



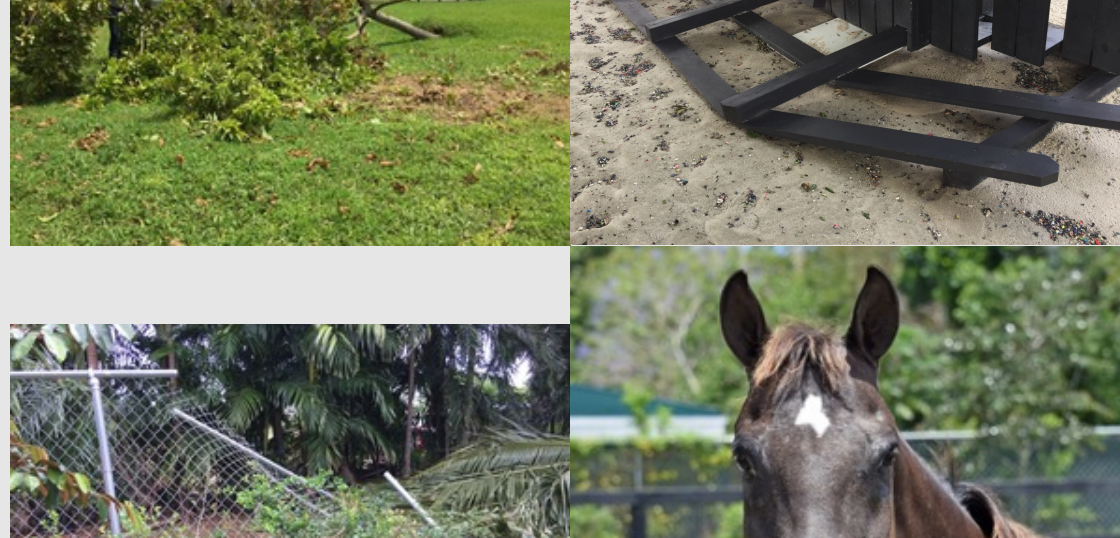
## Back In The Saddle

Thank you to everyone who reached out to us before and after the storm! We hope that all of our family and friends, and yours as well, have managed to stay safe during this very active hurricane season.

Sometimes it's hard to get back into a routine after summer vacation. This year it was really hard. The staff, horses, volunteers, and riders were just starting to ride again when everything changed and Hurricane Irma came to Florida. The good news is, the horses, barn, arena, and paddocks did not sustain any significant damage. The bad news is that like many others, we lost power, trees, perimeter fences (both wood and chain link), the metal cover for the shavings storage area, and we sustained significant damage to the lift system that we use to transfer wheel-chair assisted riders to the horses.

There is still much repair work to do and so any referrals or recommendations to get the fences up, fix the gate, and clean up the remaining tree stumps.

Any and all suggestions are welcome and greatly appreciated!



## Best Buy's Day Of Service

How do you get a lot of hard farm work done in a very short amount of time? Join up with BreakADifference and employees from Best Buy and Microsoft for a day of service. On August 29, 42 Best Buy and Microsoft employees volunteered their time to replace 24 fence posts in the horse paddocks, remove more than 30 overgrown bushes in and around the paddocks, and repaint the tack room, and they did it in less than 4 hours!

Thank you to Matthew from BreakADifference and Davian from Best Buy for organizing this huge undertaking.



## Water Water Everywhere

For those of you who have helped with caring for the program horses, you know about the ongoing battle to continually refill water buckets so the horses' water supply is fresh, clean, and not too warm in the Miami heat. Now we can all celebrate that Whispering Manes has received a grant from **Equus Foundation** that will allow us to install automatic waterers in the horse paddocks. Fresh water on demand will be coming to every paddock! The grant also includes funds to install hay mangers so that the horses won't eat off the ground anymore.

Thank you to Equus Foundation for helping us create a healthier environment for our herd!



## In The Spotlight - Alex Revas Scott



Consuelo Alexandra Revis Scott, Alex to her friends and family, contacted our program in February. Alex had received a diagnosis of Fibromyalgia and Sjorgen's Syndrome (and several other diagnoses) in 2012 which greatly changed her life. At a glance Alex looks healthy, but she experiences debilitating fatigue and pain.

Sometimes she needs to use a wheelchair just to go a short distance. One day a friend invited her to come out and see her horse. At that point Alex realized that just being around the horses was therapeutic. Alex then looked for a program that would help her learn about horses, and eventually maybe even ride.

"After much loss due to chronic illness/pain, being around horses offered the opportunity for my world to grow again in a meaningful way," Alex said. "It is a therapeutic experience in so many ways, from the quiet sound of birds and smell of hay when I step out of my car, to the therapeutic interaction with horses, the physically rehabilitative aspect of riding, and the motivation to leave the house to learn about something I never would have previously dreamed of."

Alex has achieved her dream to be able to ride, and while she's still taking it slowly, she is happy with her progress.

## Have You Heard?

Whispering Manes has been rated a top nonprofit by Great Nonprofits for the fifth year in a row! This award is based on what the participants, parents, caregivers, and volunteers have to say about Whispering Manes and the program we offer.

If you want to read more about what people think of Whispering Manes, visit our page at <https://greatnonprofits.org/organizations/view/whispering-manes-therapeutic-riding-center>



## Upcoming Events

**Coffee With The Horses, Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 9:30-11:30 AM-** Join us for a casual morning at the barn to discuss and explore the importance and value of the human-animal bond. This event is part of The Miami Foundation's My Miami Story initiative to network and bring community members together. There is no charge to attend, but you need to register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/my-miami-story-with-the-horses-tickets-37540525723>.

Space is limited, but we'd love to see you there!

**Give Miami Day, Thursday November 16, 2017-** It's that time of year again when we ask for your support during the 24 hours of online giving hosted by The Miami Foundation. This is your opportunity to support Whispering Manes and have a portion of your donation matched by The Miami Foundation.

This year your gift will be even more meaningful as we strive to recover from Hurricane Irma.

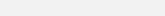
You're invited to join us on **Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 5-9 PM** at



To purchase tickets, go to

<https://www.whisperingmanes.org/bluejeansandboots2018/>

For more information about ticket sales or sponsorships please contact Sharon Fallick at 305-596-4204.



Calling all volunteers!  
Are you, or do you know anyone who is interested volunteering in classes or around the barn? Be a friend, share our contact information!

Tel: 305-596-4204

Web: [www.whisperingmanes.org](http://www.whisperingmanes.org)  
Email: [info@whisperingmanes.org](mailto:info@whisperingmanes.org)

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