inspiring unbridled joy
Dear Friends of Main Stay,

With our first full year in the new facility under our belt, I’m pleased to say we are up and running at full speed. We are able to run multiple programs simultaneously with the added space: therapeutic riding and horsemanship in the new indoor arena, equine-assisted learning in the grooming area, animal-assisted sessions in the north indoor arena, while an at-risk group of teens are in the gardens. We wondered how we would ever use all the parking spaces and now most days they are filled!

Years of hard work and determination by so many individuals—staff, board members, volunteers, generous donors, and community members helped make it happen. And that hard work didn’t end when the new facility was completed—that was just the beginning. Months of planning and preparation went into spreading the word in the community, seeking funding for the additional programming we could now offer, getting the horses and animals acclimated to the new space so that they could work calmly and safely with our clients, providing volunteers with training so they knew how to navigate and work in the new space, are just a few of those things. And we aren’t resting on our laurels—the hard work continues as we continue to look for new ways (and funding!) to offer our programs to even more who would benefit from Main Stay’s rich and multi-faceted environment.

So I think I’m going to have to disagree with General Powell. There IS magic that makes dreams become a reality—the magic of people banding together and working towards a goal—the magic of people helping others who may have a greater need.

Thank you for being a part of the magic of Main Stay,

Loriann

Main Stay’s mission is to encourage, enrich and empower individuals through the therapeutic benefits of horses, animals and nature in an uplifting and nurturing setting. Main Stay is a place where bodies are challenged, minds embrace possibilities, and spirits are renewed.
Main Stay is a Premier Accredited Center of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) and has participated in the voluntary accreditation process since becoming a 501(c)3 organization 30 years ago. Accreditation establishes industry guidelines for the practice and teaching of equine-assisted activities and ensures that centers and instructors maintain the safest, most ethical and effective programs for their participants. Standards focus on key areas of program management including:

- Administration and business
- Facilities
- Equine welfare and management
- Equestrian skills
- Ground and mounted standards

One important criteria of accreditation requires certification of all staff teaching therapeutic riding to be a PATH Intl. Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor. Every year instructors maintain their certification by completing a minimum of 20 hours of industry specific continuing education. Main Stay is proud to host workshops which allow our instructors opportunities to continue their learning in this complex field.

Authorized site visitors assist in the reaccreditation process every 5 years. 2017 is Main Stay’s most recent year to welcome site visitors to the farm.
Harness the Power of Your Team
A personal and professional development team building experience designed for organizations and the individuals involved in them.

Therapeutic Riding and Horsemanship
Mounted and unmounted equestrian activities at Main Stay enrich the mind and body and are a great way to work on personal goals.

Equine and Animal Assisted Learning
Partners with horses and other farm animals to address a wide variety of physical, cognitive, emotional, social and behavioral needs.

Adaptive Garden Program
Nature-based program that provides an accessible and educational gardening experience.
Partnering with schools and agencies expands Main Stay’s ability to serve clients in our community. 2017 collaborations included: Family Alliance, Turning Point, One Hope United, HeadStart, Lake County Mental Health Dept., Kenosha County, Allendale LINC, McHenry High School #156 & Woodstock #200 school districts.

Serving a broad community throughout the area—including McHenry, Lake, Kane and Cook counties in Illinois, and Walworth, Racine and Kenosha in neighboring Wisconsin.
Main Stay is a great example of people helping people. Our volunteers play an integral role in the day to day operations of the program and help in many other ways.

Gloria Kraft is a perfect example of how the circle of giving makes an impact in our world. As a rider for almost 11 years after sustaining a spinal cord injury, Gloria loves to come and work with her horse, improve her riding, and stretch and strengthen her body. She also volunteers her time to the organization as a way to give back. Gloria joined the board of directors in 2012 and plays a key role in policy making from our clients’ perspective. She also offers her strengths through grant writing, helping with special projects, attending Main Stay events, and sharing her story in the community. Gloria summed up how valuable volunteering can be, “If I can help someone else, I want to do that.”

2017 Volunteer Highlights:
Dedicated volunteers contributed impressive hourly totals in a variety of program areas:

- Therapeutic Riding - 6477 hours
- EAAI Programs - 830 hours
- Vocational Students –116 hours
- Volunteer training new/continuing - 564 hours
- Interns & OTA students - 354 hours
- Facility and Grounds - 574 hours
- Master Gardeners– 444 hours
- Special Events - 703 hours
- Fair/Fall Diddley- 229 hours

Volunteer Program

Total Number of Volunteers: 181, including 49 new volunteers
Almost 50% of new volunteers heard about Main Stay through a friend.

Volunteer hours are calculated based on data provided by the Independent Sector for the State of Illinois at $26.02/hour. Main Stay volunteers provided 10,200+ volunteer hours in 2017!

2017 value of volunteer time = $265,404!!

Here’s to all volunteers, those dedicated people who give selflessly of their time, talent and treasures.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE
year in review

⇒ Total number of people served = 347
⇒ Total client contact hours = 4,590
⇒ 33% increase number of clients served
⇒ 80% of riders receive partial rider assistance for therapeutic riding lessons
⇒ 20% of riders receive full rider assistance for therapeutic riding lessons
⇒ Multiple workshops offered at the farm as well as speaking engagements with community agencies and initial offerings of Harnessing the Power of Your Team, Main Stay’s new Professional and Personal Development workshop.

financial report

FY2017 Income

- Grants: $103,969.00 (14%)
- Fundraising Events: $246,630.00 (33%)
- Capital Campaign Fund: $75,669.00 (10%)
- Program Fees: $270,051.00 (36%)
- Unsolicited Donations: $48,189.00 (6%)
- Other Income: $8,575.00 (1%)

FY2017 Operating Expenses

- Program: $823,310.00 (87%)
- Administration: $93,835.00 (10%)
- Fundraising: $32,374.00 (3%)
Our program fees cover less than 15% of annual operating costs.

Every gift is important to us and greatly appreciated!

As a 501(c)3 organization, Main Stay relies on our generous donors, grants from private foundations and fundraising events in order to supplement the small amount received from program fees.

In-kind donations, as well as monetary contributions, are both important to the program. Many thanks to you all for making a difference in our clients’ lives.

Please accept our apologies if we have inadvertently omitted or misspelled a name.

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A special shout out to...SUSAN GULLOTTO

While we couldn’t do without our program volunteers, event volunteers are equally as important. Meet one of our most dedicated volunteers, Susan Gullotto. Susan works tirelessly each year on Main Stay’s annual gala committee and is a key reason for the event’s success. Her tasteful and creative designs for the room create an ambience that always leaves guests in awe. Her vision always makes Main Stay’s annual event stand out from the crowd. Susan is also a very generous in-kind and financial supporter. The ultimate gifts of time, talent and treasure—thank you Susan!!!
Our invaluable therapy animals are the heart of Main Stay

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