Overview:

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center provides equine-assisted programs and activities for children and adults with a variety of physical and/or emotional conditions. In partnership with caregivers, special education teachers, and physician treatment plans, Strongwater Farm’s services and programs are individualized with specific therapeutic goals and measurable outcomes. Most of Strongwater Farm’s participants go beyond the initial goals and continue to achieve skills and confidence each week. Everyone who comes to Strongwater Farm is on their own unique journey, not defined by a diagnosis or ability; prepared to reach their highest potential using the healing power of horses.

Our Mission:

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center strives to enrich lives through the healing power of horses. The mission is to enhance and enrich lives by providing education, social opportunities, and emotional support for its communities through equine assisted activities and therapies. We do this while honoring our core values: integrity, compassion, healing, and safety. We strive to create a safe, welcoming environment where individuals can learn, grow, and heal through the power of horses.

Our Foundational Pillars:

Making a Difference
Strongwater Farm strives to make a difference in someone’s life: one moment at a time, one day at a time, one person at a time.

Life Skills and Healing
Strongwater Farm strives to provides a holistic environment that promotes healing and the development of life skills. Strongwater Farm provides services and programs that expands beyond therapeutic riding encompassing all therapeutic benefits of Equine Facilitated Learning.

Operational Excellence
Strongwater Farm strives for excellence in our services, personnel, volunteers, herd, and environment. Strongwater Farm promotes a culture of continuous improvement that fosters empowerment to support the mission.

Community Engagement
Strongwater Farm strives to be recognized within our communities providing services that meet needs for the greater good. Strongwater Farm promotes the positive effects of Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies for healing and will engage our communities to join us.

Development and Stewardship
Strongwater Farm strives for responsible and ethical management of all resources. Strongwater Farm is committed to protect and maintain the facilities and grounds to preserve our natural environment.
Strategic Vision:

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center with the addition of the indoor riding facility, is defining the vision for the future. The Board of Trustee’s has enacted a committee to develop a strategic plan that takes Strongwater Farm from a seasonal schedule to a yearlong sustainable program. Our strategic plan will evolve as we move through each stage seeking continuous improvement.

Strategic Plan

I. Making a Difference
Strongwater Farm strives to make a difference in someone’s live one moment at a time, one day at a time, one person at a time.

II. Life skills and Healing
Strongwater Farm strives to provides a holistic environment that promotes healing and the development of live skills. Strongwater Farm provides services and programs that expands beyond therapeutic riding encompassing all therapeutic benefits of Equine Facilitated Learning.

Objective
Enhance and augment programs that provide an innovative approach to the development of life skills that focus on the physical, cognitive, emotional, behavioral needs and overall wellbeing of our clients.
          Physical
          1. Acquire state of the art adaptive equipment
          2. Enhance programs core and motor skills
          3. Establish partnership with clinical professionals
          4. Maintain the highest safety standards as a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center

          Cognitive
          1. Expand programs for Autism, various forms of Dementia and Alzheimer’s, and Parkinson’s
          2. Expand partnerships with Group/Residential Facilities, Longer-Term Care Facilities, and vocational providers.

          Emotional
          1. Promote programs for Veterans with PTSD. *assessment tools
          2. Provide supportive programs for individuals with depression, anxiety, and isolation.

          Behavioral
          1. Expand programs for substance use disorder.

          Wellness
          1. Expand overall wellness programs that can be adapted for anyone in the community
III. Operational Excellence

Strongwater Farm strives for excellence in our services, personnel, volunteers, herd, and environment. Strongwater Farm promotes a culture of continuous improvement that fosters empowerment.

Objective:
Define and strengthen the mission driven culture of continuous improvement that fosters empowerment among the Strongwater Team, the community, and those we serve.

1. Services
   a. Strongwater Farm will be a recognized leader in the PATH, Int. Community.
      i. Leverage Premier Accreditation for 20 years
      ii. Seek outside recognition for achievements
      iii. Collaborate with regional PATH Int. Centers

2. Personnel
   a. Strongwater Farm will foster Continuing Education
      i. Professional Development for Staff
      ii. Become Certified Path Education Providers
   b. Establish a continuous improvement/feedback process

3. Volunteers
   a. Strongwater Farm will have a defined Volunteer Program
      i. Barn Support
      ii. Lesson Support
      iii. Facilities and Grounds
      iv. Herd Care
      v. Professional Services

4. Herd
   a. Strongwater Farm will maintain a diverse herd to meet the needs of our programs
      i. Maintain equine network for new prospects
   b. Strongwater Farm will maintain the health and wellbeing and therapeutic temperament of the herd.

5. Environment
   a. Facilities
      i. Barn
      ii. Arena
   b. Grounds
      i. Paddock
      ii. Trails
      iii. Surrounding Conservation Land

6. Culture
   a. Strongwater Farm will promote an effective relationship between the Board and Executive Director
   b. Develop a code of ethics to complement our mission driven culture
IV. Community Engagement

Strongwater Farm strives to be recognized within our communities providing services that meet needs for the greater good. Strongwater Farm promotes the positive effects of Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies for healing and will engage our communities to join us.

Objective

Broaden our recognition and impact beyond our geographical location and be recognized by the clinical, therapeutic, and educational communities.

1. Geographical
   a. Expand beyond Tewksbury
   b. Participate in Community Events

2. Clinical
   a. Partner with State Hospital
   b. Partner with VA Hospital

3. Therapeutic
   a. Participate in Professional Events

4. Educational
   a. Partner with School Systems
   b. Partner with Colleges/Universities

5. Service Organizations and Non-Profit Organizations
   a. Libraries
   b. Day Programs
   c. Senior Centers
   d. Veterans Organizations

V. Development and Stewardship

Strongwater Farm strives for responsible and ethical management of all resources. Strongwater Farm is committed to protect and maintain the facilities and grounds to preserve our natural environment.

Objective

Seeks to strengthen our resources by providing Governance, Accountability and Stewardship, while engaging philanthropic support for a sustainable income model.

1. Governance
   a. Expand the Board Directors to create a diverse group invested in the sustainable future of Strongwater Farm.
   b. Expand the Advisory Council to provide professional expertise for the ongoing operations of Strongwater Farm.
   c. Develop working Committees

2. Accountability
   a. Financial Planning
      i. Budget
ii. Contingency Planning
iii. Develop Auditing Procedures to ensure timeliness and accuracy.
iv. All town and state requirements

3. Stewardship
   a. Ensure that all procedures and products will be environmentally sensitive.

4. Philanthropic Support
   a. Fundraising/Friendraising Events
   b. Grants
   c. New Donors
   d. Engage existing community