



Santa Rick and the horses of Team Velvet are ready for holiday photos

## For Immediate Release:

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RARITAN TWP., N.J. — Team Velvet will hold a fall fundraiser on Nov. 9 to support its mission of providing nonmounted equine therapy for helping children overcome trauma.

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Journey's End horse farm located at 79 Old Clinton Road, Flemington, N.J., Rick Reilly a.k.a. Santa Rick of Hunterdon, and the therapy horses will be available for holiday photos. The rain date is Nov. 10.

Families will be have a special opportunity to have a family holiday photo taken with Santa and his Christmas horses for a minimum donation of \$10 per sitting. Lead therapy horse Velvet will be dressed as Santa, Precious the Haflinger mare will be dressed as Mrs. Claus and the miniature horse, Little Annie dressed as Elfkin. Visitors must bring their own camera.

Insurance regulations prevent smoking and pets on the farm.

Visitors may also pick up some early holiday gifts in exchange for tax-deductible donations as little as 50 cents and a maximum of \$50. Available items include vintage holiday gift baskets, Santa mugs, holiday center pieces and horse-themed baskets. Also offered is one exclusive porcelain head vintage boy doll dressed in a sailor suit with toy wagon, a garden angel basket, tea lovers' basket, florals, Christmas wreaths and small fun items.

Soft cover books by Team Velvet founder, Dr. Susan Edwards will also be available for a \$15 donation. They include:

*Children Are Treasures: A Self-Esteem Workbook for Kids 5-12.* [deals with life learning to strengthen resiliency and self-confidence]

*Santa Claus Visits Heaven:* A coloring book to help children understand love lives on [deals with death of a father]

*Tales of a Wonder Horse: The Birthday* [a small drawing/photo book about the lead horse Velvet who learns the most important thing about him is his loving heart] for ages 4 to 8.

A hardcover book *The Kids Who Saved the World* [a science fiction adventure for ages 10 to 13, about the power of love and children's heroes to change the world of adults] is available for a donation of \$20.

Check [www.facebook.com/team.velvet.inc/](http://www.facebook.com/team.velvet.inc/) for updates on vintage baskets and weather updates. See photos of available gifts at [https://www.facebook.com/pg/team.velvet.inc/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=958623417835215](https://www.facebook.com/pg/team.velvet.inc/photos/?tab=album&album_id=958623417835215)

See [www.teamvelvet.com](http://www.teamvelvet.com) or call 609-924-4330 for more information.

### **About Team Velvet:**

Each day there is a child who experiences the death of a loved one, is a witness to violence, is victimized by crime or intense bullying, is disfigured by an accident, or experiences countless other events — all resulting in severe childhood trauma.

If left unaddressed, in the extreme, child trauma may cause flashbacks, blackouts, and may result in severe damage.

Team Velvet, Inc. provides multi-modal horse therapy for traumatized children ages 5 to 12 years with psychologist Dr. Susan Edwards. Therapy horses may be involved in interactive games, kick a soccer ball, dance or be taught liberty performance. Children do not ride the horses; they interact while working toward goals of increased self-esteem and resiliency.

### **About Santa Rick**

Santa Rick, of Stockton, N.J. is a kindhearted Santa with a natural beard and a real twinkle in his eyes. He has been spreading Christmas cheer in Hunterdon County, New Jersey and surrounding areas since 2007. Santa Rick can be reached at 908-268-8597.