



Rotary

Club of Milwaukee

Rotary Club of Milwaukee, Inc.
750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, Suite 320
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

Rotarians Celebrate Opening of MKE Urban Stables on July 27th-- First facility in the nation to combine mounted police patrol, equine-assisted therapy and community engagement programs.

Milwaukee, WI. (July 23, 2021) – – The collective vision of civic, law enforcement, community development and human services leaders, and the fruition of six years of dedicated work -- MKE Urban Stables is a unique 30,000-sq.-ft. facility that will strengthen the community through service, care and healing.

MKE Urban Stables is an entirely new concept providing three distinctly different community advantages. The Stable will house 24 highly trained horses that will be used for equine-assisted therapy, community engagement and Milwaukee Police Department patrols.

Todd Bentley, President of the Rotary Club of Milwaukee, says that “The Rotary Club was thrilled to play an instrumental role in bringing this unique concept to Milwaukee. MKE Urban Stables will be an anchor institution in an evolving corner of the City while it will bring new services not now available. It is a great example of Rotary’s ability to Connect People and Resources for Common Good.”

Milwaukee Police Department. The Stables addresses several pressing needs of the MPD. Previously MPD houses its patrol horses in Racine County; having them at a centralized location reduces the transportation time to Milwaukee neighborhoods and stress on the horses.

The Stables allowed MPD to increase mounted patrol horses from 6 to 11, allowing MPD to manage two shifts. Daytime shifts focus on community interaction with evening officers providing crowd and patrol services—crowd management at the Deer District was a great example of the need for the Mounted Patrol.

Community Center. The relationship between police officers and community members is a subject of growing importance. Today the MPD does not have space with an approachable atmosphere for building relationships—a place where MPD can welcome visitors. MKE Urban Stables will be that space. The MPD will have full-time community outreach staff assigned to The Stable and anticipates hosting nearly 20,000 visitors annually.

Equine-Assisted Therapy. Although there are 850 programs nationwide, this is first in Milwaukee County. Therapy will be provided by Rawhide and will initially focus on people healing from trauma. A partnership with Zablocki VA will provide therapy to veterans who currently travel to Illinois for equine assisted therapy.





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Details for Photo Opportunities and Press Coverage:

Location: Located at 143 E. Lincoln Ave, the southeast corner of First Street & Lincoln Avenue on 4 acres donated by the City.

Doors Open: July 27, 2021 1:30 am to 1:30 pm .

What to Expect: Casual lunch provided by Saz's, tour of the facility and blue grass music provided by The Fog.

This event is **NOT** open to the public.

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The Rotary Club of Milwaukee has a long history of supporting worthwhile projects that benefit the entire community. Projects such as the Arboretum at the Urban Ecology Center – enjoyed by more than 100,000 visitors each year, and the Rotary Amphitheater at Discovery World – where nearly 20,000 people enjoy RCM's Live @The Lakefront each summer.

Members of The Rotary Club of Milwaukee are part of a worldwide network of over 1.2 million men and women who make a difference in the lives of people in their communities and around the world. Each Tuesday Milwaukee's business, professional and community leaders come together at the War Memorial Center for lunch to listen and learn about the key issues affecting our community--the largest weekly gathering in the metro Milwaukee area. For more information, visit www.milwaukeeerotary.com.

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