

## 

Pooted in Hope

As I reflect on the past year at Memory Lane Farm, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible journey we've shared. 2024 was a year of cultivating growth—both in the soil and in the soul. From welcoming new animals to expanding our mentoring programs, we've seen lives transformed and hope restored in ways that only God could orchestrate.

The soil of the farm provides a foundation for hands-on experiences, while the soul of our mission offers healing, trust, and resilience. Whether through one-on-one mentoring sessions, group camps, or quiet moments shared with our incredible horses and farm animals, we've witnessed remarkable growth in those we serve. Each connection planted seeds of hope, trust, and healing, and we saw those seeds begin to flourish.

Because your generous support:

We provided **12** mentoring and camp scholarships valued over \$ 6,000.

We secured three new horses to our equine program, who have made a huge impact!

Looking ahead to 2025, we're eager to expand our impact as we reimagine what it means to be a refuge for those in need. With plans for added space, deeper community engagement, and enriched programs, we are more determined than ever to nurture both the soil and the soul, creating a space where healing takes root and hope grows strong.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your prayers, encouragement, and support allow us to continue this vital work. Together, we are cultivating a future filled with healing and hope for generations to come.

This year's impact report celebrates MLF's highlights and stories. Thank you to all of our generous donors, staff, volunteers, and community partners for supporting our efforts in providing positive farm-based opportunities for all ages – and allowing the soil to impact hearts and souls.

In Gratitude,

Beth Jarnke

Beth Zarnke Co-Founder and Executive Director

Mission

Our mission is to offer farm-based opportunities to people of all ages to enhance lives through learning, exploring and self-discovery.

Hoofprints of Hope







### HAVE YOU HERD?

In 2024, we welcomed three incredible horses to our program who have become essential members of our family and mission: Annie Oakley, Sugar, and Peabody. Annie, our "boss mare" arrived in January 2024, leads with grace and has a soft side that shines when she's working with children and volunteers.

Sugar joined us in late 2023, bringing her youthful energy, friendly spirit, and gentle demeanor that makes her a favorite among our shyest kids. After her MLF training, Sugar joined the ranks of one of our program partners in 2024.

Peabody, our smallest but mightiest addition, came to us as a rescue in spring 2024. Despite his challenging start, Peabody's kind heart and eagerness to connect have made him an extraordinary part of our team. Together, these three bring joy, healing, and hope to everyone who steps onto the farm, embodying the heart of our mission.

### WHY HORSES?

Horses are incredible partners in promoting healing, growth, and connection, offering a unique ability to sense emotions and respond authentically, a non-judgmental and calming presence. Their size and power can help build trust and confidence, while their gentle nature encourages vulnerability and self-awareness. Working with horses provides opportunities for individuals to develop emotional regulation, communication skills, and resilience.

Whether through grooming, leading, or simply being near them, horses create a safe and supportive space where participants can experience acceptance, overcome challenges, and discover hope. At Memory Lane Farm, our horses are more than animals—they are teachers, companions, and catalysts for transformation.



This year, the Cultivating Hope Mentoring program focused on building meaningful relationships with children and adults seeking a path to healing over 12–18 weekly sessions. Through the consistent use of animal connections, we fostered trust, communication, and hope, helping mentees overcome challenges like trauma, anxiety, depression, and isolation.

This life-changing work wouldn't be possible without our generous donors. Your support has created a safe and nurturing environment where healing begins, and transformation thrives. Thank you for believing in our mission and making a lasting impact on the lives we serve.



that bring kids & adults to us for mentoring

Concerns

94% Struggled with anxiety or depression



65% Experienced loss or grief

59% Traumatized by sexual, physical, or emotional abuse

47% Experienced violence at home, school, or in the corr

35% Contemplated or attempted suicide

Impact Story

### Hope Has a Name... Joey's Story

Joey came to the farm feeling rejected and angry, struggling with fighting at school, difficulties maintaining friendships, and the sting of being turned down for jobs. His mentor, Korinna, saw past his frustration and recognized a young man with incredible potential and a deep desire to be noticed for the right reasons rather than for negative behavior.

Underneath Joey's hurt was a kind and compassionate heart waiting to shine. Korinna worked with him to unlock his potential, and their connection deepened when Joey was introduced to Peabody, one of the farm's horses. Joey saw a little of himself in Peabody—a horse who needed trust, patience, and clear communication. As Joey worked with Peabody, he learned to provide him with love, compassion, and guidance. What Joey didn't realize at first was that these same skills were being instilled in him as well.

One of Joey's proudest moments came when he faced a challenging situation at school. His emotions started to escalate, but instead of losing control as he might have in the past, he paused. "I breathed, counted to ten, and thought about what Peabody and I worked on," he shared with his mentor. His teacher noticed and told him how proud she was of his growth. Joey was overjoyed, knowing he handled a situation in a way that once felt impossible.

Joey's time at the farm was so meaningful that he chose to have his senior photos taken with Peabody, symbolizing the bond that changed his life. He also discovered a passion for working with horses, which helped him gain the confidence to secure his first job after a series of rejections. Joey's journey from anger and frustration to growth and purpose is a beautiful testament to the hope and healing found at the farm. Well done, Joey!





### Agri-Venture Farm Camp Acres of Fun Foster Care Camp Blazing Boots Horse Camp

Our summer camps remain a favorite for both campers and volunteers, offering adventure, growth, and connection. As we explored the woods, engage in meaningful activities, and share impactful discussions, each of our three camps provides a unique experience while maintaining the core elements of learning, exploration, and fun! From specialized camp themes to hands-on farm activities, we are honored to create a space where campers can try new things, build confidence, and discover the hope and joy that the farm inspires.







Horse Powered Peading

Throughout the spring-fall, **37 readers** participated in weekly sessions, each designed to inspire confidence, improve skills, and foster a love for learning in a supportive, hands-on environment. Through our unique Horse Powered Reading program, children engaged with reading strategies and interactive activities that helped them develop reading skills in a way that felt fun, safe, and empowering.

Our team also partnered with 2 local libraries, reaching over 175 adults and children filled with adventure as young readers wrangled up a love for literacy.



# Christmas In The Barn





## 1.647 Guests & Volunteers

Our annual Christmas in the Barn event brought the true spirit of the season to life at Memory Lane Farm.

Guests gathered in the cozy barn to experience the magic of Christmas surrounded by twinkling lights, animals, and the warmth of community. This cherished tradition featured live music, storytelling, and an opportunity to reflect on the hope and joy that Christmas brings.

We are deeply grateful for the incredible support of our community, whose generosity made this event a resounding success. From donations in place of admission to the volunteers who gave their time and talents, it was a beautiful reminder of the power of coming together to make a difference.

Thanks to your support, this event not only celebrated the season but also provided critical funding for our mentoring programs, helping us continue our mission of bringing healing and hope to those in need. Thank you for being a vital part of the Memory Lane Farm family!

2024 Finances

### REVENUE

Donations	\$ 45,068	Other 4.3% Program Income
Grant Support	\$ 35,250	21.5% Donations 41.7%
Program Income	\$ 23,238	
Other	\$ 4,637	
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$108,193	Grants 32.6%

### **OPERATIONAL EXPENSES**

Programs	\$ 80,232	Fundraising 2.6% Management & General 27.9%
Management & General	\$ 32,175	
Fundraising	\$ 3,049	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$115,456	Programs 69.5%



### MEMORY LANE FARM, INC.







www.memorylanefarm.org



The world needs heroes like you. Thank you for your generosity.



#### **Partner Program**

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