# Opening Gaits Therapeutic Riding Society of Calgary



### OPENING GAITS



### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

Charitable # 873508022

"Our mission is to provide children and adults with disabilities the opportunity to experience all the physical, social, and emotional benefits of riding on and spending time with a horse.







Opening Gaits is a charitable society founded in 1998 by a diverse group of Calgarians who were united in their passion for horses and a commitment to serve the community.



Our objective is to provide therapeutic riding in an exciting, fun, and challenging environment for children and adults with disabilities allowing them to develop physically, socially, and emotionally. Our programs have instructors who are equine and/or therapeutically trained. We service Calgary and the surrounding communities including Foothills MD and Rocky View County.



112+ students / year



**30+** retired career horses have served their community



15+ neighbourhoods , Calgary, Rocky View County, Foothills MD served



100+ volunteers

### **Benefits of Therapeutic Riding**

The rhythmic side-to-side, forward, and backward movement of the horse mimics the human gait, moving a rider's pelvis and torso in the same motion as walking. This stimulation gently relaxes taunt muscles and improves core strength, balance, and coordination.

Learning new routines, sequencing, and accessing short-term memory skills assist individuals who otherwise may experience difficulty with these tasks.

The real success of therapeutic riding comes from most riders being highly motivated to learn new skills, simply because they genuinely enjoy riding!

Generous donors and sponsors have allowed us to subsidize the costs associated with our therapeutic riding program. Currently our rider's pay 25% (\$275 per session) of the total costs\*. It is because of our donors and sponsors that we have been able to maintain this practice for over twenty-five years. You can help us continue this practice by providing Opening Gaits with a general donation to use where we need it the most. See last page for details.

\*Did you know 1 session is \$1,0000 and Yearly program cost \$4,000?

#### To operate the program and keep it affordable for all riders, Opening Gaits depends on the support **of individual and corporate donors**

#### Volunteer...

- 1. side-walk or lead in our classes
- 2. at our annual Casino
- 3. on a committee or on the Board of Directors
- 4. your expertise (social media, finance, recruiting, fundraising, legal, horses)

#### Donate...

- 5. items for our annual silent auction
- 6. a service, money, stock, insurance policy, mutual funds bonds, etc.
- 7. donate and choose our Buckaroo, Bronco, Cowboy or Rodeo Star Level
- 8. designate Opening Gaits as the recipient of your United Way contribution
- 9. make a one-time or monthly donation through CanadaHelps.org
- 10. give a tribute gift on behalf of a birthday/anniversary/other special event
- 11. organize a third-party fundraiser to benefit Opening Gaits (Company BBQ, Golf Tournament, etc.)

#### Other...

12. find out if your employer has a community fund or gift matching volunteer program

13. let us know of an organization or individual who may be interested in supporting us

- 14. recruit a new volunteer
- 15. become a member of the society



#### "You have not lived today

until you have done

something for someone who can never repay you."

- John Bunyan

Mailing Address

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Email Address

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Website

www.openinggaits.ca

Telephone

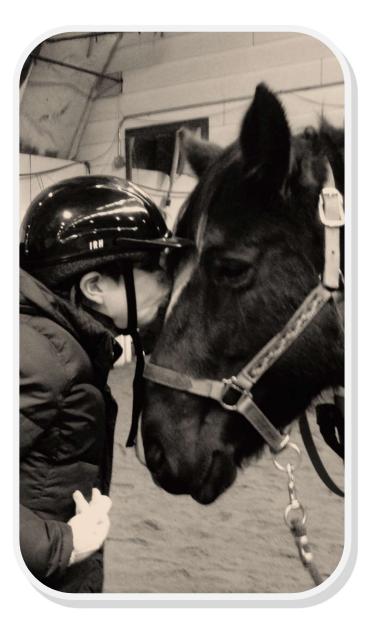
403-245-4184



Without your support Opening Gaits would not exist and for that we say a big

THANK YOU!





We ride out of the beautiful Bar None Ranches 322133 Hwy 552 W, De Winton, AB

*Buckaroo Level* - \$1 to \$300 helps cover equipment and program costs like riders' vests, grip belts, pylons, rings



*Bronco Level* - \$301 to \$600 helps cover veterinarian and farriers cost like vaccinations, hoof trimming



Cowboy Level - \$601 to \$1000 helps cover the cost of the therapeutic riding program



*Rodeo Star Level* - \$1001 and over helps cover the costs associated with horse board and feed

#### **DONATION FORM**

Donor Name:			
Mailing Address:			
City:	Province:	Postal Co	ode:
Email Address:			
Enclosed is my donation for Openin	g Gaits Therapeutic Ri	ding Society of C	algary
in the amount of: \$			
Payment Options:			
Enclosed is my cheque			
Please charge my Visa	Mastercard		
Card Number:		Exp.Date:	CVC
Signature:			
Donate on-line www.openi	nggaits.ca		
Mailing to: Openin	g Gaits Therapeutic Ri	iding Society	
PO Box 76062,	Millrise RPO		
Calgary, AB,			
T2Y 2Z9			
	\$50 or more		