



# THE BARN AT SPRING BROOK FARM

December 4, 2024

## Dear Barn Family,

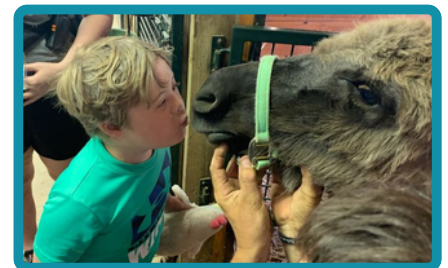
It is the time of year when The Barn at Spring Brook Farm asks our community to open their hearts and embrace the spirit of giving in support of The Barn's very important mission. The donations we receive through our annual appeal and other fundraising events are invaluable as these funds are used to support programming and provide scholarships to families who could not otherwise afford our barn experiences. We know you get a lot of requests for donations throughout the year, but we hope that by sharing what we do and the joy our families' experience during their time at The Barn, you will want to be a part of this very special place! Your generosity will truly change lives.

## What do we do?

Most of you already know our mission--to provide animal-assisted and nature-based programs for children with disabilities. Many of the children we serve don't have access to typical after-school programs or summer camps. We have created programming that focuses on every child as an individual and we tailor activities to fit their unique needs and desires. We measure success in many different ways, but our goal for these special children is to have FUN, laugh, smile and enjoy their time with our animals and in nature. Our programs help children excel in ways they never imagined by empowering them to grow and experience new things in a safe and nurturing environment. It is our hope that the whole family benefits from The Barn experience and that our children gain skills, physical benefits and joy for years to come.



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 make a great team and are passionate about serving the children in our barn community.

[www.springbrook-farm.org/annual-appeal](http://www.springbrook-farm.org/annual-appeal)

# The Barn is a place where children can just be children!



Nancy, Pot Bellied Pig, & Barn President

The Barn at Spring Brook Farm began as the dream of Mary Beth Drobish in 2004 when she felt called to combine her passion for farm animals with her love for children. Mary Beth believed in her heartfelt project with a level of faith and persistence most of us can only imagine. The Barn has always been a place of peace and life enrichment for children with disabilities and their families.

For 20 years, The Barn has endured many challenges and setbacks, but hope, endurance and resiliency are qualities on which we pride ourselves. These characteristics are also found in children we serve as they find strength to overcome obstacles each and every day. The Barn was designed to provide children with a handicapped-accessible facility so those who might otherwise not be able to enjoy farm experiences and animal care would be able to do so. The goal of our programs is to promote confidence, improve self-esteem, and support leadership qualities in children with disabilities. The response of the children who have participated up to this point has been overwhelmingly positive. The Barn offers unique experiences that bring out amazing change in the children who spend time here.



In memory of Dreamer

It is our farm animals that make The Barn such special place for our children and families. The bonds they forge with our animals provide social, emotional and physical benefits. So it is heartbreaking when we have to say goodbye to one of furry friends. On July 19th, our beloved Dreamer left this world. Dreamer's name said it all! She knew her job and executed it every day with patience and grace. Her kind heart and spirit will forever be remembered. We thank Dreamer for all she gave to The Barn...she is truly missed.

## What's in store for the future?

2025 holds exciting times for our barn families! We hope to bring new experiences as we explore fun and innovative programs that focus on our animals, nature and safe sensory exploration. Through animal interactions, daily play and sensory activities, the children improve their social attention, behavior, and interpersonal interactions.

We continue to provide excellent programs in a caring environment and explore ways to serve more children. By continually assessing and updating our strategic plan and reaching out to community partners, we know the possibilities for serving children with disabilities are without bounds!

Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath  
Incoming Board President



Our amazing Camp Staff



Some of our Volunteers  
We couldn't be here without you!




## 2024 Board of Directors

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## How can you help?

Running a 17.5 acre farm with 19 animals of varying sizes and appetites can be expensive! We hope you find it in your heart to support this very special place so we can continue our mission. Your generous donation will really make a difference in the lives of the children we serve and the animals are ever grateful too!

You can make a donation is several ways. 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  **Givebutter** Year End Giving Campaign donation page or scan the QR code and it will take you to our donation campaign.



## 2024 Advisory Board

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We thank you for supporting the smiling faces and families we serve!

Erica Kilpatrick-Galbreath  
Board President



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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.