



HEARTS & HORSES

*Therapeutic
Riding Center*



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'd like to introduce you to Nova, whose journey at Hearts & Horses began one year ago. From the moment she first stepped onto our ranch, our staff were captivated by her smile, resilience, and infectious spirit. Trust us: it's hard not to fall in love with this 6-year-old fighter.

Nova's traumatic birth led to the development of hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy and cerebral palsy. She lives with permanent hearing loss and low muscle tone. Her parents were searching for ways to help with her core strength and balance when they heard about our program.

When Nova first started at Hearts & Horses, her father Michael recalls that "she was timid and uncertain in herself or her ability to ride. She was hesitant in her interactions with the horses and with the staff." He says that now "her confidence has increased beyond my wildest expectations. She now has the feeling that she can do basically anything that she puts her mind to...now, she rides proudly and confidently, takes the opportunity to carry the tack and doesn't shirk the heavy work." In terms of physical benefits, he adds, "her balance has improved drastically and the core strength is much better than she had before."

Receiving a rider scholarship from Hearts & Horses has been transformative for Nova and her family. Nova's mother, Jessica, says that "There's no way with our financial situation that she would ever be able to ride if it wasn't for the scholarship program." When they received the scholarship acceptance letter "Nova was so excited, jumping up and down. She was just ecstatic, and that made my heart melt."

Jessica and Michael encourage anyone interested in donating to our rider scholarship fund to do so. Michael says, "By donating to this fund, not only are you helping animals continue to live a happy life, you are also allowing many disadvantaged people to feel the thrill of riding a horse. You allow their family the chance to see a light shine in their child's eyes that will burn forever. You allow freedom to those with no mobility. You allow strength to those without the power of independence where restriction and confinement is the norm. But above all, you help bring joy and happiness to people that would otherwise never have the ability to bond with such intelligent and loving animals."

You can help more riders like Nova experience the freedom, confidence, strength, and joy of partnering with a horse by donating to our rider scholarship fund. You can make a donation online at www.HeartsAndHorses.org/donation or by mailing a check made out to Hearts & Horses, Inc. to 163 N Co Rd 29, Loveland, CO 80537.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Jan Pollema, Executive Director



Donate

I Want to Help Hearts & Horses!

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I want to designate my gift(s) to...

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