

Get in the Game

I've been a proud NRHA Professional for 15 years, and I have learned a lot in my career inside and outside of the arena. One example is my belief in the Reining Horse Foundation and all it means for our community.

I'll admit I wasn't always knowledgeable about RHF and what it does. My introduction came through Mark Blake and Tim Anderson, who were serving on the RHF board of directors. Several years ago, they reached out to NRHA Professional Patrick Flaherty and me when we were serving on the NRHA Professionals Committee. They were determined to share how RHF was impacting NRHA Professionals through the RHF Dale Wilkinson Memorial Crisis Fund and get professionals engaged to generate more support for the fund.

I'm pleased that the NRHA Professionals Committee responded. Since 2020, NRHA Professionals have had the option to conveniently make gifts to the Crisis Fund when purchasing or renewing their NRHA membership. About 20 percent of our 1,600 trainers do so. While that's appreciated, I want to encourage more of you to get behind RHF.

This \$20, or an amount of your choosing, goes to the Crisis Fund to help reiners facing major hardships affecting health and home. It's no surprise that as professionals have given back more, fund grants have increased. With more resources, RHF can do more — and they are.

All classes of NRHA members support RHF with their gifts, from

youth on up. Yet, year-over-year, 80 percent of the Crisis Fund grants go to help families with at least one NRHA Professional in the household. See why it makes sense to help bridge the gap for our own when hardships strike?

The Crisis Fund is just one of RHF's core programs. RHF also provides opportunities to youth reiners and has a growing scholarship program. I thank the trainers who give their time to the NRHyA Buy-A-Pro Auction. This is a program that provides important funding for reining youth while growing the sport.

The RHF Board thinks strategically about those who might serve as volunteer leaders, and I anticipate there will always be an NRHA Professional on the board. The gift of your time and expertise is another way to get involved. As trainers in our thriving sport, we have a responsibility to give back. Hit me up if you want to visit about what might be possible through your involvement with RHF.



Billy Williams
RHF Board Member

To donate, visit reiningfoundation.com or contact RHF at 405-946-7400, ext. 106, or rhf@nrha.com.

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