



THE BARN AT SPRING BROOK FARM

November 29, 2023

Dear Barn Family,

Yes, this is our annual appeal...and you're probably receiving it along with many others. Why keep reading? We'd like to share some "inside information" about The Barn at Spring Brook Farm! By the end of this letter, we hope you'll better understand us and move us to the VERY TOP of your year-end giving list!

What do we do?

Well, most of you know---we provide animal-assisted and nature-based programs for children with disabilities. We pride ourselves in treating every child as an individual and catering our programming to fit each child's needs and desires. We measure success in different ways but the amount of FUN a child has while at The Barn is paramount! Many of the children we serve don't have access to typical after-school programs or summer camps. Many of our Barn families describe magical outcomes, hard-to-explain physical and behavioral changes that last well after their child leaves The Barn.



Hear what some of our Barn parents are saying by scanning the QR code to the left or by visiting the link below!



Who are we?

Did you know that we only employ 3.5 year-round employees? In addition, we have part-time staff to provide weekend care for our incredibly special furry friends and seasonal staff members who run our popular summer camp, Camp Geronimo. Our skilled and educated staff are carefully selected and compliment each other's talents and work as a cohesive team.

www.springbrook-farm.org/annual-appeal

What does the statement "It's The Barn, things like that just happen here" have to do with anything?



Bay, Nubian Goat

Our founder, Mary Beth Drobish, believed in her passion project with a level of faith and persistence most of us can only imagine. She coined this statement in reference to the timely and miraculous things that have happened through the years.

In business for 17 years, we have endured early financial troubles, demanding and expensive township requirements, the loss of our beloved founder and visionary, a change in ownership of the property, COVID, and more. Any one of these things could have put us out of business. But, "It's The Barn, things like that just happen here" became our mantra as we survived each and every obstacle along the way.

We like to think that we've overcome challenges much like the children we serve must do on a daily basis. Beginning with Mary Beth, we are an organization full of BELIEVERS! It's uncanny, but each time we were faced with a potential business-threatening challenge, a BELIEVER came to our rescue. A perfect example of that are Lynne and Tom Swartz, who bought the property from Mary Beth in 2021 and not only wanted us to remain operating on their property, but they've become two of our biggest supporters and BELIEVERS as well!

What's in store for the future?

2024 brings a change in leadership at The Barn. New Executive Director, Andrea Abernethy and new Board President, Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath are ready to smoothly transition into their roles and lead us forward. We're working hard to ensure a seamless "passing of the baton." The Barn will be in excellent hands!

In addition, while providing excellent programs in a caring way is always paramount, we continue to explore ways to serve more children as we review our ongoing strategic plan and analyze business prospects! Exciting possibilities ahead!



Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath
Incoming Board President



Barn Staff Members (pictured left to right):
Chris Guldin, Facilities Manager, Andrea Abernethy, Executive Director, Raichel Barzilay, Program Manager, Kelly Williams, Program Coordinator



Andrea Abernethy
Executive Director



2023 Board of Directors

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Heather (Drobish) Harrison

Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath

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How can you help?

What we do---pairing farm animals with children with disabilities in a beautiful farm setting---is expensive. But, we know it's worth every penny to provide these children with this priceless opportunity.

We hope you'll consider a generous donation to help us continue to serve. There are several ways to do this.

If you'd like to write a check, please make it payable to The Barn at Spring Brook Farm and send it to our address below.



You can make an online donation by visiting our  Givebuttr Year End Giving Campaign donation page or scan the QR code to the left!

2023 Advisory Board

Franny Abbott

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Page Buck

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Joseph Schorn

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We thank you for continuing to be a BELIEVER.

Sharon Cichocki
Outgoing Board President (below, left)

Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath
Incoming Board President (below, right)



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The official registration and financial information of The Barn at Spring Brook Farm, Inc., may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800)732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.