

Spring into LoveWay!

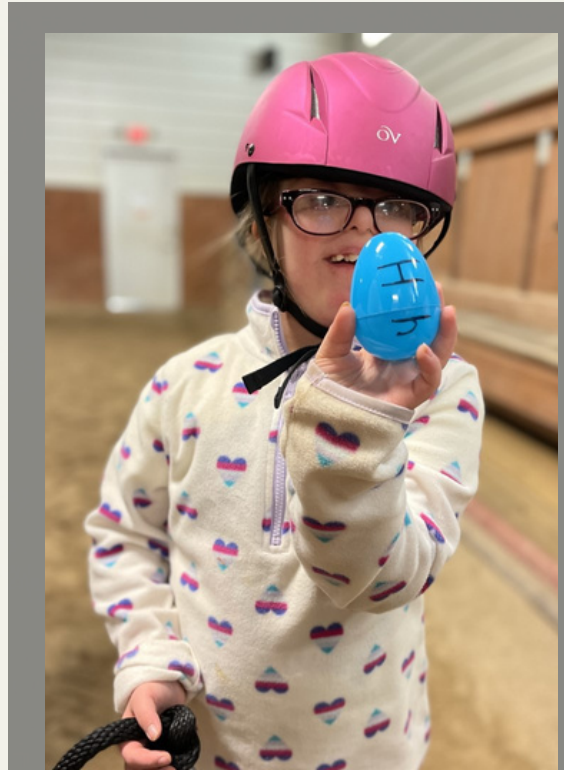


Spring is always a beautiful time of year at the stable! Our horses are shedding out their winter coats, outdoor trail rides are starting and smiling faces are filling our arena once again. This is only possible thanks to such an amazingly supportive community.

A community that believes in serving others selflessly, in providing every possible opportunity to the underserved and to empower children to do something they normally would only dream of.

Thank you Elkhart County! Your partnership with LoveWay makes our mission possible, bless you for your heart for our riders!

Shelley Becker
Executive Director



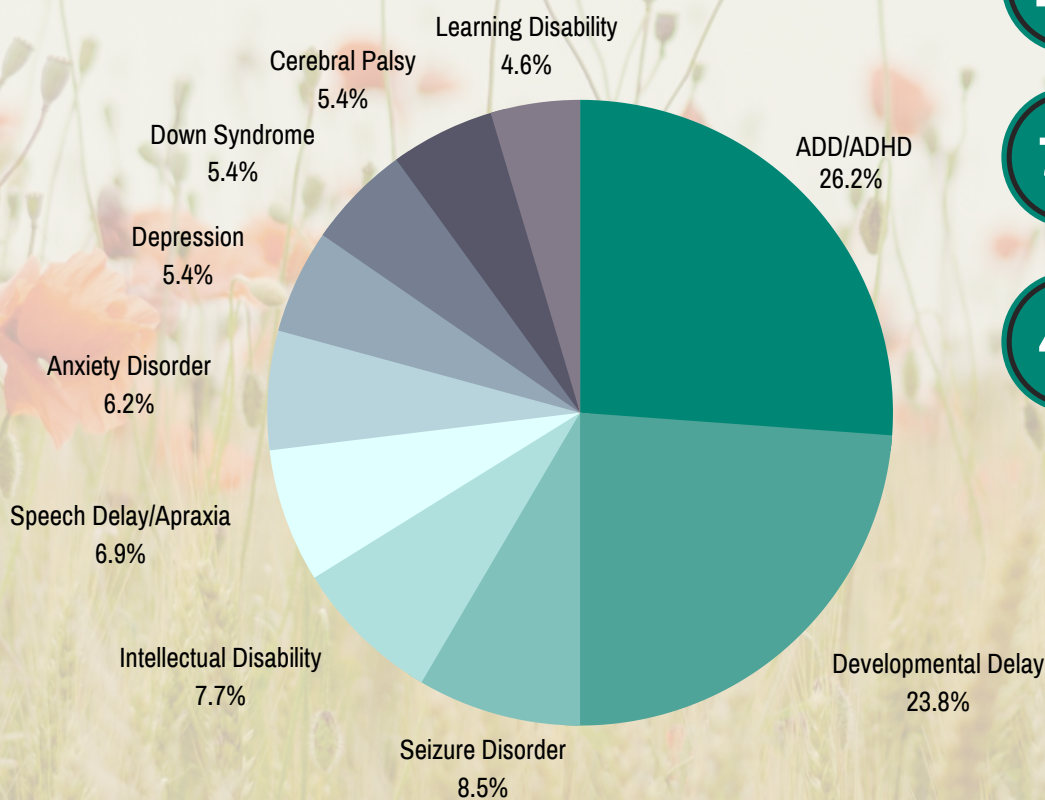
SPRING 2021

LoveWay Programming

Bring on the sun and warmer weather! This spring semester started off a little rough with the long-lasting cold spell, but we finally have our riders back and they are progressing leaps and bounds! We are thankful to have as full of a semester as possible while still allowing extra time between classes for cleaning and sanitizing. Though the numbers are exciting, we rejoice even more over the progress we have been blessed to witness – students riding for the first time, riders steering their horse without the assistance of a leader or side-walker, and riders who were once non-verbal chatting up a storm. This is why we do what we do!

Spring semester will end mid to late May and then we will dive right into our summer programming holding camps that were auctioned off at our Derby Day fundraiser. Though our summer will not see as many students coming through our doors, it is an important time for staff to train new horses, keep our current herd fit, to work on continuing education, and plan and prep for fall. It is still a busy time, so look for our summer update in our next newsletter for ways to join in on all the fun!

Who are our riders?



12

Schools

70

School students

42

Home based participants

SPRING 2021

Who's helping in the arena

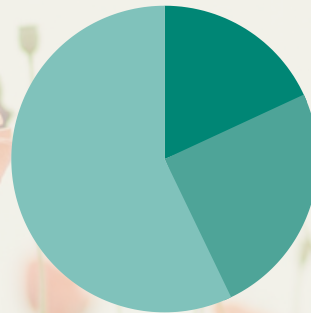
Volunteers

This semester, we have been blessed by our community to have 33 individuals attend new volunteer trainings. Not only is that HUGE, the majority have either signed up to help in a weekly class or to substitute! Though this semester has been another unusual one, our volunteers have admirably stepped up with many helping in a greater capacity than in the past when hearing of our crucial need for help again this semester.

The month of April in particular, we celebrated all of our volunteers in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Week! Whether they helped in a class, in the barn or office, assisting our feeders, or with fundraising, we cannot show our appreciation enough! Of course our kids, teachers and parents couldn't ask for a better group of volunteers either!



Existing Volunteers
57.1%



New Volunteers This Semester
18.1%

New Volunteers in 2020
24.8%



SPRING 2021

Equines

We have two additions in our barn this semester. A Fjord named Eva who is fitting in nicely and enjoying her daily preparations to be ready for fall along with a handsome black and white paint named Otto. If you have been to LoveWay recently you have more than likely noticed him. He is definitely a looker! Expect to see both in classes next fall.

This is the time of year that leases expire or get renewed. We are so thankful to those who have leased us so many great horses. In addition to any horses on lease that may go home, we have a few donated horses that are ready to move onto their next job. If you or someone you know is ready to take on one of our retiring herd members, please reach out to Ryan.

With all of the changes to our herd, keep your eyes open for any horses you know that would help fill the place of a horse who might be leaving us. Our current need is for 14 - 15 hand quarter horses or breeds of similar size with a quiet, gentle disposition. Ideal candidates can walk, trot, canter, and would be approximately 7-17 years old. Contact Ryan via email at ryan@lovewayinc.org.



DID YOU KNOW?

Only 40% of horses that are on trial pass our 30 day trial.

SPRING 2021

Summer Events in 2021

May

- Spring Semester ends
 - 14 - Last day for school classes and evening classes
 - 22 - Last day for Saturday classes

June

- 18 - Volunteer Banquet
- 25 - Nelson's Fundraiser

August

- 5 - Friends of LoveWay Gathering
- 13 - Nelson's Fundraiser
- 30 - Fall Semester starts
- 30 - Gallop for the Green

"From my perspective as a teacher and as a parent, LoveWay has become my new favorite place! The staff and volunteers who work at LoveWay have created a safe and nurturing environment for our students to be themselves given their diverse abilities. Weekly, our class has been visiting LoveWay since mid-February. Our first visit was a bit overwhelming with only 2 kids mounting horses. Several weeks later all 8 of our students were riding horses. This progress is a good reminder that preparation, dedication, gentleness, and respect make the difference in getting to an end goal. In our case, the end goal was helping our students to feel safe and confident on horses.

Compassionate staff and volunteers supported our students as they moved from the unknown to a routine that clearly produces excitement, joy, and many smiles. Riding horses at LoveWay has enriched our lives by helping us to feel more confident in trying new things and by building relationships with horses and people in our community. We are grateful!"

*Kim Kurtz,
Life Skills Teacher, Goshen, IN
April 2021*

Other ways you can help support LoveWay!

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Harding's
FRIENDLY MARKETS

**MONTHLY
GIVING**

Kroger

SPRING 2021