

## Agency Quarterly Report Cover Sheet

**Agency:** Gateway Family Services of Illinois

**Program:** Trauma Focused-Equine Assisted Psychotherapy

**Quarterly Report Date Range:** April 2022 – May 2022

**Report Due Date:** July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Agency Quarterly Meeting:** July 19, 2022– 9:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Gateway Family Services - 7757 US Hwy 136, Potomac, IL 61865  
(Tennis Shoes or Boots recommended)

Agency Outputs: (As detailed on 2021-2022 Application)

\*Reduce the SASS calls and psychiatric hospitalizations from multiple calls a month to no calls for those receiving services.

\*Reduce the frequency of school discipline actions, including suspensions and expulsions, from multiple disciplinary actions within a school year to 1 incident or less per client.

\*Increase the overall well-being of the individuals and families we serve as evidenced by self-reports, a reduction in anxiety symptoms per the BECK Anxiety Inventory, and a reduction in depressive symptoms per the BURNS Depression Inventory

\*Improve academic performance and behaviors for the individuals we serve as evidenced by school and parent reports.

How many lives have been impacted over the last quarter?

Our agency was able to impact over 175 lives through the weekly trauma focused-equine assisted psychotherapy services. This has been done through individual and family sessions.

Please break down demographics of lives impacted. If not available, how are you going to work towards gathering this information?

	None	1%-24%	25%-49%	50%-74%	75%-99%	100%
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American Indian or Alaskan Native	X					
Asian or Hispanic		X				
Black, African American		X				
Pacific Islander or Hawaiian	x					
White or Caucasian			X			

	None	<25%	<50%	<75%	<100%
Poverty Household (<\$25,750)			X		
ALICE Household (\$25,750-\$40,000)		X			
Above ALICE Household (>\$40,000)		X			

Are you on track to hit your output goals as listed above? If not, what is preventing you from reaching those output goals?

We are currently working to reach our goals and are on track with our goals at this time. However, we are currently struggling to reduce the number of SASS calls and psychiatric hospitalizations. During this past quarter, our agency has begun providing services to some new families and we have not been able to implement a crisis stabilization plan in order to prevent a psychiatric hospitalization. While we are hopeful to reduce the SASS calls and hospitalizations, we also recognize that when we begin serving new families we experience a higher amount of crisis calls.

Please provide one (or more) inspiring story over the last quarter. This could be about your organization or a special impact story. Please include any pictures/graphics you feel necessary with your report.

A young client has been attending services for a little while due to an Autism diagnosis. Client is non-verbal and recently had begun showing an increase in depressive symptoms and was withdrawing from his family. He is currently struggling to learn sign language and often gets frustrated when he cannot communicate his needs. He does know some sign here and there to get through his day. He will often make grunts and noises to make a request, but he often shows very little emotions—positive or negative.

After a little work, this client was able to begin riding his horse, Rainbow. As the client road around on Rainbow, the clinician and client began to sign the words, "Riding around on my horse named Rainbow, riding and around on my horse named, Rainbow, riding around on my horse named Rainbow, here we go for a ride, YEEHAW!" And after a few laps around the arena and signing together, our client was able to yell "YEEHAW!" with clinician with the biggest smile on his face. This small glimpse of laughter, of joy and connection brought hope to a young kid who is struggling to connect and communicate with his world. The following week, the family arrived with their child and reported that he had been signing "Rainbow" all week and was so excited to get to come and ride. This young kid who often struggles to remember he needs to get his saddle, helmet and bucket to go ride, was able to get out of his car, go to the tack room to get his supplies and get right on his horse, Rainbow. As he got on to ride again, his smile lit up and he signed "walk please" and then began to sign his song and shout "YEEHAW!"

These moments of beautiful connection would not be possible if it were not for our equine partners. Through our rhythmic patterned, repetitive movement we are able to assist in regulating and organizing this young client's brain and he is able to access the relationship part of his brain to provide a beautiful connection. We are able to help access the speech and language part of his brain that is often difficult to access because his brain becomes overwhelmed so easily. This young client was able to express himself as he shouted "YEHAW" at the right time and was able to communicate the joy in his heart. Joy that we believe comes from genuine connection.

Please use this sheet as your cover letter for any supporting documents.