



THE POST

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EMBRACE EQUINE MINISTRY

www.embraceequineministry.org

SUMMER 2021

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Upcoming Events

JULY 2021

– UGM Sessions begin

SEPTEMBER 2021

– EMBRACE Equine Ministry Gala Dinner

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Pinkerton Retirement Services Sponsoring EMBRACE Gala

By Samantha Means



Location for the EMBRACE Gala Dinner: Pinkerton Retirement Services and private Idaho Wildlife Museum in Coeur d'Alene.

There is a growing need in Kootenai county, and Pinkerton Retirement Services is sponsoring a gala dinner for EMBRACE Equine Ministry to help meet that need.

In 2019, Idaho was home to 172 reported sexual assaults, 674 cases of domestic violence, and 376 sexually abused children. According to Safe Passage of Idaho (www.safepassageid.org) 66% of these cases go unreported each year so the numbers are significantly higher. The need

for trauma-informed counseling services is high, and EMBRACE is offering a new program to meet that need with trauma-informed equine assisted learning and pastoral counseling.

Since EMBRACE was founded in 2014 the board of directors has had a clear mission of sharing the love of Jesus Christ through His gift of the horse. Since 2017, operating just two days a week as a mobile ministry, EMBRACE has served more than 500 women, adolescents, and children in Kootenai and Spokane counties at no cost to participants.

Still, we receive frequent emails and phone calls asking for more help. In years past we were unable to meet this growing need. However, this year, after much planning and preparation, we're taking a step to expand our services.

Our goal for 2022 is to expand our ministry operations from two days a week, to five days a week, Monday through Friday. Our neighbors are hurting, and we are striving to provide the precise care and support necessary to help.

see GALA, page 2

GALA, cont'd...



To do so, we've spent the last year creating a subsidiary to EMBRACE called Wild Hope, which will provide Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) and trauma-informed counseling for individuals, couples and families. For three days a week, using untouched horses, including mustangs captured by the Bureau of Land Management, Wild Hope will provide non-riding services to empower and equip our participants to have healthier relationships with self and others, and achieve personal growth. The remaining weekdays will be designated to provide our usual ministry services at no cost to participants.

Invitations to the gala will arrive before the end of July, so keep an eye out! If you do not receive a formal invitation, stay up to date with our Facebook page which will let you know when the gala will be open to the public. If you can't come to the event in person, we would love for you to join us out of the comfort of your home during the Facebook live event to hear how you can partner with us in helping our community.

Jesus came to heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds (Psalm 147:3). We're coming to partner with him in the process. Join us on September 30th!

To learn more about Wild Hope, check out page 3 of this newsletter for more details.

DO YOU USE AMAZON?

Shopping on Amazon is another way you can donate to EMBRACE!

When you visit smile.amazon.com you can choose to donate a percentage of your purchase to a nonprofit of your choice, and EMBRACE is one of your choices!

Every penny matters to our ministry, so when you make those orders on Amazon, just type smile.amazon.com and choose EMBRACE Equine Ministry as your nonprofit of choice to donate those pennies to!

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What is Wild Hope?

By Samantha Means

EMBRACE is, first and foremost, a ministry. Our mission is to teach Bible-based principles for life, serving anyone with a desire to learn how to restore, renew or rebuild healthy, trusting relationships. Wild Hope is a new, unique program within EMBRACE that will provide practical, proven techniques to meet the relational needs of participants through trauma-informed Equine Assisted Learning.

Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) is an experiential learning approach that helps participants develop real time awareness of themselves and how their behavior impacts the world around them. While traditional counseling provides cognitive approaches to healing and healthier patterns of thinking and living, EAL provides experiential learning, which accesses a different part of the brain not as accessible with traditional cognitive methods.

Wild Hope will adopt untouched horses and put them through a gentling process before introducing them to participants. By using untouched horses, participants will experience a more sincere response to their behavior compared to a horse that has been trained and desensitized. This real-time response will enable participants to become more self-aware and learn to manage themselves better in order to establish and maintain a connection.

This relational-based experience has been most helpful for those who have experienced a variety of relational traumas, helpful for both children and adults. Each 60-minute session is facilitated by a horse handler as well as a facilitator. Both leaders have been trained in horsemanship and trauma-informed counseling practices founded on biblical principles and practical tools.

Once we achieve our financial goal, this new program will begin in February of 2022. All sessions are non-riding sessions and, at this time, are funded by donations providing scholarships or private pay. To learn more – visit our website! www.embraceequineministry.org

GOLDEN MOMENT

Each month we'll feature a photo that stood out from one of our sessions

“Joy Ride”



Karen, Robi, and Aaliyah, 2021 © EMBRACE



Rebekah Pinkerton, 2019 © EMBRACE

REBEKAH PINKERTON

Quarterly Volunteer

Rebekah has been a volunteer with EMBRACE since the fall of 2020. She served with our sister ministry, Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch, in Bend, Oregon for two years before she returned to Coeur d'Alene and EMBRACE was blessed to receive the benefits of her experience, her faithful heart, and her joy.

Rebekah brought five new volunteers to EMBRACE in 2021 as she continues to serve in a number of other ways in the community. Rebekah we are so thankful for the sacrifices you make to help our ministry be what it is today. Your hard work and dedication is such a blessing!

ERICA'S TESTIMONY

"I have learned so many lessons since coming here. The teamwork, acceptance, change... I would definitely recommend it to people because it's made my life ten times better. The horses are like a different kind of tactile learning. It's better for active minds like mine—I learn by doing. I got to figure out what choices I can and can't and need to make by throwing hoops on a cone or going between poles. It's a really wonderful way to learn and it's changed my life for the better. It's given me a perspective of God in my life and a little bit, okay, a lot of faith where I was losing it. And I got to meet the loveliest ladies. I love (them all) with my whole heart."



Erica and Deuce, 2019 © EMBRACE

SESSION SNEAK PEAK...

“BALANCE”



Jayne & Dixie, 2020 © EMBRACE

Each of EMBRACE's sessions has what we call a “springboard” that sets the stage for how the session will unfold. We never know how the horse activity will impact our participants, or what kind of insights our participants will receive, but it's always a beautiful and God-glorifying experience.

Primary Scripture:

“For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God.”
- Romans 8:7-8, NLT

Horse Activity:

Part 1: Have the participant sit in a saddle without using the stirrups or the reins. The session leader will lead the horse on a lead line. If a participant struggles with balance on a horse, use an equi-ball instead.

Part 2: Instruct the rider to sit on the horse and balance without using their hands. Walk the horse in a circle, walk and trot depending on the rider's comfort and ability.

Watch how the rider balances. Talk about how they use their body to stay on the horse. Were they balanced or wobbly? What helped them stay on? Would it help at a different gait?

Have the rider pretend there's a carousel pole going through their head into the saddle to help them identify their core.

Sin is imbalance. When we rely on our legs and the reins instead of our core we're relying on outside sources for balance. Christ is our core, our balance point and our life. When we relax our seat and move with the horse we are more able to stay on.

A life without Christ is impossible to balance. Christ brings peace, joy, love, and security to life which brings true and lasting balance in all things.



Karen and Robi, 2020 © EMBRACE