



River Valley Riders

1999-2030: Organization's History and Strategic Plan

Years		Programming	Facilities	Financial Requirements
Early Years	1999-2005	Participants served per week increased from 18 in 2000 to 40 in 2010.	Programs held at rented arena of Washington County Fairgrounds and 2 smaller sites.	Early vision of dedicated site for Equine-Assisted Services (EAS).
	2006-2008			\$100,000 raised for down payment on land.
	2009			Purchased 38 acres in Afton, MN for \$550,000.
	2010			\$150,000 raised for Afton outdoor arena development.
	2011			In fall, moved riding program to Afton from Washington County Fairgrounds.
Expansion of Services at Afton Site	2012	Lighting allowed lessons to continue through mid-October and offer lessons later in the evening. Added one more evening of lessons at Afton, increasing participants served per week to 60.	Electricity to Afton site. Installed outdoor arena lights.	\$100,000 raised to reduce debt and eliminate building restrictions.
	2013	Moved carriage driving to Afton.	Obtained mortgage of \$350,000 and paid off contract for deed.	
	2014	Contracted with ISD 916 to provide therapeutic riding at Afton site for students in special education program.	Began construction of picnic shelter. Installed additional lighting for parking lot.	\$75,000 raised for picnic shelter, well, carriage building, and other improvements.
	2015	Recruited additional therapy horses to increase participants served per week to 70.	Completed picnic shelter. Installed well. Constructed carriage building.	
Early Facility Improvements at Afton Site	2016-2018	Recruited additional instructors to prepare for increased lesson capacity.	In December 2018, completed construction of 76'x156' insulated indoor arena.	Phase 1: \$600,000 raised for indoor arena.
	2019	Increased capacity to 100. With use of indoor arena, RVR experienced minimal weather cancellations.	Added exhaust system and drain tile/landscaping.	Phase 2: \$1,200,000 raised for construction of the front office and mounting annex. Viewing room, bathrooms, instructor office and small classroom finished. The rest of 76'x54' building to remain unfinished for next phase of construction.
	2020	No lessons.	Paved driveway and parking lot. Added 4 infrared heaters to indoor arena.	
	2021	Resumed lessons with phased-in approach.	Upgraded outdoor arena lighting to LED.	
	2022-2023	Increased capacity to 150.	Completed Phase 2 construction.	In addition, unrestricted funding paid off the mortgage, eliminating all debt.
Completion of Afton Facility Improvements for Expansion of Services	2024-2030	RVR will recruit and train additional instructors, volunteers and support staff to prepare for expanding programming opportunities and increasing capacity to 200 participants in 2030. Participants will receive increased physical, emotional, and cognitive benefits through year-round programming. This will be documented by RVR's evaluation process.	To provide year-round programming, 12 horses will need to live on-site. This will require construction of stables, fences, horse shelters, farm equipment, and hay/storage buildings. To create increased programming opportunities, other improvements will include completing the existing unfinished building space with therapy rooms, a large classroom, and offices.	Phase 3: RVR will engage community support and foster donor relationships with individuals, corporations and foundations to raise \$5-\$7 million. In addition to facility construction costs, funding will be required to support the additional staffing and increased operating expenses of year-round services with expanded programming capacity.