

Dear Friend,

Today I received a text from a former client that I'd like to share with you:

***“Looking back to where I was to where I am right now,
I just had to take the time today to write to you! I am so thankful to have met all of you.
You have impacted my life, shown me kindness, and helped me transform my entire life.
Words can't even describe my gratitude.”***

Reading this, I welled up with tears. Partly because I received this unexpected appreciation on a particularly tough day, and partly because I feel it accurately describes exactly how I am feeling towards you and our community of supporters today.

As Gateway HorseWorks marks its **10-year anniversary** this month, I am reflecting on all we have accomplished together and the impact we have made in our community. Because of you, our vision to make the incorporation of horses for the mental health treatment of people accessible to all is becoming a reality.

Since 2015, you have helped us grow from one small program for women experiencing incarceration to an organization serving more than **400 people in nearly 2,000 sessions each year**—including Veterans, at-risk youth, survivors of trauma, and those struggling with substance use disorder. Together, we've built something extraordinary: a movement that provides free or low-cost mental health treatment to thousands, transforming lives every day.

In a moment when community and connection feel brittle and hope seems hard to come by, I hope you receive this letter and know that the words in that text were also meant for **you**.

As we look ahead to our next decade, Gateway HorseWorks stands at an exciting inflection point. The demand for our services is growing faster than ever. Our small but mighty team is ready to expand—and to bring this proven, compassionate model of care to more people in need.

Our vision for the next five years is bold and clear:

Sustain our programs so no one is turned away for financial reasons.

Strengthen our treatment teams and operational capacity.

Scale our impact through replication, research, and insurance advocacy—so this treatment can become universally accessible.

Your gift today will help us sustain, strengthen, and scale the work you helped build.

On behalf of our staff, Board, and herd—thank you for believing in our mission, for standing beside us through challenges and triumphs, and for being the reason our next ten years look so bright. And to borrow the words of our client, please know your support helped me transform my entire life. Words can't fully describe the depth of my gratitude.

Warmly,



Kristen de Marco
Executive Director

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