



Annual Report 2018



Nicole Cicogna ►

Over the last 13 years, GallopNYC has grown into a flourishing community of riders, families, volunteers, staff, and supporters—a diverse group bound by shared experiences and values. We understand how horses can improve people's lives. We encourage each other to be brave. And most of all, we believe in ability.

I am honored to have become a part of this community. The warm welcome I enjoyed this summer was inspiring. Families generously shared their stories of achievement while staff shared their ideas for continued improvement and

introduced me to our wonderful horses. Now eight months in as GallopNYC's second Executive Director, I enjoy the unique welcome every morning I arrive at one of our four locations.

As the morning sun beams down on me at Sunrise Stables, I see Buddy being exercised before our school groups arrive. I hear our chickens as a new volunteer orientation takes place a few picnic benches away. Geese are walking around on our park property. And I see the determined faces of riders light up with joy as they accomplish a new goal.

I am profoundly grateful for having been entrusted to lead GallopNYC. As someone who has previously experienced the power of horses, our mission is very personal to me. This means the many hours I spend here do not feel like a job; it feels like a privilege. I will now guide our growth in a thoughtful and responsible way that considers a range of priorities including staff development, program enhancement, cash flow, and capital improvements.

We believe in our riders' abilities, and also in our organization's abilities. With your continued support, we will work toward our vision that every New Yorker with a disability has access to therapeutic riding. It will take bold action and dedicated support, but what it gives in return is best shown by the joy on our riders' faces every day.

With Gratitude,

Nicole L. Cicogna



About **GallopNYC**

GallopNYC brings the proven benefits of therapeutic horsemanship to children and adults with disabilities in NYC. Therapeutic horseback riding provides measurable benefits for people with developmental, emotional, social, and physical challenges. Through weekly riding sessions with PATH Intl.-certified instructors, GallopNYC helps riders walk, talk, and learn, inspiring them to live their lives as fully, independently, and productively as possible. At the height of our season, we provide therapeutic lessons to 686 riders a week, and operate our riding program at four locations. We are committed to serving low-income and middle-income families and provide tuition scholarships to the majority of our riders.

Our **Accomplishments**

- Achieved certification as a Service Enterprise by Points of Light, for excellence in our volunteer management.
- Featured media coverage in Equestrian Living Magazine, NY1, People TV, Elite Equestrian Magazine, Queens Chronicle, Untacked, and Dreamwork's Spirit Riding Free.
- A first time charity partner of the New York City Marathon, The Longines Masters New York, and the Blue Hill Troupe.
- Created a new Seniors Program which focuses on fitness, nutrition, and sense of purpose for seniors.
- Expanded our Leadership and Job Skills program for at-risk, court-involved teens and for teens with disabilities.
- Trained and mentored five new PATH Intl. certified instructors.
- Each of our riders on the GallopNYC Equestrian Team, Sponsored by Centennial Bank, qualified for the LIHSSRD Championship Final at the Hampton Classic Horse Show. We are very proud of our team, taking home Grand Champion and Reserve Champion in their divisions.
- Expanded our herd of therapeutic horses to 33 horses and ponies.

Schools and Non Profit Groups **Participants in Our Programs**

Public School Groups

PS75x138 PS4K@PS81
PS255@151Q PS75K771IDVU
PS75@255
PS75K373
PS75Q721
PS35X 75K396
PS75K231
PS25R@IS75

Community Based Organizations

Brooklyn Autism Center
Extreme Kids & Crew
SCO Family of Services
Girls Inc.
Brooklyn Kindergarten Society
Job Path
IDVU
Girl Scouts Troupes

GallopNYC Staff

Nicole Cicogna	Executive Director
Amy Price	Director of Development
James Wilson	Director of Operations, Administration, and Finance
Dana Fairbairn	Instructor Manager / PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Amanda Gallo	Marketing and Communications Manager PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Beth McReynolds	Front of Barn Manager
Bonnie Perry	Program Manager
Cheriselle Scott	Volunteer Manager
Marie Varvaro	Barn Manager / PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Katherine Anderson	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Soorya Anilkumar	Groom/Instructor
Devika Baldeo	Customer Service Associate
Daniella Bartels	Groom
Katti-Lyn Battaglia	Groom/Instructor
Vanessa Bornholdt	Instructor
Henry Brown	Area Volunteer Coordinator / PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Catherine Calderon	Instructor
Claudia Carmel	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Lola Fennimore	Groom/Instructor
Victoria Fullerton	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Karen Fyfe	Horse Education Instructor
Ruth Givens	Groom
Zora Gookin	Groom
Catherine Groene	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor / Groom
Eleanor Harrison	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Lynne Holzhauser	Groom/Instructor
Catherine Jennings	Horse Education Instructor
Cindy Krewson	Paddock Master - Pony Club
Bryan LeBoeuf	Groom/Instructor
Leslie Lewis	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Patricia McLaughlin	Groom/Instructor
Kaitlyn Mitchell	Instructor
Julianne Mosoff	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Aine Mulligan	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Margaret Munoff	Development Associate

Gallop**NYC** Staff

Katherine Murrell	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Jenna Payne	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor / Groom
Katie Raszewski	Groom/Instructor
Alessandra Sorrento	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Abigail Welhouse	PATH Int'l Certified Instructor
Erin Wilson	Groom

Board of **Directors**

Suzy Marquard	President
Sol Reischer	Vice President
Carla Pehowski	Secretary
Gavin Case	Treasurer

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Paul Hinton
Constance Hunter
Alicia Kershaw
Natalia Kory
Carlos Lamadrid
Julie Napolitano
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Rising **Professionals**

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Vanessa Bornholdt
David Faust
Dan Grubert
Netra Kumar
Kylie Long
Lexi McCanick
Steve Rizzo
Claire Sprattler
Riddhima Yadav
Weifang Zhu

4 Locations

QUEENS



GallopNYC Forest Hills



GallopNYC Sunrise Stables

BROOKLYN



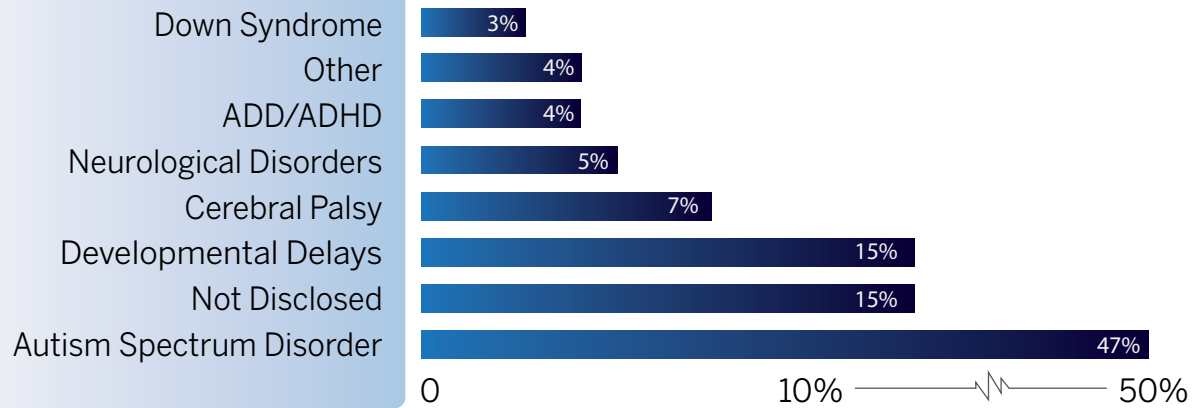
Prospect Park, Bowling Green

BRONX

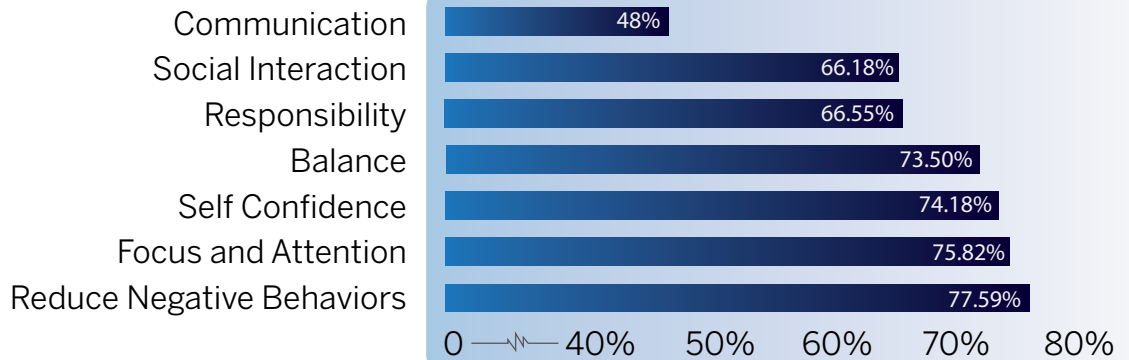


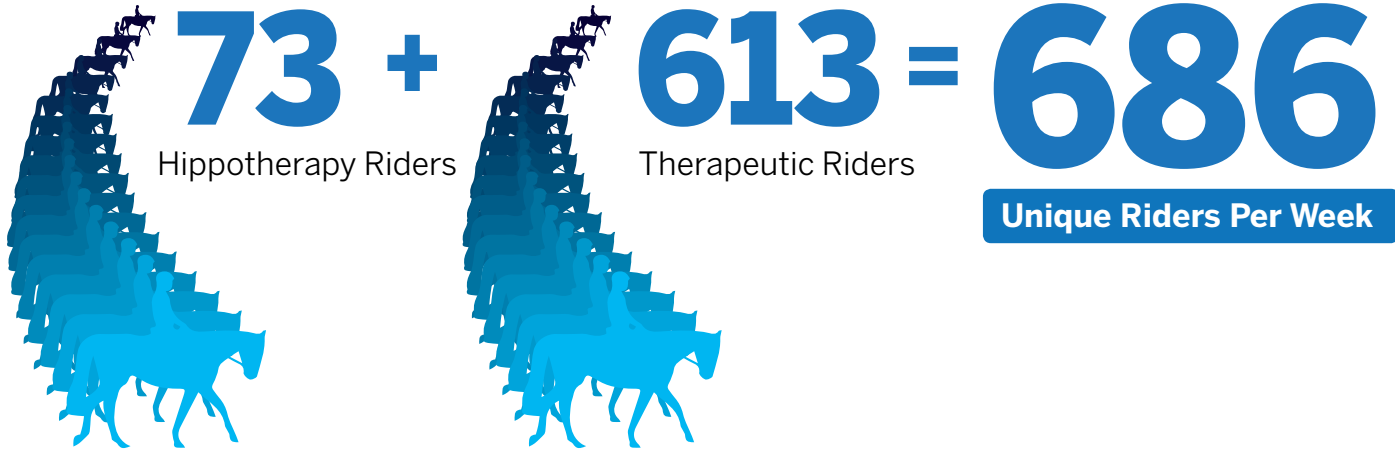
Bronx Equestrian Center

Diagnosis



Improvement on Life Goals

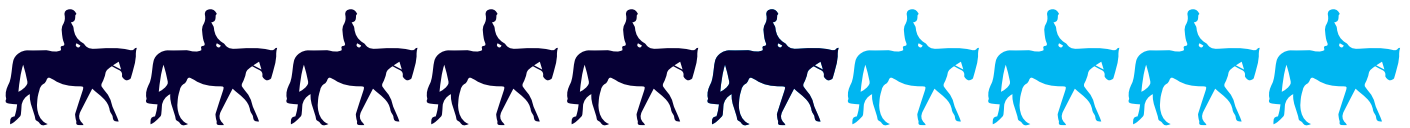




Total Free Horse Education Lessons



Tuition Scholarships



More than half of our riders' tuitions are subsidized thanks to dedicated donors.

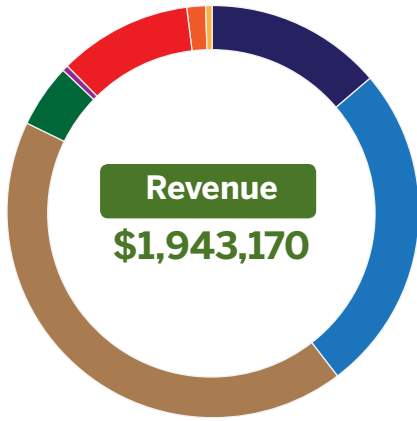
Full Tuition Scholarships	32%
Partial Tuition Scholarships	28%
Full Tuition	40%

Ethnicity



Ethnicity	FY 2018
No Info	35%
Caucasian	26%
Hispanic	17%
African American	12%
Asian	9%
Other	2%

GallopNYC Fiscal Year 2018



Revenue
\$1,943,170

● Net Riding Fees (Riding Fees Less Tuition Scholarships)	\$ 267,546	14%
● Grants	\$ 504,581	25%
● Contributions	\$ 828,816	42%
● In-Kind Contributions	\$ 98,605	5%
● Interest and Dividend Income	\$ 4,229	1%
● Other Income	\$ 199,099	10%
● Realized Gains	\$ 30,779	2%
● Unrealized Gains	\$ 9,515	1%



Expenses
\$2,038,776

● Program Services Therapeutic Riding Program	\$ 1,634,714	80%
● Support Services Management and General	\$ 404,062	20%

Net Assets
\$826,481

● Property and Equipment	\$ 447,997	54%
● Cash, Accounts Receivable, Investments, and Prepaid Expenses	\$ 365,284	44%
● Other Assets	\$ 13,200	2%



Our Donors

\$50,000 +

Blue Hill Troupe
The FAR Fund
Taft Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Audrey Abbott
Anonymous
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Kim Charlton and Stephen Meringoff
Goldman Sachs Gives
Gray Foundation
Alicia Kershaw and Peter Rose
Suzy Marquard
Meringoff Family Foundation
NYC Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene
Naomi Rosenthal
Stavros Niarchos Foundation
The Winifred Johnson Clive
Foundation
David and Sybil Yurman

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Centennial Bank
Arthur Dantchik
Give Back for Special Equestrians
Herrick, Feinstein LLP
NYC Council
NYC Department of Education
Patrina Foundation
Sol Reischer
Lorraine Sostowski
Craig W. Virden Foundation, Inc.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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The Mayors Fund
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Virginia Terry and Matthew Jacobus
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Two Sigma



\$2,500 - \$4,999

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 Stacey and Curtis Lane
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 Deanie Barth
 Paula and Earl Black
 Dianne Brandi
 William and Mary Buckley
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 Colgate-Palmolive Company
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 Katharine and Willard Overlock
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 Pzena Investment
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 RBC
 Resorts World Gives

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 Donna and Richard Soloway
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 The Joseph S. and
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 Charitable Trust
 Summer Street Advisors, LLC
 Daniel Tai
 TD Charitable Foundation
 Royce Tidwell
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 WABC-TV
 Nela Wagman and Steven Wein
 Andrea Walton
 Brian Ward
 Suzanne Wolden
 Brian Yudkin

\$500 - \$999

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David Faust
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Barbara Tamerin
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Elizabeth Lenas
Kathryn Lu
Liz and Matt Lockett
Stacy Mark
Alice and Allan Marx
Christopher Mauro
Thomas McMahon
Thomas Mitchell
Andrew Moore
The Philip and Tammy Murphy
Family Foundation

Mara Nerenberg
Philip O'Shea III
Debra Paoli
Estefanio and Mauricio Parroquin
Vicki Petrella
Karen Phillips
Katharine Place
Katharine Place
Marcello Porcelli
Andrea Rachman
Phillip Raible
Rachel Ratner and
Richard Greenspan
Jean Rawitt
William Roberti
Leslie Robinson
Patricia Rooney
Margery Rosenberg
Jonathan Russo
Dianne and Dan Ryterband
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Carla and John Scagnelli
Heather and Jackson Sciacca
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Thomas Tomeo
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Cynthia Vance
Yossi Vebman
Lucie Claire Vincent and
Felipe Herrera
Jon Voigtman
Brian Ward
Einab Weingarten
Lisa Williams
David Winston
Carole Yass

Government

NYC Department of the Aging
NYC Department of Education
NYC Department of Health and
Mental Hygiene
NYC Department of Parks and Recreation
NYC Department of Youth and Community
Development
NYC Mayor's Office

In Kind Donations

Barclay's Center
Downtown Brooklyn Neighborhood
Association
Clinton Kershaw
Goldman Sachs
Home Depot
Lands' End
Kevin O'Dea
Sol Reischer
Rodney Seelig
Salesforce Foundation
Taproot Foundation
Andrea Walton

Special Thanks

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams
Commissioner Victor Calise, NYC Mayors
Office for People with Disabilities
Council Member Diana Ayala
Council Member Justin Brannan
Council Member Laurie Cumbo
Council Member Chaim Deutsch
Council Member Mark Gjonaj
Council Member Karen Koslowitz
Council Member Brad Lander
Council Member Eric Ulrich
Council Member James Vacca
Council Speaker Corey Johnson
Queens Borough President Melinda Katz
Queens Parks Commissioner
Dorothy Lewandowski
Prospect Park Alliance
Queens Community Board 6
Queens Community Board 10

Marley Whitaker ▶

Meet Marley, an enthusiastic and charming teenager who has built a powerful bond with our horses, especially her favorite horse Buddy. It is clear that Marley is excited to visit the horses and looks forward to her weekly therapeutic riding lessons - but Marley didn't always have an easy time making connections. In fact, she was once withdrawn and anxious around people and other animals, such as cats and dogs. But the first time Marley saw a horse, something magical happened - she wasn't scared or timid; she was curious and wanted to learn. There was something about our furry four-legged friends that invited her in.

Marley's family believes that it was our horses' calm, patient, and loving nature that inspired her to open up and try something new.

Marley's mother first discovered therapeutic riding through a recommendation from Marley's teachers. Her mother wanted Marley to have an activity that could help with her focus, social skills, and speech. She was delighted when she found that and so much more at GallopNYC. Through her weekly therapeutic riding lessons, Marley has made significant and measurable progress that has carried over into her daily life. She is now patient and willing to wait her turn; she has better concentration; her social and communication skills have improved; and she is joyful and more confident.

The benefits that Marley has experienced through our therapeutic program have extended to the rest of her family. Her entire family enjoys coming to the barn and has bonded with volunteers, staff, and other families to form deep and lasting friendships. Her sisters have spent hours volunteering during lessons and caring for our horses in the barn. GallopNYC has provided her family with a safe and nurturing community that they all enjoy being a part of.

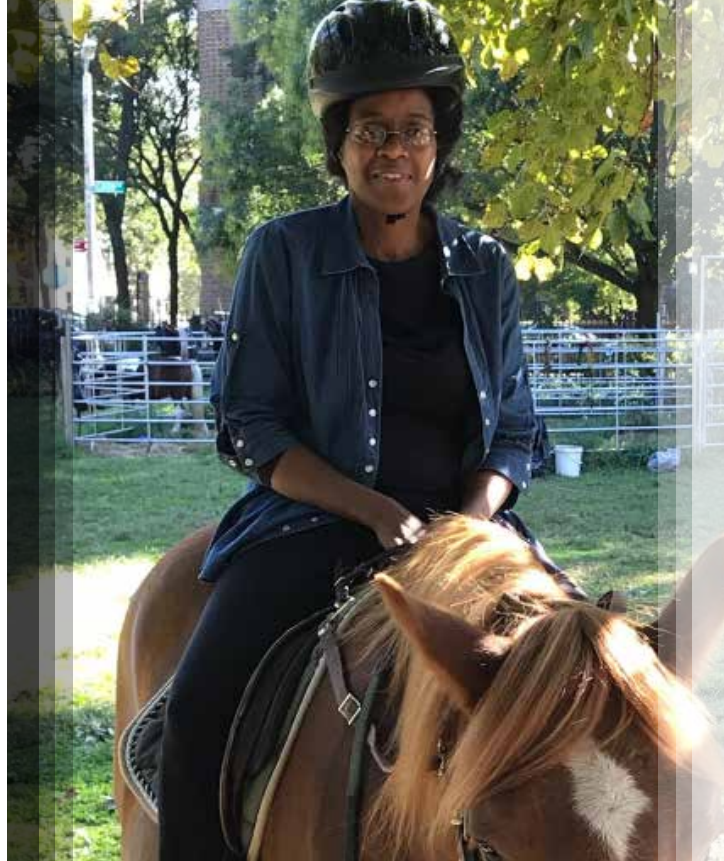
“My daughter Marley has been part of the GallopNYC community for at least 5 years. I can't begin to tell you the progress she has made and the confidence she has gained. She just adores the horses, the entire staff and volunteers, it has become her second family. I have three other children and they all feel that Marley and our family have found an amazing community in GallopNYC. Thank you!” - Lisa, Tony, Marley, Shayla, Keira, and Jackie



L'Hava Israel ►

The mere mention of the name, L'Hava, is sure to bring a smile to any member of our staff and volunteer who knows her. L'Hava joined our therapeutic riding program just a short time ago, in the fall of 2017. Because her smile, laugh, and positive attitude are so infectious and brightens your day, she quickly became well-known and loved by all in our community.

L'Hava is living with multiple sclerosis (MS), an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. MS has impacted L'Hava both physically and mentally. She had always been an active person who enjoyed skiing, but her condition no longer allowed her take part in the sports she loved.



Although necessary, the gym exercises and physical therapy were becoming too routine for her. A social worker from Mt. Sinai recommended therapeutic riding as a way to introduce sports back into her life. L'Hava was excited by the idea of learning a new sport that she could participate in and it didn't take long for her to enroll in our program..

“When I first got on the horse, my MS quieted down. Once I started to learn how to position my heels and then how to post, it definitely helped my walking the next day - I could see the major improvements in my walking immediately. Being on the horse was very soothing in a way other physical therapies have not been.”

Now, over a year into our program, L'Hava has gained strength in her arms and legs. She is learning to use her thigh muscles to control and steer the horse, which can help with mobility when she is walking. Her instructors give her exercises to stretch her body and improve her balance. L'Hava has made great progress and no longer needs the assistance of sidewalkers in the arena. The independence has helped her confidence, especially when dealing with her MS. She now looks forward to challenging herself with new goals every week.

L'Hava has also bonded with the other riders in our program and has formed friendships that extend outside of the arena. GallopNYC has become a supportive community for her and an important new chapter in her life. She even started volunteering with us by helping with paperwork and data entry!



◀ Laura Antoniou

“Any time I spend at GallopNYC is a gift for me, to be honest. I love bringing baked treats for the staff and other volunteers to show how grateful I am to have the chance to work at such a wonderful stable with such inspiring people and beautiful horses.”

Nicole Adduci ▶

“I volunteer because I love seeing the smiles on the faces of our riders, families, and of course, fellow volunteers! Time spent with GallopNYC’s amazing horses is always the best part of my week, and I’m so glad I can spend time helping our riders learn and grow



◀ Melissa Heide

“I volunteer at GallopNYC because I enjoy it! I started volunteering because I missed being around horses, and I’ve kept coming back because of the welcoming environment created by staff, students, and other volunteers. I feel like I’m making a difference, and I look forward to my weekly shifts.”





Active Volunteers Last Fiscal Year: **1,732**

Total Volunteer Hours: **23,475**

GallopNYC could not offer therapeutic riding without our volunteers. They greet our riders, help them mount, keep them safely balanced on the horse, and participate in activities that support riders so they can meet their goals. They devote their time and energy to help change the lives of New Yorkers with disabilities. We rely on an extensive network of volunteers for crucial roles in therapeutic riding, in the barns, and at special events. Their collaborative and generous spirits accelerate our impact.

We Love Our Corporate Groups

Our corporate groups benefit from a deep sense of teamwork, purpose, and the satisfaction of giving back to their community. This year, GallopNYC hosted groups from The Gap, Home Depot, Oglivy & Mather, Hachette Publishing, Barclays, ViaCommunity Day, Young Professionals Committee at the Volunteer Referral, AstraZeneca, JP Morgan Finance, Ares Capital, Simon and Schuster, Converto, Blackstone, Neverware, and Hall Capital.

Our **Mission**

GallopNYC uses therapeutic horsemanship to help riders in NYC with disabilities walk, talk, and learn, inspiring them to live their lives as fully, independently, and productively as possible.

Our **Vision**

That every child with a disability in New York City has access to therapeutic horseback riding.



GallopNYC | 88-03 70th Road Forest Hills, NY 11375
info@gallopNYC.org | GallopNYC.org
646.233.4507

