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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Exceptional Equestrians receives Women's Fund grant for Girls Rule**

**DE PERE, Wis., June 26, 2017** — Exceptional Equestrians announced that it has received a \$6,549 grant for its Girls Rule program from the Women's Fund of Greater Green Bay of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. Girls Rule builds self esteem and leadership skills using horses for a unique experience in which girls to learn about themselves and others.

"Girls Rule utilizes horses to teach the practical importance of communication skills, body awareness, body language, teamwork, and problem solving," said Exceptional Equestrians director of marketing and development Nancy Williquette. "It is an experiential learning process. Two reasons that horses make a big impact are that horses provide a big motivation for the girls to engage in learning, and such a memorable experience helps girls remember what they learned."

The Women's Fund endowment provides grants to local nonprofit organizations that offer programs and services supporting leadership and self-esteem initiatives for women and girls. Funding for Girls Rule supports scholarships for girls in Brown, Oconto, and Kewaunee counties to participate. The four-week program is offered to all girls in grades 3 to 8. Schedules, registration, and scholarship applications are available at [exceptionalequestrians.org](http://exceptionalequestrians.org).

**About Exceptional Equestrians:** Founded in 1999, Exceptional Equestrians provides hippotherapy, therapeutic riding, and equine-assisted learning programs to children, teens, and adults from throughout Northeastern Wisconsin. The non-profit organization is one of the most comprehensive programs in the Midwest with year-round riding, licensed therapists, and certified riding instructors. Located in West De Pere, Exceptional Equestrians helps people age 2 and up with a wide spectrum of conditions such as cerebral palsy, paralysis, Down syndrome, brain injury, autism, sensory dysfunction, and neuromuscular disorders, serving 200 families annually. For more information about Exceptional Equestrians, visit [exceptionalequestrians.org](http://exceptionalequestrians.org) or call (920) 347-3174.

**About Greater Green Bay Community Foundation:** Established in 1991, the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization that manages more than 500 funds, and distributes grants to between 400 and 500 non-profits each year. Community Foundation grants provide funding for programs and services that improve the quality of life in Northeast Wisconsin, supporting human services, education, arts and culture, the environment, and more. The Community Foundation's mission is to inspire and encourage charitable giving in Northeast Wisconsin by connecting people who care with solutions that strengthen our community. For more information, please visit the Community Foundation Web site [www.ggbcf.org](http://www.ggbcf.org).

**Photo caption:** Girls Rule participants introduce themselves to horse Tia.

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WHERE HORSES HELP CHILDREN EXPERIENCE THE EXCEPTIONAL

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