



September 11, 2013

XYZ Funder:

Recent headlines post that we are losing an average of **23** veterans per day to suicide. That is nearly one warrior lost every hour! The PTSD rates for the Iraq and Afghanistan has been influenced by many different factors. Something we have learned is that for many combat veterans the last thing they want to do is "talk about it", which might be one reason EAP (equine assisted psychotherapy) is proving to be such a successful form of therapy. Horses don't ask us to talk, yet their size and power can illicit profound reactions and insights simply by interacting with them on the ground.

Our EAGALA certified program, **Spring Reins of LIFE** was founded in 2011 to offer EAP services in the Central NJ area primarily to inpatient veterans at Lyons VA Medical Center, as well as outpatient veterans residing in Hunterdon, Somerset, Warren and Morris Counties. We have been privileged to be able to provide services to our military to the **Lyons VA Hospital PTSD Ward** since July of 2012 and the results we have seen are quite successful.

"I have had the opportunity to chaperone/witness several inpatient groups coming out to Spring Reins of Life for their first initial visit with the therapy horses. I have seen positive changes in their demeanor, behavior and continued references back to the experience afterwards. Several of the hospitalized PTSD combat veterans have requested and expressed interest in being able to return to the farm for continuing EAP therapy sessions as ongoing outpatient services. Additional funding support is needed for Spring Reins of Life to offer this service, and it is my belief that it would be highly beneficial for those service members who are drawn to this mode of healing and therapy." Rodney O. Smith, Recreational Therapist, VA NJ Health Care System

But we need your assistance. We are seeking funding through veteran groups, foundations and government sources to continue to provide programming to the VA hospitalized population. Many of those who start in our program as an in-patient seek to continue the therapy on an out-patient basis, but we do not have the funding at this time to provide such service. We have a growing waiting list developed from veterans who are asking to come to Spring Reins of Life and seek solace from the horses. We are reaching out to you for help because therapy with horses works!

Enclosed you will find a brochure describing our program. At your request, we can submit a more detailed outline of costs and benefits. We would also welcome a meeting to answer any questions that you have. SRoL and the veterans at Lyons hope we can count on your support! Please contact us at info@springreinsoflife.org or visit our website at www.springreinsoflife.org for more information about our work and/or how to donate!

Best regards,

Louis Parisi

Louis Parisi, Chairman
Spring Reins of Life
www.springreinsoflife.org



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WE WANT TO HELP!!!

Enclosed please find our donation of \$ _____ to be used toward providing EAP services to military veterans suffering from PTSD.

This contribution is donated in honor/memory of

Name and Address _____

Spring Reins of Life is a 501c3 organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Mail to: Spring Reins of Life, PO Box 5311, Clinton, New Jersey 08809-0311

*“I was fortunate to be invited to witness what occurs at the **Spring Reins of Life** EAP therapy sessions for PTSD veterans. I am a marine veteran myself and really did not know what to expect, after the 1st session I was hooked and committed myself to helping out anyway I could. Now I am a member of SROL’s Military Veterans Advisory Board. There needs to be a new approach to help our veterans heal from PTSD and TBI and I firmly believe that the work being done at Spring Reins of Life is a vital component in a multi-pronged approach...that works!”*

~ Jeffrey Vollmar, USMC / Advisory Board Member, Spring Reins of Life (501c3)