

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services Raises \$40,000 at Annual BBQ Dinner and Auction; Transforming Lives Through Equine-Assisted Therapeutic Services.

Chester, South Carolina – [10/02/2024] – Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services proudly announces the successful conclusion of our 2024 BBQ Dinner and Auction, held on Saturday, September 14 at The Gateway Conference Center. This year's event brought together 250 passionate supporters, raising an outstanding \$40,000 to fund our physical, occupational, and equine-assisted therapy and learning services for individuals facing mental, physical, emotional, and functional challenges.

The evening featured both an entertaining live and online silent auction, live music from JC Riley Music, a delicious BBQ feast, and heartfelt testimonials from representatives and family members whose lives have been positively impacted by our organization's initiatives. Attendees enjoyed an inspiring keynote address from one of our occupational therapists, Dr. Anne K. Laing, who shared insights into the impact of equine-assisted therapy integrated within traditional therapeutic practices.

“Thanks to our dedicated supporters and community, we are thrilled to have raised \$40,000, which will directly support our ongoing programs and allow us to expand our services to more individuals in need,” said Beth Gaston, Founder of Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services. “This event is not just a fundraiser; it's a celebration of the strides and commitment our organization and community have taken within the year to provide continued comprehensive therapeutic programs and services.”

All funds raised will go towards improving our current services by expanding our facility with a focus on sensory development, creating conditions for focused learning and development in a nature-based environment, with outreach initiatives that aim to improve the quality of life for our clients.

“We are immensely grateful to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and everyone who attended the event. Their generosity will help us continue our mission and reach more individuals in our community,” added Beth Gaston. Our next BBQ Dinner and Auction is scheduled to be held on Saturday, September 13th, 2025.

Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our sponsors, including the Chester Healthcare Foundation, Cavanaugh and Thickers Law, LLC, Chester Wastewater Recovery, and York Technical College, as well as The Ligon Company, Lucas McFadden, and all the volunteers who dedicated their time and effort to making this event a success.

For more information about Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services, upcoming programs, or to get involved, please visit www.stridesofstrength.org or contact us at Beth.Gaston@stridesofstrength.org

About Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services

Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization founded in 2018. Born out of her love of horses, profession of physical therapy and understanding of the human-horse connection, Beth Gaston developed Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services, Inc. Our mission is to strive to provide comprehensive therapeutic programs utilizing a variety of professional restorative aids, nature based learning, and skilled equine movements to facilitate physical and emotional growth, learning, and healing.
