

***The Deaconess Community of the ELCA
supports Glade Run's
Therapeutic Animal Program***



Compelled by the love of Christ and sustained by community, we devote our lives to proclaiming the Gospel through ministries of mercy and servant leadership.

Glade Run extends our heartfelt appreciation to the Mission Support Committee and the Board of Directors of the Deaconess Community of the ELCA for the generous grant in the amount of \$30,000 to support the Therapeutic Animal Program. This program offers much needed and valuable programming to children suffering from moderate to severe emotional disturbances.

The primary goal of the Therapeutic Animal Program is to assist the troubled youth at Glade Run reach their treatment goals through experiences in horsemanship and animal care. The program provides purposeful, constructive activity that improves the physical and mental health of all participants. Animals are nonjudgmental and unbiased listeners which helps troubled children sort out their emotions. Giving an individual a horse to care for and ride enhances his or her ability to assume responsibility as well as improving a sense of self worth. The program helps at-risk children understand the need to nurture loving creatures.

Sister Mildred, an ELCA Deaconess and Assistant Director of Religious Services at Glade Run, often works with children by taking them to the barn because she believes that the animals calm the children and convey a sense that all creatures are of God and as children of God we are stewards of His creations.