



STRIDES OF STRENGTH
THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

As we move from 2023 to 2024 Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services (SOS) would like to wish you a happy new year and thank you for your continued support of our organization. Last year held wonderful moments for our program and we will be carrying that momentum into this year! Our successes are made possible by grantors and those of you who volunteer, donate, participate, and share our cause.

2023 was a year of growth and excitement for SOS. We proudly expanded our team with a Marketing and Development Specialist and two Occupational Therapists. Our website (StridesofStrength.org) received a bit of remodeling. It is a reliable source for finding up-to-date information regarding our programs, services, events, volunteering, and donations. Our annual Spring Fest was a big hit with the Easter bunny, carriage rides, goats, and more! We highlighted our programs and introduced a few of our therapeutic horses. In September we held the third annual BBQ at the Bins at Gaston Farm. We had an incredible amount of support and have surpassed the occupancy of our current venue. The holiday Open House and Wreath Sale was an exciting time with over 100 wreath making volunteers, more donated greenery than ever before, and a record breaking amount of wreath sales.

We are literally beginning 2024 with a bang! Construction of our sensory wall and therapy area expansion has begun. We are so grateful for the growth this will contribute to our current and new programs. In the new year we will continue to provide Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) with literacy programs and Camp Skye. Therapy programs are expanding with Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling. Planning for our upcoming Spring Fest event, April 6, is underway and we are hoping for our biggest crowd yet. Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services and Gaston Farm Road Equestrian Center are happy to host the 2024 Chester Ag+Art tour on June 29. We hope you will join us at our Fourth Annual BBQ Dinner and Silent Auction on September 14th at the Gateway Conference Center in Chester. We will wrap up 2024 with our annual Holiday Open House and Wreath sale on Sunday, December 1st.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our cause. The generous support of individuals like you make it possible for our organization to exist and to make the community a better place. We are looking forward to 2024 and are sending best wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Beth Gaston

Founder of Strides of Strength Therapeutic Services and Owner of Gaston Farm Road Equestrian Center

Health and Healing Through Horses

We strive to provide a comprehensive therapeutic equine program utilizing horses to facilitate growth, learning, and healing. Our population includes children and adults with mental, physical, emotional, and functional disabilities.