



# Newsletter

## Rising Hope Farms

We are excited to jump into another great month of faith, hope, and healing here at the farm! We ask that everybody be sure to drink lots of water and stay cool as the temperature warms up more. We are very excited to see what God has in store for this month!

### Events

- Volunteers, we are having a Carolina Caring Camp at the farm June 6 from 9:00-3:30. If you are available, please register on Wranglr and arrive to the farm an hour early to help with setup and preparations.



We are heartbroken to announce that our beloved farm dog, Faith, has passed away. Her spirit remains alive at the farm as we remember her big smiles of greeting and the way she faithfully protected the arena from squirrel invaders. We will always remember the comfort and smiles Faith gave as the sweet and loving farm dog.

## Our Rising Hope Family Highlights



We are thrilled to introduce one of our fantastic riders, Brandon! The first time Brandon came to the farm a year ago, he got so upset and did not want to ride or be there. But the moment he got on the horse, he calmed down and gave a big smile. Now Brandon loves riding, playing basketball on his horse, and going for trail rides. Therapeutic riding has benefitted Brandon by helping develop his speech and learning how to better follow directions. We are so grateful that Brandon and his family are part of our Rising Hope Farms Family!



We are pleased to introduce one of our amazing volunteers, Caroline! Not only is Caroline one of our phenomenal instructors, but she also takes care of our online platforms such as Facebook and the Rising Hope Farms website. She started volunteering as a horse handler in 2008 for highschool service hours but fell in love with the ministry and the riders. Volunteering developed her passion for the special needs community and is a big reason why she has chosen special education for a career path. Caroline always makes sure to understand and focus her lessons on the individual needs of each rider. There was one day that one of her riders made a goal while playing basketball. Caroline told her that she was a champion, and the rider started singing “We are the Champions.” Since then, Caroline has found that this rider responds very well to music and incorporates music into her lessons. Caroline has been such a blessing to this ministry, and we are so grateful that she is in our Rising Hope Farms Family!



We are so excited to introduce the very first therapy horse in our program, Shadow. At 31 years old, Shadow is as lively and eager as ever to see his riders and work as a therapy horse for his 17th season. He has welcomed new faces, said goodbye to old friends, and offered comfort and affection to any who need it. As a Spotted Racking Horse, Shadow’s gait is smooth and even, which is perfect for our riders who benefit from a more relaxing walk. When he is not in a session with his beloved riders, Shadow enjoys grazing in the pasture beside his best friend, Joy the donkey. He is such a gentleman that he even shares his grains with her. We are so grateful that Shadow has been part of our Rising Hope Herd from the very beginning, and we look forward to many more wonderful seasons with him!