



# NEWS

## SPRING 2018

*The Shea Center is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities through therapeutic horse-related programs.*

## Past – Present and Future Lives Changed; Celebrating 40 Years of The Shea Center

The modest beginnings of The Shea Center have yielded an organization that is today one of the top equine assisted therapy centers in the world.

Founded in 1978, we began as The Orange County Riding Center thanks to founders Nancy and Derek Lewis. They felt that equine therapy would benefit their son Michael, who was born with cerebral palsy. Forty years later, Michael still rides at the Center and celebrates his 50th birthday this month!

Fran Joswick, a social worker and equestrienne, was the founding instructor and executive director of the Center. Eleven years later, after developing the therapeutic riding program, and creating a 200-hour therapeutic instructor-training program, Fran retired to Hawaii. In honor of her accomplishments, the Center was renamed the Fran Joswick Therapeutic Riding Center. In 2001, the J.F. Shea Co., Inc., one of the country's most highly respected development companies, donated the property where the Center now stands. With a permanent home for our clients and families, the Center was renamed in honor of the transformational gift.

In 2001, phase one of the capital campaign began and raised funds that allowed us to build the barn and new arenas. Thanks to a remarkable gift from the Klein Family, phase two went forward to complete the Klein Family Education & Therapy Building which opened in 2009 with physical, occupational and speech therapy rooms, education and meeting rooms, the volunteer lounge and professional staff offices. More than 600 people, organizations and foundations built what is now The Shea Center for Therapeutic Riding through their generous gifts these past 19 years and in so doing, transformed the lives of our riders and families.

Today, The Shea Center serves nearly 1,100 annual participants utilizing 23 horses and the assistance of more than 800 community volunteers. Over 75 distinct disabilities are addressed including cerebral palsy, autism, Down syndrome, and traumatic brain injury. Through the broad spectrum of equine assisted therapy and activities, individuals of all ages with disabilities experience physical, cognitive, and emotional benefits. Programs take place in a safe, natural outdoor setting providing appropriate sensory input and a healthy environment.

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH, Intl.) accredits The Shea Center at the "premier" level. Internationally recognized for its excellence in therapeutic programs, The Shea Center plays an important role in the advancement of equine assisted therapies and is a training facility for interns and students from around the world.

Over the years, The Shea Center has made a direct impact on thousands of clients who have benefitted from our services. Among those is 6-year-old Shea Center rider



A.J.

A.J. At age three, A.J. was diagnosed with autism and speech delay. He began riding at The Shea Center with the physical therapy team two years ago and when his social behavior, ability to focus, and following directions improved, he transitioned to the therapeutic – or adaptive – riding classes. A.J.'s mom, Cecilia, remarks, "He enjoys riding because it's not the same routine as his other therapies can be; it's fun. He really enjoys trotting and going faster. Riding helps A.J. focus and he is spending therapy time with other children." She continues, "I have seen a lot of improvement in the last two years. A.J. has become physically stronger, more focused, and his behavior has improved. He is learning to take responsibility and follow through with his commitments. I am grateful for the instructors and their time and patience. The Shea Center is the perfect place for A.J."



Riley

Nine-year-old Riley was diagnosed with a central nervous system tumor at the age of 16 months. In her young life, she has dealt with surgery, chemotherapy, stem cell transplants, radiation, and shunts. As a fourth-grader, she loves to sing, play the violin at school, and ride horses. Her parents, Jennifer and Ryan, have noticed many changes since Riley began riding at The Shea Center a year ago. She is stronger – now able to sit up straight and tall – and her disposition is happier. Ryan remarks, "Riley's confidence has blossomed and her strength, coordination, and attention have improved. She is physically able to do more things and looks forward to the weekend when she can go riding at The Shea Center."



Henry

At The Shea Center, our military program serves active duty personnel, veterans, and their families such as Henry, a World War II veteran and former POW, who is a physical therapy participant in our inclusive fitness center. Henry also spends time in the barn with our miniature Sicilian donkey, Tristan.

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1978

1 client  
1 volunteer  
1 family  
1 horse

2018

1000+ clients  
800 volunteers, 42 full and part-time staff  
1000+ families  
23 program horses





### "Because some rides should never end..."

Message from Executive Director Dana Butler-Moburg  
and Board Chair Susan Chaney Purel

### Forty Years of Shea

We have Michael Lewis and his amazing parents Derek and Nancy to thank for founding The Shea Center. Mike, our longest-riding client (is he really a client after 40 years? More like family...) is still riding. Every Wednesday.

#### There are benchmarks in 40 years:

- Our first executive director and instructor (Fran Joswick)
- Our first name (Orange County Riding Center)
- The second name (Fran Joswick Therapeutic Riding Center)
- Land donated for a permanent home (thank you, J.F. Shea Co., Inc.) and recognition of this gift led to our new name – The J.F. Shea Therapeutic Riding Center
- Extraordinary corporate partnership over many years (Claim Jumper)
- Extraordinary staff members, lesson volunteers, and board members
- The first capital campaign (Samueli and Cvangros covered arenas and the Parr Family Barn)
- The second capital campaign (The Klein Family Education & Therapy Building)
- A Shea-trained therapeutic riding instructor in nearly every state and 15 countries. (approximately 22,000+ people with special needs reached through these professionals each year)

#### And then there's this:

- First steps taken after a \_\_\_\_\_ (stroke, brain injury, surgery, long rehab, years of therapy)
- First words spoken
- Building strength while undergoing chemotherapy
- Mobility after using a wheelchair
- Learning to tie your shoe
- Giving your mom her first hug
- Learning to write your letters
- Learning to sit up

These are only a drop in the bucket of the 40 years of loving transformations that your support of Shea has helped create.

So we thank you. And we celebrate you. And we celebrate our riders, volunteers, staff, donors, families, and the many partnerships that make what seems impossible, possible.

#### Here's to the next 40!

## Serving Active Duty Marine Families

### Exceptional Family Member Program at The Shea Center



There are many aspects to our military services programs at The Shea Center. We serve active duty families, veterans, children of veterans, and work closely with several organizations who serve veterans. One of the programs we host is for Camp Pendleton Marine families.

More than 1000 families at Camp Pendleton are enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program. Many of these families include children, some with disabilities, who are part of this program to support families with extra needs. On April 7, more than 300 family members (about 85 families) joined us at The Shea Center with more than 100 volunteers and Shea staff.

For many families, the highlight of the day was horseback riding. More than 100 children under age 18 rode horses, many for the first time. The kids also fed the horses, played games, had their faces painted, got "tattoos", and had fun in the Tucker Petting Zoo, which included a mini cow, mini donkey, pot belly pigs, goats, sheep, and bunnies. Snow cones, provided by the Boy Scouts Order of the Arrow service chapter, were also a big hit.

The morning ended with a lunch of grilled hamburgers and hot dogs provided by Soiree Event Planning & Catering. [soireecatering.com/](http://soireecatering.com/)

Thank you to the National Charity League Laguna chapter volunteers and The Shea Center lesson volunteers, who all helped make the day a huge success and fun for all.

## Leaders for Philanthropy

Julie Hill was the keynote speaker at The Shea Center's annual Leaders for Philanthropy Night on May 3, 2018. She is the chair of the Board of Trustees of University of California - Irvine and founder of The Hill Company, a Newport Beach consulting and investment firm. Hill has been involved with various UCI boards and philanthropic initiatives for 25 years and was handpicked by Henry Samueli, co-founder of Broadcom Ltd., as a board of directors candidate during Broadcom's proposed hostile takeover of Qualcomm Corp. Hill was interviewed by Orange County Community Foundation President, Shelley Hoss, who joined the event for the first time.

"It's extraordinary to have two such remarkable women speak on behalf of their experiences as philanthropist and facilitator of philanthropy," said Shea Center executive director Dana Butler-Moburg. "We have been fortunate to have such exceptional leaders sharing their experiences for the past ten years."

The Leaders for Philanthropy networking event was presented by Bank of America, and hosted by the Orange County business school alumni associations of Chapman, Harvard, Stanford, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, and UCLA. Guests enjoyed appetizers and beverages, in the Samueli arena, while viewing a therapeutic riding demonstration and touring the equestrian facility.

Shea Center board member Steve Stambaugh, and long-time Shea Center supporter John Ludutsky, both graduates of the Harvard Business School, created the Leaders for Philanthropy event in 2008. Since then, the evening has become an opportunity for emerging business leaders to understand how their commitment to philanthropy, at personal and corporate levels, makes a difference in the lives of those with disabilities served by The Shea Center and other community services.



Julie Hill, Founder, The Hill Company

*Dana*  
Dana Butler-Moburg,  
Executive Director

*Susan*  
Susan Chaney Purel  
Board Chair





Put on your disco boots and strut on down to Montage Laguna Beach on Saturday, June 2, 2018 for The Shea Center's 27th annual gala. The evening's theme celebrates the music of Donna Summer, Andy Gibb, Gloria Gaynor, Barry White and more of your favorite disco stars!

Commemorating 40 years of service to the disabled community, "Shea Night Fever" will feature tributes to riders served by Shea during the past 40 years.

The glittering event begins on the Montage Pacific Lawn with specialty cocktails, scrumptious appetizers, and captivating entertainment. Guests will also enjoy a spectacular silent auction before strolling into the stunning décor of the grand ballroom for a marvelous Montage dinner.

After dinner, the evening will continue with the Fosheim Rider Support Fund, a spirited live auction, and dancing to classic disco sounds.

For more information, please call 949-240-8441 x135.

## Annual BBQ

The Shea Center's 40th Annual BBQ and Family Faire is on Saturday, September 22, 2018. This community event draws more than 1,500 guests from all over Orange County. The event will again be a spectacular, fun-filled evening, with country faire games, rider demonstrations, a petting zoo, barn tours, a 300-item silent auction, and an extra tasty BBQ dinner provided by Montage Laguna Beach.

Sponsor guests will join us in the VIP "saloon" for the Montage hospitality of appetizers and specialty beverages. Rider demonstrations are a highlight to start the night and after dinner, the high spirits continue with the client "Parade of Stars," the Fosheim Rider Support Fund, a live auction, and dancing to the music of country band Swingshift, celebrating their 20th BBQ performance. Get your cowboy hat, jeans, and boots and join us for this joy-filled family event.

We welcome your live and silent auction items and sponsorships. To make an auction donation or become a sponsor, call (949) 240-8441 x135. Tickets may be purchased online at [www.sheacenter.org](http://www.sheacenter.org).

## Drive to Ride Surpasses Goal Again!

Storytelling is the theme during the month of February's Drive to Ride. The Shea Center's annual Drive to Ride campaign to raise funds to support client financial aid, horse care, and priority programs was a terrific success. Thanks to the leadership of donor relations manager, Sonya Violette, and Drive to Ride committee chair, Brenda Cross, the campaign goal of \$145,000 was surpassed by more than \$15,000 by the 102 teams who participated.

Riders, volunteers, and staff created teams and posted their stories. Each team set monetary goals and the ones that raised at least \$500 won one Drive to Ride zip-up hoodie.

"I love Drive to Ride. It gives me an opportunity to support The Shea Center in a meaningful and impactful way," says Ellie W., a Shea Center client. "This place gives me so much, and I love being part of the success that keeps Shea thriving." Ellie's "Team Sloth" contributed \$7,640 to the Drive to Ride campaign.

The rider who raised the largest amount was Caleb W. "Caleb's Crew" raised over \$16,000 and he received the grand prize iPad, which was generously donated by Shea Center board member, Jim Washburn. Volunteer Deana Bergquist brought in \$3,650, which earned her a \$500 Amazon gift card.

A tremendous thank you goes to the entire Drive to Ride committee including chair, Brenda Cross, Amy Adamo, Deana Bergquist, Sue Graf, Terry Johnsen, Paula McCloskey, Jeanne McCreddie, Susan Chaney Puel, Laura Robinson, and Linda Saville for their undying efforts in managing a fantastic campaign.



Caleb riding "Alik"

## Foundation Giving at The Shea Center

With great appreciation, we acknowledge gifts received between October 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 from foundations in support of our mission to improve the lives of people with disabilities through therapeutic horse-related programs.

Al & Mary Ann Schoellerman Foundation  
C. Michael & Mary H. O'Donnell Family Foundation  
CBRE Foundation, Inc.  
David R. Clare and Margaret C. Clare Foundation  
DevTo Support Foundation  
Donald L. Schoellerman Foundation  
George Hoag Family Foundation  
Golden Eagle Foundation  
Harry & Jan Sweere Foundation  
It Takes A Family Foundation, Inc.  
Jacqueline Badger Mars 2009 Charitable Lead Trust  
Ken & Debbie Johnson Foundation  
Lee Graff Foundation  
Linda I. Smith Foundation  
Mary and Emanuel Rosenfeld Foundation  
O. L. Halsell Foundation  
O'Connell Family Foundation Trust  
Richard & Elizabeth Steele Fund  
The Allergan Foundation  
The J. Grace Foundation Charitable Trust  
The Mary Alice Fortin Foundation, Inc.  
The Walt Disney Company Foundation  
The William & Margaret Fern Holmes Family Foundation  
Ueberroth Family Foundation  
Western Digital Corporation Fund  
Whitecross Foundation



Mary Ann, "Granny"

*continued from page 1*

Mary Ann, 98, affectionately known as "Granny," is a weekly visitor to the barn where she calls on "Braveheart" and her pal, facility dog, "Emerson", both of whom she sponsors.

For 40 years, our goal has been to improve the health outcomes

of people with disabilities and our objective has been to provide effective and affordable, long-term equine-based therapeutic services to meet that goal.

Through the years, we have developed our property and expanded our programs to include physical, occupational, and speech/language equine assisted therapy and activities. We now offer military family therapeutic riding and therapy programs, senior outreach programs, and a children's integrated summer horse camp. In the near future, our client sensory garden will enhance the services we provide to the community.

Through the continued support of 1,607 donors in 2017, five major fundraisers and our Reins of Life Legacy Club members, we are able to continue our mission to improve the lives of people with disabilities through therapeutic horse-related activities.





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[www.sheacenter.org](http://www.sheacenter.org)

Same website.  
New look and stories!

# NEWS

## SPRING 2018

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### SAVE THE DATES!

Annual Gala – June 2, 2018, Montage Laguna Beach

Mark Powell Wills and Trusts Workshop – June 14, 2018

Volunteer Celebration & Annual Meeting – June 20, 2018

Annual BBQ & Family Faire – September 22, 2018

Mark Powell Special Needs Trusts Workshop – October 25, 2018



## Planning for the Future – Education Opportunities from Mark Powell

Wills and Trusts – June 14, 2018

Special Needs Trusts – October 25, 2018

Take advantage of the expertise of premier estate planning attorney, Mark Powell, who will help attendees learn what next steps to take to ensure their planning for loved ones (especially those with special needs) will continue beyond their own lifetime. Both workshops are from 6-7:30 and are in the Bilek Family Conference Room in the Klein Family Education & Therapy Building at The Shea Center.

Your planning is a gift you leave to ensure the future of those you love! This workshop is open to anyone who would like to attend, Shea client, volunteer, family, or other!

Mark Powell is a long-time volunteer for The Shea Center and a partner at Dorsey & Whitney, LLC. For over twenty years, Mark has focused exclusively on trust and estate work with emphasis on charitable planning, estate planning, trust and probate administration, and estate and gift taxation.

To attend in June, RSVP by June 11. To attend in October, RSVP by October 22 to Gloria Kilburn, (949) 240-8441 x111 or email [gkilburn@sheacenter.org](mailto:gkilburn@sheacenter.org).

THE SHEA CENTER  
**Reins of Life**  
LEGACY CLUB  
- Since 2008 -



## The Shea Center Wins People's Choice Awards



A tremendous thank you to all the client families, volunteers, and friends who voted for The Shea Center in *The Capistrano Dispatch* People's Choice Horseshoe Awards!

Once again, we won the **gold** award for the "Best Local Nonprofit Organization" and the **gold** award for the "Best Camp for Kids" for our Summer Horse Camp!

**Thank you everyone for voting for The Shea Center!**

## The 2017 Volunteer Celebration and Annual Meeting

Join us on June 20, 2018 as we honor our wonderful volunteers and board members who devotedly and enthusiastically supported The Shea Center during 2017. There will be refreshments, riding demonstrations, board member and volunteer awards and the announcement of the horse of the year! Please RSVP by June 15 to [clee@sheacenter.org](mailto:clee@sheacenter.org).

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