

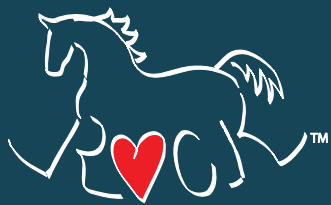
ROCK ABOUT PRINTS



ROCK, Ride On Center
for Kids provides
equine-assisted services
to children, adults, and
veterans with physical,
cognitive, and emotional
challenges.



2023-2024



Healing Thru Horses

MISSION

Improving independence and life skills in partnership with the horse.

VISION

To be the trusted leader in equine-assisted services through research, education, and programs.

Dear ROCK Family and Friends,

For over 26 years, families have been coming to ROCK seeking improved independence and lifeskills in partnership with the horse. ROCKateers have been lifting up others as they work with the horse, experiencing their own journey of mental, emotional, and spiritual self-discovery. Agriculture is good for all of us, and the horse is an amazing catalyst to help us move our feet in a new direction, and break out of boxes, to see our new potential. We see this with our participants, ROCKateers and staff, and even our donors, as they see their investments create life changing opportunities for others.

This past year we have been busy remodeling the Patti Colbert Learning Center, staff offices, and adding the HEB serving kitchen, as well as a new hay barn and making progress on a new equipment barn. Staff and ROCKateers have grown in number as well as our participants. We have acquired many new four-legged partners and found sweet retirement homes for horses who have given us years of faithful service. ROCK is still working with veterans and next year will be 20 years since we began our work with Ft. Hood (Cavazos) and BAMC to serve veterans with horses. There has been no looking back.

Through the data we collect, we continue to learn how the partnership with the horse helps our children, adult, and veteran participants in ways that extend beyond the arena into family, school and community. New surveys and data point to the benefits our volunteers receive as they report lower anxiety as well.

We are grateful to our investors of trust, time and resources that all make ROCK happen.

ROCK has some of the most amazing staff and leaders we have ever seen. The training, professionalism and the love they have for their families and ROCKateers who come to ROCK is astounding.

Courage and Blessings,

Dr. Nancy Krenek, PT, DPT, HPCS
CEO & Founder

Chris Miller, Board President

Heart of





Service Hour Distribution:



Total Service Hours: **7,220** Participant **25,949** Volunteer

ROCKATEERS

Our mission is accomplished thanks to the passion and commitment of our volunteers, lovingly referred to as ROCKateers, who range in age from 14 to 92.

Training is offered throughout the year and, while horse experience is valued, it is not required. Help is always needed in the following areas:

- Sidewalkers
- Special Events
- Welcome Wranglers
- Barn Maintenance
- Horse Handlers
- Work Groups



Scan QR code or visit [ROCKride.org/volunteer](https://rockride.org/volunteer) to get involved today!



IMPACT

The impact of ROCK's programs is seen in the research, goal documentation, surveys, and testimonies from the participants that ROCK serves.

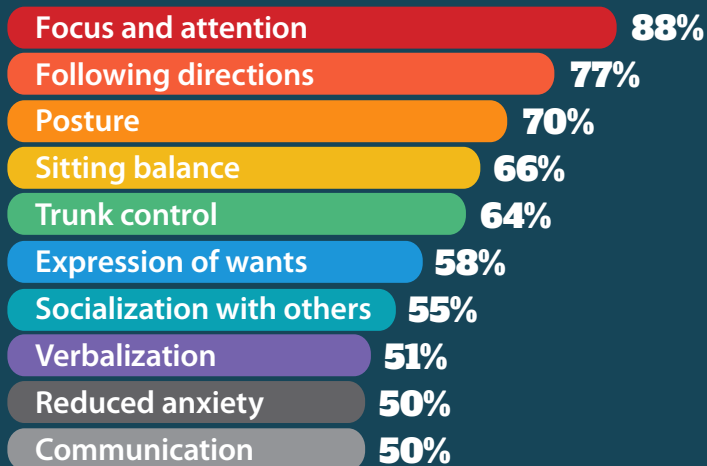
94%

of children & adults improved in independence*

88%

of children & adults improved in life skills*

ROCK participants reported improvement in the following cognitive, motor, and behavioral skills:



ROCK On Veterans (ROV) participants reported improvements in the following areas**

90% Decreased Anxiety



90% Improved Stress Management



95% Improved Mood



* Results from 2023-2024 ROCK Participant Survey | ** Results from 2023-2024 ROCK On Veterans Participant Exit Survey



127
Children



158
Adults



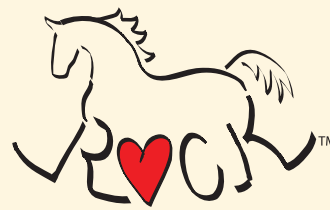
119
Veterans
& Families



314
Volunteers



33
Horses



Healing Thru Horses

REVENUE & EXPENSES

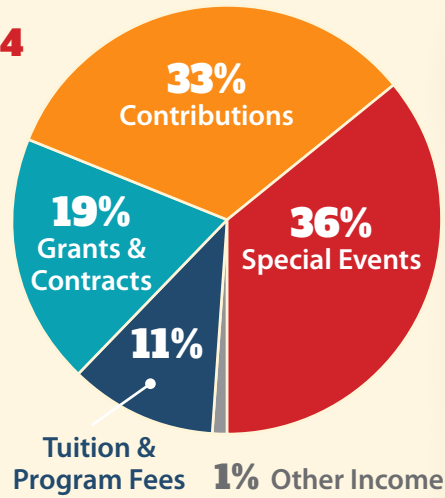
We are grateful for all our monthly and yearly donors, those who attend our special events and support us through ticket sales and event sponsorships, as well as our grantors and foundation gifts, all of which contribute to our operational budget. This year the average gift of the individual contributor was \$830.

2023-2024 Annual Operating Budget

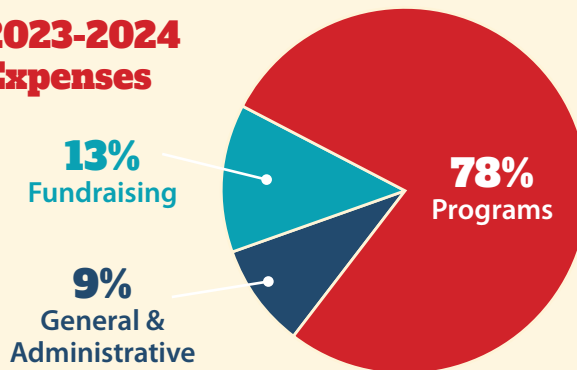
Audited financial statements available upon request

\$2,199,260

2023-2024 Revenue Sources



2023-2024 Expenses



Progress & Growth

DOC BREEN VETERINARIAN CLINIC

Named after Dr. Patrick "DOC" Breen, past President, father of a rider and 2019 Path Intl Veterinarian of the year. The Doc Breen Clinic was needed to house medical supplies and records for the horses, and also includes an office for our equine team. This clinic opened in 2022.

LEARNING CENTER, KITCHEN, & STAFF OFFICES

The Patti Colbert Learning Center, the staff offices, and the kitchen were all outgrown. Part of the capital campaign was doubling all of these. We now have over 1,700 more square feet to house two staff offices, the Patti Colbert Learning Center and a new H-E-B serving kitchen. This effort was led by Frank Krenek from Embree Group, JDI and DanCo, as well as many others.

LOAFING SHEDS

With inclement weather, ROCK has always needed more shelter for our four legged Staff. We now have 17 loafing sheds built by Wolf Valley Custom Sheds. Loafing sheds are specifically designed and built for our horses to move seamlessly in and out while in their pasture. They are oriented to block the sun in the summer and cold winds, which usually come from the west and north, the rest of the year. Rain or shine, the horses have protection.

In 2014, ROCK began a capital campaign to purchase additional acres and to build a second arena. It was Charles Avery who instigated the purchase of more land while George and Barbara Brightwell supported the rally. We started with the purchase of 20 acres to the north. First Texas Bank funded the purchase and charged interest only for a few years. After this we began planning for a second arena. And magically, the south 20 acres hit the market along with a house and a barn. ROCK's board of directors voted "YES," and First Texas Bank supported us again. We began fundraising and were able to pay everything off in April 2023 with a final push grant from both the Harry E. and Eda L. Montandon Charitable Trust and W.D. Kelley Foundation. We celebrated by burning the final note at the 2023 Barn Dance. The expansion project below have all been possible with the support of great donors. To all who continue to lift and support ROCK, your commitment shapes our success, benefiting our families, staff, and beloved herd. Your contributions propel us forward, and we express our deep gratitude for the integral role you have in the ROCK community.

SPORT CLIPS HEROES ARENA

As ROCK has grown, there has been a need for additional covered space. The Sport Clips Heroes Arena opened in the fall of 2022, and has allowed ROCK to serve more families and decrease our waiting list. The front part of this arena has a comfortable plaza named after Charles Avery III for families to sit.

FUTURE EQUIPMENT BARN

Location of our future equipment barn which is being built to protect the tractors, RTV's, and trucks used to care for the horses and land.

HAY BARN

The hay barn was built by our facilities team led by Sidney Garrison and his crew of Scott Cummings, Steve Duhamel, and Chris Foret. This was built with the original frame from classic ROCK that provided protection when it rained.

QUARANTINE PASTURES

With additional funds, ROCK was able to build new pastures and paddocks. ROCK now has a quarantine pasture for new horses on trial. Keeping new horses away from our other horses for 30 days and a vet check ensures the health of our existing herd.



Thank You
DONORS

EQUINE-ASSISTED SERVICES

Programs

Speech & Physical Therapy Incorporating Equine Movement

Also known as Equine-Assisted Therapies (EAT), this strategy utilizes the dynamic movement of the horse to achieve speech therapy or physical therapy goals.

Adaptive Riding

Also known as Equine-Assisted Activities (EAA), adaptive riding is designed to teach horsemanship and riding skills to individuals with special needs, with the goal of increasing functional life skills.

ROCK On Veterans

ROCK On Veterans offers co-ed and women-only programs for veterans and active-duty service members, as well as programs for veteran families partnering with horses and veteran volunteers.

Equine-Assisted Learning (EAL)

EAL is an educational approach that incorporates equine-facilitated activities using the experience of equine to human interaction in an environment of learning and self-discovery.

School Programs

Through partnerships with local school districts, ROCK is able to create connections with the horse and facilitate learning between diverse populations through Equine-Assisted Learning (EAL) programming.

Summer Camp

ROCK offers summer camps full of fun and learning about the horse during the summer months that includes Camp Bright Side, an inclusion camp, and Camp Courage which is offered to children of veterans and active-duty service members.

Education

TAMU Courtney Cares Equine Therapeutic Program

In 2012, ROCK began partnering with Texas A&M University to provide the staff, knowledge, and expertise in Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies for a program on campus at TAMU in College Station, TX. Learn more at www.courtneycares.org.

Intro to Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT) Course

In Spring 2018, Dr. Priscilla Lightsey and Dr. Nancy Krenk began teaching an Intro to EAAT course at Texas A&M in College Station. The lab for this class is conducted in the arena of Courtney Cares.

ROCKateers

ROCK has many opportunities for volunteers (ROCKateers) to expand their horse knowledge, serve on a board or committee, help with office work, side walk, horse handle, and take on leadership roles in a volunteer capacity.

Internships

ROCK offers internships for individuals seeking to learn about EAS. ROCK partners with local universities as well as individuals seeking to be a certified therapeutic riding instructor.

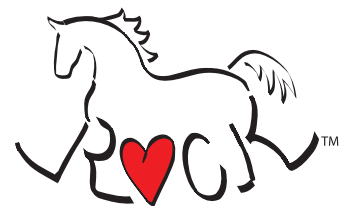
Research

Research in Partnership with Institutions of Higher Learning

ROCK is fulfilling our vision to be the trusted leader in Equine-Assisted Services through research, education, and programs by collaborating with universities to conduct research to document the effectiveness of equine-assisted activities and therapies. To date, ROCK has participated in 24 research papers within the field of Equine Assisted Services with four being published in peer reviewed journals.

H.O.P.E. (Horses Offering People Enrichment)

ROCK provides educational and intern support to this nonprofit EAAT program serving children with special needs in Beijing, China. Dr. Priscilla Lightsey, who works at ROCK and TAMU Courtney Cares, is the Founder and Executive Director of H.O.P.E. Learn more at www.hopebeijing.org.



Healing Thru Horses

SERVICES



GIVING

Opportunities

ROCK's annual operating budget is supported by generous donors like you through special events and contributions.

Ways to contribute:

- Amazon Wish List
- Annual Giving Events
- Endowments
- Individual Gifts
- In-Kind Gifts
- Monthly Giving
- Stocks & Securities

Special Events:

- Amplify Austin (March)
- Barn Dance (March)
- Boots in the Dirt (Year-Round)
- Horseshoe Club (Year-Round)
- Legacy of Hope (Year-Round)
- Cowgirl Bruncheon (Nov)
- End of Year Giving (Nov-Dec)

Contact Karah Powell for custom giving plan options to suit any situation at 512-930-7625 or email karah@rockride.org.



Horseshoe Club

ROCK Horseshoe Club is made up of sponsors who provide for the care and feeding of ROCK therapy horses. Sponsorship of a horse through a monthly or annual gift provides for the ongoing needs of the ROCK herd.



Boots in the Dirt Club

A monthly giving program to support ROCK's ROCKateers who give their time and hearts everyday in the dirt.



Scan QR code or visit [ROCKride.org/donate](https://rockride.org/donate) to make an impact!

TOP 10 DIAGNOSES TREATED

ADHD

Autism Spectrum

Cerebral Palsy

Down Syndrome

Developmental Delay

PTSD

Seizure Disorder

Speech Delay

Traumatic Brain Injury

Visual Impairment

"I wanted to thank you guys for helping to allow me to ride. I have benefited from ROCK in several different areas. I have decreased anxiety, have more self confidence, more independence and the ability to reason and deal well with life and its challenges. Thank you for the scholarship to be able to ride at ROCK."

- Sarah V., participant

"The veterans program made me feel welcomed and gave me a sense of belonging. The safety of the space allows us to share with the other veterans what we might not share elsewhere. I have found the time with the other vets, and especially the time with the horses, to be therapeutic and healing in unexpected ways."

- Steve D., ROCK On Veterans participant

"I am currently serving as a volunteer for ROCK in appreciation for the services they provided our family over 20 years ago. ROCK consistently delivers an exceptional experience to all participants in the program. I highly recommend their services and encourage those looking for volunteer opportunities to join the ROCKateer team."

- Brian D., ROCKateer

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Our mission to improve independence and life skills in partnership with the horse would not be possible without the support of our generous donors. The following are individuals, foundations, and corporations that invested \$1,000 or more between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. Thank you!



Healing Thru Horses

A+ Federal Credit Union	Carlson Law Firm	Donald & Mary Capes	Gustavo Ramirez Martinez	Kita Rutherford
Abbie's House	Carol Atwood	Doug & Gaye Watkins	Heart and Vascular	Kneisler Development
Abernethy Concrete	Carol Murehead	Doug & Linda Ross	of Central Texas	Company
Adrienne Bonds	Carolyn Holloway	Dragon Lounge	H-E-B	Kris & Helen Johnston
Aileen Phillips	Casa Mechanical	Dwight & Darlene Jeter	Heidi Conrath	L&W Supply
Al & Celeste Kauffman	Cavender's Boot City	Ed & Sharon Bradshaw	Henry Lucid	Lance & Carol Sandlin
Al & Jean Mowdy	Central Texas Community	Edna Montgomery	HMP Education LLC	Lance Roberson DBA Plance
Alfred's Catering	Foundation	Edward & Christy Logan	HR Marc Company, Inc.	Larry Olson
Alice Edwards	Champion Site Prep	Elaine Guillory	IBEW Local Union 520	Laura Terry
All American Chevrolet	Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.	Elisa Frey	Ideal Signs	Leland & Audrey Sjule
of Killeen	Charlie & Jan DiMare	Embree Group	Insurance Industry	Leslie Canter
All Star Liquor	Charlie Tijerina	Erik Miller	Charitable Foundation	Lester Anderson
Alliance Bank	Chet Garner-The DayTripper	Estate of Dennis	IRex Group LTD	Linda Kolinek
Alysia Wightman	Chevron Humankind	& Marjorie Masterson	Iron Oak Commercial	Linda Silva
American Legion Post 447	Chisholm Trail	Estate of George	Management LLC	Linda Stephens
Angela Miller	Communities Foundation	& Dr. Barbara Brightwell	J.B. & Ashley Barnes	Lindsay Shappee
Anna Kraft Fine Art	Chisholm Trail Financial	Estate of Kenneth	Jacquelyn Dear	Lindsay Smith
Apple Contractors	Group	& Patti O'Meara	James & Leiselle Sadler	LKCM South Texas
Applied Materials - Your	Chris & Brandy Loudermilk	Estate of Lera R Hughes	Janice Crenwelge	Partners LLC
Cause	Chris & Dana Smyth	Eugene & Corey Stabeno	Jay Mechling	Lola Wright Foundation
Armanino Foundation	Chris & Michelle Bubela	Ewald Kubota, Inc.	JDI Constructors, Inc.	Lott Brothers Construction
Ascension Seton	Chris & Terry Cornman	Farris Morrison	JDI Contractor and Supply,	Co.
ATX Equipment	City of Georgetown	Felicia Reed Photography	Inc.	Lou & Regina Buice
Austin Community	City of Round Rock	Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund	Jeff & Chris Miller	M/SGT Ben D. Snowden
Foundation	City Post Chophouse	First Texas Bank	Jeff & Shawn Maurice	FWF Post 8587
Bank of America	Claudia Ryner	Flora McCormick	Jeffrey & Cynthia Johnson	Mares Glass
Barrie & Nancy Laing	Clint & Diane Truitt	Frank & Nancy Krenek	Jen Henderson	Marika Garza
Beau & Ashley Whitaker	Corridor Title	Fred & Patricia Sides	Jenna Klein	Mark & Rachelle Baker
Becky & Hunter Adkins	Costco Wholesale	Gary Brown CPA	Joan Cutler	Marilyn Nichols
BeLocal Magazine	Craig & Charlotte Benson	Gattis Law Firm	Joanne Rawson	Matthew & Lindsey Rochner
Benevity Community	Craig Harris	Gattis Ranches LLC	Jody Friedmann	Matthew & Tania Easton
Impact Fund	Curtis & Lucretia Crenwelge	General Motors	Joe & Christine Calao	McCormick Charitable Trust
Beth Avery	Dan & Erica Bowles	George & Debbie	Joe Vaughn	McCourt Equipment
Bill & Evelyn Bunton	Dan & Shana Gattis	Christianson	Joel & Priscilla Rappaport	McCoy's Building Supply
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Bob & Nancy Knowles	Revolution San Gabriel	Health Institute	Josh & Laura Mowdy	Georgetown
Bob Ernst	Chapter	Georgetown Family YMCA	JR Excavating Inc.	Michael & Cindy Durbin
Bob Otto	David & Patsy Seal	Georgetown Health	JT Bates Group	Michael & Laurel Pilkington
Brad & Lori Smith	David & Sarah Jane Valdez	Foundation	Julia Crist Photography	Michael & Lisa Dillon
Brazos Valley Equine	David Boren	Georgetown Pediatric	Justin & Debra Farrow	Michael & McKenzie Dillon
Hospital	David Kornegay	Dentistry	Kaleb Killingsworth	Michael & Sharon Daggett
Brett & Laura Chotkevys	David Paden	Georgetown VFW Post 8587	Karah Powell	Michael Weir
Brett Miller	David Proctor	M/Sgt Ben D. Snowden	Kathleen Love	Michaela Kline
Bright Funds	Dawn Jones	Gerald Nunn Electric	Kaye & Ron Coleman	Mike & Beth Melton
Brown Distributing	Dayne & Pam Carlson	Glen Breder	Kaylah McCord	Mike & Cathy Godfrey
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		Gus Painting	Kiltz Family Foundation	



Nolan Ryan Foundation
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 Obdulio & Lori Ferrer
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 and Memory Care
 Pope Material
 Premier Wingshooting
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 Quenan's Jewelers
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 Skookum
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 Troy & Mary Rodriguez
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 TX Go2Guy
 Ty & Rebecca Barho
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 Vic & Faith Bero
 Vision 360
 W.D. Kelley Foundation
 Warren & Tricia Gossett
 Webber Family Foundation
 Western Stain
 Whiskey Towers
 Wild Basin Investments
 William & Cathy Wendell
 William & Suzonne Slaughter
 William Schoen
 Zachary & Ashley Isbell

ROCK Herd

Belle - Bonnie - Brandi - Charles - Dash - Donut - Echo
 Gemma - Grant - Henry - Icy - Ike - JLo - Lee - Lucy - Midnight
 Mo - Monty - Mowgli - Murphy - Noel - Oscar - Partner
 Peggy Sue - Ralph - Rocky - Scooter - Shimmer
 Sister - Skippy - Sonny - Tony - Yana

In loving memory of Mayo.

ROCK Staff

Nikki Anthony
 Donelle Beal **
 Kevin Bowers
 Brittney Brigham
 Emma Byers
 Bob Byrns **
 Victoria Clark
 Olivia Coleman
 Lauren Crabb
 Scott Cummings
 Joan Cutler
 Rebecca Delich
 Heidi Darning

Steve Duhamel
 Haylee Feedback
 Devon Felts
 Susan Finfer
 Chris Foret
 Sidney Garrison
 Heather Humphrey
 Amy Keck
 Sydney Korry **
 Nancy Krenek *
 Priscilla Lightsey *
 Angie Loiselle
 Annette McCloskey

Shannon Middleton
 Phoebe Miller
 Amanda Mott
 Dorothy O'Neal
 Karah Powell
 Gaby Stephens
 Ross Taggart
 Stephane Troxell
 Susy Turnbull
 Laura Vann **
 Kristin Witcher

* ROCK & Courtney Cares staff | ** Courtney Cares Staff

ROCK Board of Directors

Chris Miller, President
 Victor J. Bero, Vice President
 Steve Shook, Treasurer
 Carol Sandlin, Secretary
 Patrick Breen, DVM, Past President
 Bruce Bessner
 Matthew Easton
 Dan M. Gattis
 Carter Hall
 Susan Harris
 Barrie Laing
 Lindsey Roberts, Past President
 Dana Smyth
 Ron Swain
 Stephanie Zinsmeyer

*We welcome new 2023-2024
 Board of Directors members
 Barbara Bergin-Nader and Tol Harris.*

ROCK Board of Advisors

Patti Colbert, Chair
 Ron Coleman
 Curtis Crenwelge
 Dr. Charles W. Graham, DVM
 John Gustainis
 Craig Harris
 Dr. Wayne Hurst, DPM, FACFAS
 Frank Krenek
 Hon. Betsy Lambeth
 Edward Logan
 Bill Mateja
 Joe McSpadden
 Al Mowdy
 Nolan Ryan
 Reid Ryan
 Ron Shelly

2023-2024

DOCUMENTARY



Many years ago, George and Barbara Brightwell decided to create a ROCK documentary. They hired Twila LaBar and created a documentary with four participants from ROCK—Faith, Hunter, Todd and Will. The Brightwells wrote a mission statement of the purpose of the documentary and left it to ROCK.



In the documentary “Where the Horses Heal the Soul,” audiences are drawn into stories that exemplify the transformative power of therapy horses. It vividly demonstrates how the simple act of riding and the profound connection with these horses can significantly change lives. At ROCK, participants acquire vital life skills, foster independence, and discover renewed purpose through their

relationships with these extraordinary animals. This bond enables them to unlock their full potential and embrace a brighter path forward.

This movie has been entered in many film festivals and won awards and continues to be shown in local universities and centers. The Brightwell’s vision of sharing hope for people possibly put in a “box” continues to be a beautiful legacy.

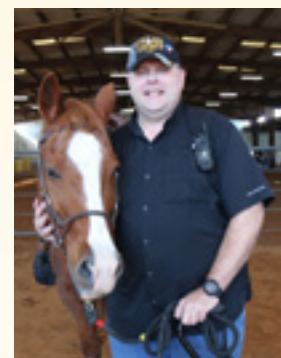
You can learn more about the documentary by visiting the website at wherethehorseshealthesoul.com.

E Awards

PATH Intl. 2024 Awards

Erik Stoeckle – Volunteer of the Year

Erik has played a pivotal role as one of the early members of the ROCK’s ROV program. Today he serves as a Horse Handler and mentor, guiding and supporting veterans in the program. Beyond this, Erik volunteers twice a week as a Team Lead overseeing other programs at ROCK and dedicating six hours a day to this cause. He ensures the smooth functioning of classes and mentors other volunteers. He collaborates with more than 300 fellow volunteers, exemplifying leadership and sharing his extensive knowledge. Thank you, Erik, for your 15 years and 18,000 hours of dedication to ROCK.



Grant – Region 8 Equine of the Year



Grant has served at both ROCK and Courtney Cares (courtneycares.org) after working with college students in the TAMU Corps of Cadets Parsons Mounted Cavalry. He has pulled the cannon, demonstrated the perfect temperament for teaching leadership, carried individuals with special needs, and participated in veteran programs. He is a beautiful, steady Eddy with a soft eye and the biggest heart.

Drawing courtesy of PATH Int.

Thank you to Carol Hutchison, Desiree Steele and David Valdez for providing some of the photos featured in the Annual Report.



Healing Thru Horses

Providing Equine-Assisted Services to Central Texas since 1998!

2050 Rockride Lane | PO Box 2422
Georgetown, TX 78626 | ROCKride.org
Tax ID# 742917659



ROCK, Ride On Center for Kids (ROCK) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides equine-assisted services to children, adults, and veterans with physical, cognitive, and emotional challenges.