathon fundraising event.

**Top right:** E.A.S.E. Growth program riders enjoying our trails with their supporting volunteers and instructors.

## Our Programs currently include:

- Individual and Group Therapeutic Horseback Riding Lessons and Equine Assisted Learning
- Meet and Greet our Horses
- E.A.S.E (Equine Assisted Social Emotional) Growth Program
- Volunteer Transition, Orientation and Training
- School Field Trips (Co-ser approved)
- Birthday Party Horse Themed with Riding, Groundwork and Activities
- Customized Group Programs
- After School Horse Club

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**2019 Volunteer hours    76 New riders**  
**1,236 Lessons instructed    1 New part-time employee**  
**\$74,895 Grant funding    124 Total Riders**  
**5 New horses**

In the last fiscal year, overall key accomplishments included:

- \$74,895 received in various grants toward “Building Up Centaur Stride.”
- 1236 lessons (58.2% of people with disabilities) were given to 124 riders.
  - Fifty riders (40.3% of our rider population) are people with disabilities with consistent scheduling lessons.
- Increase from 54 new riders in 2024-2025 to 76 new riders in 2025-2026. Of those new riders, four riders were returning after a hiatus of more than one year.
- Our Facebook platform has grown 200+ in terms of followers over the last year, with currently over 3,500 followers and counting!
- Fifteen new volunteers with total of 33 overall volunteers for this past year totaling 1519 volunteer hours.
- Five New therapy horses

Our data shows we have increased:

- Grant funding
- Individual donations
- Overall number of riders
- Overall number of lessons
- Percentage of riders with disabilities
- Number of new riders



**Grants** have allowed for much needed improvements and strategic planning. We are so grateful for all the support:



- **Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation's** support: hire and certify a new part-time instructor and Volunteer Coordinator, Alison Mitchener.
- **The Children's Guild Foundation** provided funding for a Sure-hands lift- an overhead lift to give riders with limitations the ability to be transferred with ease onto the horse.
- **Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation** provided funding for a new arena cover and project management and contributed to new lighting and stain.
- **Cummins Engine of Jamestown** supported two volunteer workdays along with funds for materials for maintenance.
- **M&T Foundation** funded 10 various clinics.
- **Westfield Fund** to support the Volunteer transition program for people with disabilities.
- **Jesse C. Wilson Foundation** contributed funds for our new horses.
- **PA National Foundation** provided funding for horse care.



**Events** are a crucial element of our fundraising efforts, contributing approximately \$25k toward our annual operating budget. Thank you to everyone who volunteers, attended, and/or purchased raffle tickets! A huge thank you to all our Corporate sponsors! We could not have achieved our 2025-2026 'Key Accomplishments' without all of you!

- March - Walkathon
- July- Summer Open House
- September- Trail Fun Run
- December- Open House (with Santa) and Holiday Cheer Basket Raffle
- February: Soup Dinner/ Sponsor a Horse



## Sponsors



## Looking Ahead

With a solid foundation in place and our strategic plan taking shape, we are ready for an exciting new chapter of growth. As we launch new pilot programs and expand our impact, we are seeking an exceptional Program Director to provide on-site leadership, guide the many phases of our operations, and bring fresh ideas that strengthen and enhance our mission. Working under the direction of the Board of Directors and in partnership with the COO and staff, this leader will help cultivate the culture of joyful service that defines our work with horses and people with disabilities.

Our theme for 2026-2027 is "Expansion and Awareness." Together, we will broaden our reach by growing our Board of Directors and advisory committees, building meaningful collaborations, and sharing the measurable outcomes that demonstrate the extraordinary healing power of horses and nature. The science is clear—and every day we witness its impact first hand.

As we look to the future, we invite you to be part of this journey. Whether through your leadership, partnership, advocacy, volunteerism, or financial support, you can help us reach more individuals and families whose lives are transformed through our programs. Together, we can expand our vision, strengthen our community, and ensure that the life-changing connection between horses and people continues to inspire hope, healing, and possibility for years to come.

Chief Operating Officer  
Dr. Holly Reslink PT  
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Cell: 440-228-0900

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## April 2025-March 2026 Financials

### TOTAL INCOME

**\$187,871**

- Donations: \$45,083
- Endowments: \$3,133
- Fundraising: \$15,748
- Grants: \$73,895
- Programming: \$49,959

### TOTAL CASH OPERATING EXPENSES

**\$130,837**

- Admin/Accounting: \$1,896
- Facility/Equipment: \$12,673
- Horse care: \$15,982
- Payroll and Wages: \$83,947
- Insurance: \$7,201.98
- Utilities/Misc: \$5,298

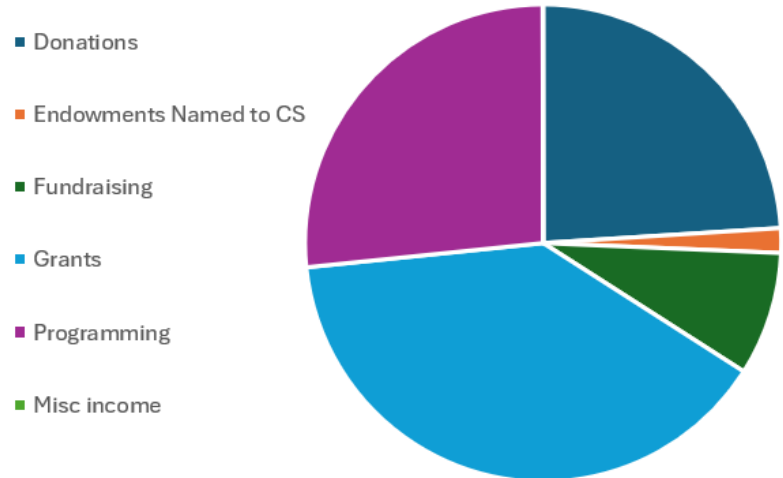
### TOTAL ASSETS

**\$42,356**

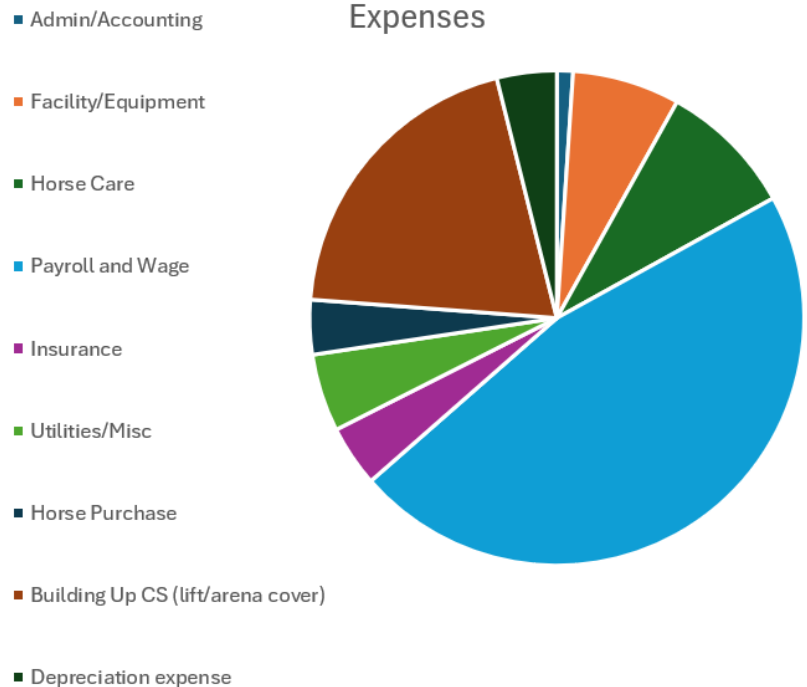
- Horse Purchases: \$6,425
- Sure Hands Lift: \$9,232
- Arena Cover (partial): \$26,608

NOTE: Numbers were rounded for ease of viewing.

### Income



### Expenses



# CONTACT US



If you would like to learn more information about our facility, would like to donate and/or help organize a fundraising event, please contact us at:



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[www.centaurstride.org](http://www.centaurstride.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/CentaurStride/>

**"The horse has an incredible ability to teach us how to be better versions of ourselves."**

**– Unknown**

