



December 10, 2014

Dear Friend,

My 13-year-old daughter, Katie, loves riding Dakota, a therapeutic riding horse at Manito Life Center. Katie has been riding Dakota for six months. At her lessons, Katie learns about grooming Dakota, how to sit on her properly and how to balance while riding her.

Katie has cerebral palsy, a neurological disorder that primarily affects her body movement and muscle coordination. Riding Dakota does more for Katie than teach her riding skills. Dakota has helped Katie build core muscles needed to help her balance. Katie told me "I feel like I can do a lot on Dakota, more than I can do on land!" Manito Life Center has not only helped Katie's body but also her spirit. Horseback riding is something that Katie can do and not feel different, that she feels like any other kid when she's riding.



Although Katie walks with two canes on the ground, she is working up to riding Dakota on her own, without Manito staff helping her stay balanced. Manito Life Center tailors all of their lessons and experiences to each child so Katie has been able to set her own goals of what she wants to accomplish.

Manito Life Center has wonderfully impacted my daughter Katie. A gift from you will give other children the opportunity to build better lives for themselves using equine therapy. If you are planning on making an end-of-year donation to a non-profit, I hope that you would consider Manito Life Center as a recipient so that they can serve more children like Katie!

Warmest Regards & Happy Holidays!

Sherri Mericle

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