



Cross Timbers Rotary Club Grant Application

Please limit application to this form and no more than two pages of supplemental information.

Name of Organization: Ranch Hands Rescue

Contact Person: Robert F. Williams

Phone: 940-240-0500

E-mail: bob@ranchhandrescue.org

Address: 9477 Fort Worth Drive

City: Denton State: TX Zip: 76226

Amount requested: \$5,000.00

Is your organization a 501c3 nonprofit? Yes No

Do you have fundraisers? Yes No

If yes, please list: We typically have two big fundraisers a year. A Gala in October or November and another fundraiser in late spring/early summer. In addition, we conduct other fundraising activities throughout the year such as matching donation campaigns, fun runs and a year-end/Christmas donation campaign.

Briefly explain the purpose of your organization, group or project, and give the number of persons the organization serves:

Ranch Hands Rescue is a sanctuary for animals and a counseling center for people founded on hope and healing made available to all regardless of ability to pay.

RHR fills a special niche in mental health counseling services in that we specialize in treating complex trauma cases and people not making progress in their current programs. In the area of animal rescue, RHR fills a special niche in that we focus on rescuing the worst-of-the-worst farm animal abuse and neglect cases, the cases other rescues cannot handle or would be resolved by euthanizing the animal.

What distinguishes RHR's counseling program from other programs is that we use a variety of unique treatment modalities, the primary being Equine/Animal Assisted Counseling (EAAC). We are the only EAAC program that partners abused/neglected farm animals with clients in deep psychotherapy/counseling sessions guided by a LPC and using scientifically validated testing results to measure our client's progress in their treatment program. We specialize in treating the 0 to 8% of the population that are not improving in their current program. RHR is a place for people to get help when they have run out of places to go. Attachment 1 shows several client stories that exemplify the type of people we have helped.

RHR provides mental health counseling using unique treatment modalities, the primary one being Equine/Animal Assisted Counseling. We treat people suffering from trauma symptoms such as self-harm, anger management, eating disorders, depression, anxiety, grief, substance abuse, and

relationship problems due to physical and sexual abuse, being a victim of sex trafficking and other traumatic life experiences. Our niche is treating the more difficult trauma cases such as children that have been abused multiple times by multiple perpetrators and clients not making progress in their current treatment program. We are not a riding therapy program, but a mental health-counseling program that uses only Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC). Our Equine/Animal Assisted Counseling (EAAC) program partners abused and neglected animals with the counseling clients in counseling sessions under the guidance of a LPC. During the counseling sessions, the client forms a bond with the animal because they can relate to the trauma that the animal has experienced. The counseling client works with the animal in their counseling sessions to understand their trauma and to build new coping skills as part of their process to recover from the mentally disabling effects of a traumatic life experience.

Since starting our counseling program, we have gone from seeing approximately 30 clients a month to over 100 clients a week. In terms of counseling sessions, we have gone from providing approximately 50 sessions a month to around 300 sessions. 80% of our clients typically need some level of financial aid for counseling services. We have gone from providing approximately \$3,000.00 per month in financial aid for counseling services to \$20,000.00 per month. Based on the trends that we are seeing, RHR is meeting an unmet need in our community for alternate treatment choices, especially for low-income families and victims suffering from trauma.

For what will the grant funds be used?

We are requesting \$5,000.00 to build a 3-stall shelter with an adjoining feed room large enough to store hay. We have already received funding from a foundation to purchase the shelter shell. We are requesting \$5,000.00 for labor and materials to finish out the animal shelter to make it operational. The \$5,000.00 would be used for dirt work for the footing for the shelter, purchase gates for the pens inside the shelter and material and labor to provide electricity to the building.

Our animal rescue/sanctuary program is our other key program. The animals we rescue from abuse and neglect are incorporated into our EAAC program. Our counseling client's bond with these special animals, with their own stories of abuse and neglect, because they can relate to the hardships that the animal has experienced. These animals are a partner in healing for our counseling clients. We have two animal sanctuary locations and provide counseling at both locations. Our newest location only has a two-stall shelter and a small portable building for feed and equipment. We currently have 7 animals at this location (3 large horses, a miniature horse, an alpaca and 2 sheep). The big horses stay in the 2-stall shelter. We use tarps and temporary fencing panels to provide shelters for the smaller animals. These shelters are frequently rebuilt because of wind damage. We also have no storage space for hay. As a result, we have to haul hay daily from our other location to the new one. The additional shelter will not only provide a more protective and durable shelter for the animals but will also save on labor costs because we will not have to keep rebuilding the temporary shelters and haul hay every day.

Outline the action steps, describing the activities, timeline, resources and materials involved with the project:

1. Purchase shelter shell. COMPLETE
2. Install footing for the shelter. Timing, when funding is available. 1 month after funding is received.
3. Install the shelter. Within 1-2 months after footing has been laid.
4. Purchase gates.
5. Install the interior panels and kickboards for each stall and hang gates. 1 month.
6. Run electrical line to shelter and build out electrical installations within the building. 1 month.

Note timing is contingent upon the weather and how much funding is received. We will finish out the shelter as we have enough funds and/or donated materials and labor. Our goal is not to borrow any money to build this shelter.

List two other ways to obtain the required funds:

1. Grants from foundations.
2. We also have a partnership with Lowe's where we get deep discounts on materials and they refer craftsmen to us for donated labor.

Please list names of Cross Timbers Rotarians involved with your organization:

Stephanie Askew
Andy Eads
Peggy Krueger
Lori Walker

Please describe how each Cross Timbers Rotarian endorsing this application shares his/her time, talent or treasure with your organization:

The Rotarians listed above have shared their time and/or talent by supporting our fundraising activities and events, endorsing RHR for grants with foundations and/or helping with outreach activities by educating members of our community about the services that that we provide.

How long has each of these Cross Timbers Rotarians been involved with your organization?

Stephanie Askew - approximately 2 years
Andy Eads – approximately 3 years
Peggy Krueger - approximately 5 years
Lori Walker – approximately 3 years

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: February 20, 2019

Cross Timbers Rotary Member(s) signature(s):

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Return to **Cross Timbers Rotary Club**, 700 Parker Square, Suite 100A, Flower Mound TX 75028, or email application in pdf format to cherlyjclose@gmail.com.

Deadline: All applications must be completed and received by Thursday, March 8, 2019.