

Since 2000

SISU CHILDREN'S FUND

SUMMER 2023



The Sisú Children's fund was started by Barbara and Frank Sanchez in 2000. Their daughter, Jolene, rode at the center where she was able to enjoy riding, friendship and horses throughout her illness. Sisú Children's fund has been proudly supporting riders at the NorthWest Therapeutic Riding Center for over 23 years.

NWTRC is celebrating 30 years of providing equine-assisted activities in Whatcom County to participants of all ages and abilities, increasing their sense of belonging, quality of life and allowing them to achieve their goals. NWTRC is located on a five-acre property just minutes from Bellingham.

Participants learn to use verbal and non-verbal communication skills; socialize with others and improve focus and attention. They have to problem solve and make quick decisions. Patience, self-control, understanding and compassion are increased. The rhythmic movement of riding a horse helps almost all systems of the body. The respiratory and cardiovascular systems all fall into rhythm with the beat of a horse's walk or trot. Riding increases balance, coordination and self-confidence.



In addition to providing adaptive riding and horsemanship, the riding center is the first farm in Whatcom County to receive Whatcom Conservation District Sound Horsekeeping Award! The Sound Horsekeeping program recognizes horse owners in Whatcom County who have taken actions to improve pastures, reduce mud, manage manure and provide wildlife habitat on the property. Participation at the NWTRC incorporates caring for the horses, each other and the earth.

• PATH Intl. Region 9 •
2019 Credentialed Professional
of the Year

<https://www.nwtrc.org/> For more information about NWTR



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 SISU SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!



KYANN ARENDSE: At eight years old Kyann was diagnosed with hereditary spherocytosis and in her freshman year she was also diagnosed with Crohn's Disease. If you are not familiar with Crohn's, it strikes whenever without notice and is a debilitating disease to deal with. One day you are fine and the next you are not functional or in the hospital. This did not stop Kyann from taking honors classes in English, Geography, Physics, History and Chemistry maintaining a 3.995 GPA at Sedro- Wooley High School. She is a volunteer at the Fire Department where she learned firefighting techniques, first aid and CPR. Kyann will be attending the University of Washington.

TREVOR GLASSMAN: Trevor graduated from Arlington High School with a 3.891 GPA in AP classes in Geography, Algebra, History, Government and Calculus. He was born with a congenital heart defect and has had many surgeries; the latest open-heart surgery was May 2022. His care and treatment have inspired him to become a heart doctor or surgeon so he can help others as he will understand what they are going through. Throughout medical treatment with outstanding grades in school, he tutored elementary students, volunteered at the Arlington Food Bank, organized a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, ushered at the Red Curtain and just happened to also work at Outback Steak House to earn money for his education.



LILO MASON-ZOLLFRANK: Lilo attended Squalicum High School and Whatcom Community College studying Spanish, German and sign language; along with math, English and history classes, all with a GPA of 3.990. Lilo has had tremendous health challenges for much of her life and her parents are both having health challenges. Covid proved a huge challenge for her and her family but Lilo managed to cobble together classes. She loves English and creative writing but has a passion for drums. Lilo plans on continuing at Whatcom Community College and then transferring to Western Washington University.



JONATHAN OBRIEN: Jonathan attends Ferndale High School and plans on continuing his education at Whatcom Community Collage which qualifies him for a \$1,000 scholarship from Sisu Children's Fund. Jonathan has always had challenges throughout his life, but he has persevered to graduate with a GPA of 3.654. This included classes in Fundamental Engineering, US and World History and Symphony orchestra.

ELLA SCIKLESTEEL: Ella received a \$1,000 scholarship when graduating from high school. She is attending Grand Canyon University in Phoenix Arizona. Her health history is a heart condition and Auditory Processing Disorder. Her heart condition was discovered in her freshman year in high school when she had problems during track and fainted while doing a treadmill test. Her saying is: " No matter how hard life gets, keep going in life." She has had a successful first year of college and if a student reapplies for scholarship funds, we honor their request. Our goal is to help them succeed in life when they have been dealing with difficult situations.

AVA WESSON: Ava is an amazing student. Her motivation comes from having a brain tumor removed at 14, which helped her to determine her dream in the medical field. Not only has Ava graduated from Sedro Woolley High School with a GPA of 3.852, she also was a student in the Applied Medical Sciences Program at the Northwest Career & Technical Academy in 2021/2022 school year where she was awarded the "Highly Sought-After Candidate" certificate. She is this year's ASB President, National Honor Society member, participated in multiple sports and found time to work for a local small business. Ava will go to Bellevue Community College and received a \$1,000 scholarship from Sisu Children's Fund.



DONATIONS

Lynda & Robert Brillowsky	Linda & Tom Callender	Terry Carten
E. Coan	Rebecca & Michael Cole	Betty Cribbs
Judy & John Dewing	Kristie & Dick Duppenenthaler	Maya Hartford
Carol & Bill Henshaw	Kyra Herzberger	Mary Ann & Larry Johnson
Charles Kleeberg	Kathryn & Wayne Langie	John Lehni
Kelli Mann	Elizabeth O'Brien	Diann & Kunie Ojikutu
Mary & Ted Olson	Suzanne & Joel Rautiola	Lucinda & Constantine Rigas
Martha Russell	Barbara & Frank Sanchez	Claudia & Peter Sanchez
Jan & Jeff Sanchez	Susan Sanchez & Loren McPhillips	Karen & Tom Stuen

THANK YOU TO BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT US

Bayside Engineering	GDI Enterprises	Saturna Capital
---------------------	-----------------	-----------------

INVESTMENT DIVIDENDS

Vanguard Health Care	Vanguard Wellington
----------------------	---------------------

SPECIAL REMEMBRANCES

IN HONOR OF:

Terry Carten

Donor

Marion Foote

IN MEMORY OF:

Janet Adams

Travis Goodman

Grace Goodman

Lt. Gatlin Jerry Howell

Shirley Sanchez Sasser

Jolene Sanchez

Donor

Rowell Family Trust

Trudie & Fred Goodman

Connie & Gary Goodman

Shirley & Robert Schmid

Brenda Sanchez

Julia & Mike Bozzo; Connie & Gary Goodman

Trudie & Fred Goodman; Kelly Miles;

Sherry Miller; Stephanie & Paul Sadler

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT! THANK YOU!

You make a difference for children with medical problems or physical disabilities not covered by insurance.

**Sisu Children's Fund
8217 Chehalis Road
Blaine, WA 98230**

Celebrating 23 years

SISU BOARD MEMBERS

OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT: FRANK SANCHEZ
VICE PRESIDENT: RON EFFA
SECRETARY: SUSAN SANCHEZ
TREASURER: BARBARA SANCHEZ**

BOARD MEMBERS

**TERRY CARTEN
WILL CARTEN
KYANN FLINT
ELEANOR LONG
ELAINE MAKI
LOREN MCPHILLIPS
GLORIA RHOADES**

MEDICAL ADVISOR

FREDERIC T. BRAUN, M. D.

**WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS AND HAVE NO
EMPLOYEES**

**501(C)3 PUBLIC CHARITY
(360) 671-8766
EMAIL: SISUCHILDRENSFUND@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: SISUCHILDRENSFUND.ORG**

Important Date to Remember

Thursday, Aug. 17, 2023 Board Meeting

**Any applications for funding needs to be sent
prior to the above date for consideration**