

#### A Note from Kim

Before I update you on all things summer camp, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your generous donations to our recent **Heroes for Hope:** *Horse Tales* campaign.

Despite a down economy and tumultuous political climate, you still shared your treasure to help those in pain. And your unwavering love for these amazing animals pulled us over the finish line and funded all 18 horses for a year!

Horses really are the perfect therapy partners for kids in crisis. Traumatized children live in a state of heightened anxiety or hypervigilance—a characteristic horses share by being prey animals

So during summer camp, kids were asked to walk their horses through a "Sensory Obstacle Course," which included some very unfamiliar items like stuffed animals, mirrors and a piano.

Horses need to have a high level of trust in the 'leader' to face strange or new experiences, so mentors encouraged the kids to embody and reflect the Prince of Peace, Jesus.

You can only imagine how hard the kids worked in regulating their own emotions, staying calm and focused.

As expected, some of their four-footed friends reacted with fear and anxiety; others with curiosity and playfulness.

But picture in your mind for a moment the beautiful image of these wounded souls as they slowly led their trusted friends around the course, whispering reassurances that everything's going to be all right. *Just like Jesus does for them.* 

And friends, that's what you do with your gifts. You provide the stability and resources for these kids and families to heal. *You're reassuring them that everything's going to be all right.* And then God does the rest!

Thank you for your incredible generosity!





### Incredible because of you!





# Your generosity made a home for them all.

It was a day they'll never forget.

"We always knew we wanted to grow our family through adoption," says Kim. "And when we saw the picture of all four of these beautiful siblings, my husband, Aaron asked, "Why don't we adopt them?""

And this was the beginning of a remarkable journey that grew a family of four into a family of eight, almost overnight!

Kim and Aaron packed up the couple's biological kids, Nora, and Mick, then aged 4 and 3, and flew to the Brazilian orphanage to begin the adoption process.

"It was joyfully chaotic," says Kim, "but the kids bonded instantly."

After spending eight weeks in Brazil to finalize the adoptions, the family headed home to North Carolina with four new kids in tow: Ricks, 13, Eric, 8, Alice, 6, and Mika, 5. Unfortunately, almost as soon as they'd arrived back in the States, COVID-19 struck and shut down the world, adding isolation to an already formidable situation.

Kim and Aaron did their best to maintain the new siblings' cultural identities while trying to integrate them into their new family. But deeper challenges emerged.

The kids had been neglected and malnourished their whole lives, living in poor and unsafe conditions. And, heartbreakingly, they all suffered abuse, both physical and sexual.

The family needed help.

"We never ever would have survived if not for Hope Reins," Kim says through her tears. "I never imagined that there was a program that could help them all."

This is what hope and healing looks like at Hope Reins. And it's all because people like you care enough to help others.

Thank you for your generosity toward this beautiful family. You've given them a *healing home* at Hope Reins.



#### Become a monthly donor!

Join a coalition of generous givers who help kids heal all year long.

Find out more at hopereins.org/stewards or scan.







Thank you!

### **Growing up** Hope Reins.

Meet the Meadowcrofts. Animal lovers. Volunteers. Long-time donors.

This is a family that learned early on the benefits of scooping poop at Hope Reins.

"We all love animals, and doing barn chores seemed to be the most helpful thing we could do at the time," says Amy.

Both her kids, Leslie and Tyson, now college students, also enrolled in Hope Reins' first summer camp in 2011 when it was offered as a fundraiser for the newly-formed nonprofit.

"They've both had such incredible learnings," says Amy. "Especially as they aged and became camp counselors." They saw how their presence and kindness could transform a child."

In fact, Hope Reins helped Tyson cultivate his passion for animals. He's now studying to become a veterinarian.

"We all have such great gifts from God," says Amy. "You can make a difference."

Thank you, Les, Amy, Leslie & Tyson, for helping to make the world a better place!





## Did you know?

#### Hope Reins has an online classroom!

Learn everything you need to know to build a nonprofit ranch ministry like Hope Reins.

Visit hopereins.org/hq for more information!













