



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 2/11/2025

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File #: 25-235

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Supervisor Michelle Bushnell

**Agenda Section:** Initiated by Board Member

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Wild Souls Ranch Presentation for First Responder Program Funding

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive and file the presentation.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Core Services/Other

Strategic Plan Category: 9999 - Core Services/Other

**DISCUSSION:**

Wild Souls Ranch will present an update to the Board on what services they provide to at-risk youth in Humboldt County. They will also present information on their most recent project, known as the First Responder Pilot Program.

Wild Souls Ranch is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Fortuna, dedicated to providing therapeutic equine and family services to foster and adopted youth, as well as children and teens experiencing mental health challenges. Through their programs, Wild Souls Ranch offers a safe and supportive environment where young individuals can engage in equine-assisted learning, fostering personal growth, emotional healing and the development of healthy habits for a brighter future.

The First Responder Pilot Program at Wild Souls Ranch offers equine-assisted growth and learning sessions to emergency responders, as an alternative to traditional talk therapy, in order to create a safe place for healing from job-related post-traumatic stress disorder.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

General Fund

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

N/A

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**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

None

**ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Board discretion

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

**PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:**

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A