

RAWHIDE YOUTH SERVICES TO PARTNER WITH BEAMING INC. EQUINE FACILITY

Rawhide To Offer Equine-Assisted Therapy Sessions in Neenah Community Starting In May

NEENAH – Rawhide Youth Services and BEAMING Inc. will partner to offer an equine-assisted therapy option for the Neenah, Oshkosh and Appleton areas starting in early May.

The two organizations share a similar mission to help youth and their families heal. BEAMING offers equine-assisted therapeutic riding therapy to community members with special needs, and Rawhide offers community-based programs and services, including in-person or telehealth counseling and equine-assisted therapy, to at-risk youth and their families.

"This is a significant opportunity to help kids dealing with suicide ideation, anxiety, depression and trauma through this modality in a new market," said Danny Stone, Rawhide's director of community & shared services.

Rawhide will leverage BEAMING's therapy horses and handlers, providing training to the handler for equine-assisted therapy. Therapists from Rawhide will work with the horse handlers during sessions, which often include games and activities for the youth and horse to perform together, allowing youth to feel more comfortable opening up about their trauma and abuse in a safe, judge-free environment.

"When working with horses during therapy sessions, kids feel so comfortable connecting and opening up about their struggles with the horses, they don't realize it's helping them heal," said Stone.

Both organizations said they will now be able to provide more services to a wider geographic area and share resources to keep costs down, making their donor dollars work for more clients.

"With this partnership, we are confident that we can meet the growing needs of our community while providing the right programs for individuals and families facing today's unique challenges," said Katie Samuelson, BEAMING's director. "Partnering will allow us to learn strategies from each other that will provide the best treatment for all individuals."

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Rawhide, Inc. is a faith-based 501(c)(3) recognized charity that offers Wisconsin's at-risk youth and families a full array of residential and community-based services to equip them with tools to build healthy relationships and behaviors that will help them overcome life's challenges.

BEAMING INC. is a nonprofit organization in Neenah, Wisconsin, that offers equine-assisted therapeutic riding to individuals with special needs. BEAMING is a member of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International.

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