



MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



KRISTI HUDDLESTON

FOUNDER/ PRESIDENT

As the founder and president of Harmony Hope Stables, Kristi Huddleston's passion for her work with children in need and the children/youth she serves stems from personal experience with childhood trauma. Kristi herself grew up in a violent home with an alcoholic father; she gives credit to a great therapist, music, horses, and Jesus for helping in her personal healing process. Although it's taken a lifetime to recover from the aftermath of her abusive past, Kristi understands the suffering she endured as a victim would prepare her for today. She now stands strong as a survivor and has never been more certain that her entire life's purpose is to serve others in need.

Kristi conceived of the ranch – now known as Harmony Hope Stables – as a place of harmony, hope, and healing for children with autism, ADHD, victims of abuse, and children who suffer from disorders such as PTSD, depression and anxiety. As a licensed PATH [Professional Association of Therapeutic Horses] practitioner, and as a musician/songwriter, Kristi believed blending music and equine programming would be a powerful combination; this was the rationale for developing the Harmony and Horses program that is currently offered at the ranch. In addition, she was inspired to pen the lyrics to an upbeat tune, My Happy Place, which now serves as a theme song for Harmony Hope Stables and can be found on our website, along with her song 20/20 Vision.

Prior to developing Harmony Hope Stables in Martin County, FL, Kristi's 501 (c) 3 charitable organization operated as Music 4 Miracles (M4M) in Broward County, FL; as such, she organized and hosted four benefit concerts to raise awareness and funding for children with cancer. She developed Harmony Hope, a music education program where children received private music lessons in the comfort of their home, giving them a positive focus while they battled cancer. M4M created 'rock star' days where volunteers donated their musical talents at Joe DiMaggio Hospital to lift the spirits of children. Kristi partnered with other local child cancer organizations to help children in their programs and she even developed Team M4M to run for Kendra's Kisses annual 5k in support of child cancer in which her team earned medals two years in a row.

North Broward Preparatory School (NBPS) presented Music 4 Miracles their "Charity of Choice" award for the 2011-2012 school year. Kristi collaborated with their music department throughout the year on several fundraising projects; NBPS students performed at M4M's annual concert and donated needed musical instruments. She gained media coverage with the Sun-Sentinel for her efforts with NBPS as well as several other media outlets including a 6-minute segment which aired on a WLRN show titled "Miami's Art Street". [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xojTqxTDXv4&fbclid=IwAR38tmd6oRzdeSINnhLRPUSA2oR89G1M-REmYkDDlx_XV14LeKSansZ3hE4]

After battling infertility for 7 years, Kristi gave birth to twins – a girl and a boy – in 2006. She knew instilling music into her own children's lives could make an incredible impact for them, something they would carry with them forever. She understands that music is educational and offers multiple healing benefits. The twins began playing piano at age 6. During their elementary school years, Kristi served as the Vice President of the PTA at Hollywood Central Elementary and spearheaded development of a 32-station Yamaha keyboard lab where students to this day have the opportunity to learn piano.

[<https://hollywoodgazette.com/2014/11/19/hollywood-central-elementary-celebrates-opening-of-state-of-the-art-32-station-keyboard-music-lab/>]

Kristi is constantly fueled by such a passion and love for children that even during these challenging times of the pandemic she is self-motivated and determined. She has faith and trusts the Lord will guide her to the resources needed to help complete the vision where Harmony Hope Stables will be a beacon of light and place of hope and healing for so many children in need in Martin County.



SHAWN LOVE

VICE PRESIDENT /TREASURER



Shawn Burnside Love is a successful small businesswoman, owner of both Love Financial and Loves Processing, located in Martin County, FL. She has worked in the mortgage/finance industry for 21 years and has an outstanding reputation amongst her peers. Shawn has been involved in over 3200 real estate transactions in South Florida and is known for her problem-solving skills.

Her prior board experience includes Hollywood Central Elementary PTA President for 2 years, overseeing a \$115K annual budget and several events each month. Shawn greatly loves and respects music and the performing arts. She is married to a successful Broadway actor; together they have a pre-professional ballerina daughter. In her free time, Shawn enjoys studying homeopathic medicine, reading and kayaking.



SUSAN SABATINO

SECRETARY



Susan worked in an administrative capacity for 10 years prior to the birth of her son, Anthony, who was diagnosed with Autism as a child. Thereafter, Susan became a full-time stay-at-home mom and Anthony's caregiver and advocate for the next 22 years. She met Kristi Huddleston in April of 2018, while Anthony was doing an on-the-job-training program at a local horse rescue program. Thanks to Kristi and her programs at Harmony Hope Stables, Anthony has learned to play the piano and has developed a love of music and an affinity for horses.

Susan joined the board of Harmony Hope Stables in May of 2019 as its secretary, as a way to give back and also help other children in need learn the benefits of music and equine therapy. She is also responsible for publishing Harmony Hope's Quarterly Newsletter, helps to acquire Corporate Sponsors, and handles registration paperwork for its clients and volunteers. In addition, Susan is also in training to become a Mentor and Volunteer at the ranch.



WILLIAM HUDDLESTON

BOARD MEMBER



William (Bill) Huddleston is a member of the Board of Directors of Harmony Hope Stables, and is also the husband of Kristi Huddleston, it's founder and President. He shares the responsibility of raising 14-year- old twins with Kristi and loves the ability to be there for them as they navigate this world as teenagers.

At the age of 23, Bill began a career as a Firefighter/Paramedic for the City of Hollywood, Florida. Hired in 1988, he served in this capacity for nearly 31 years before retiring with the rank of Captain in June of 2019. During those years, Bill responded to every type of emergency imaginable and did so with professionalism. He always felt fortunate to be given the opportunity to serve his community.

For the final eight years of his career, Bill assumed the additional responsibility of representing his fellow Firefighters in labor relations matters as their Union President. In this capacity, he dealt with a plethora of issues, ranging from simple disciplinary matters to contract negotiations and including all manner of ancillary challenges/ issues. While working directly with the Mayor, City Manager, the Commissioners of the City of Hollywood and its Fire Administration, Bill was able to develop and maintain professional and respectful relationships with everyone. This work earned him two very prestigious awards: The "Presidents Award", by the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters in 2013; and "Labor Leader of the Year" in 2019, by the Florida Professional Firefighters; both were conferred by his peers for outstanding work done while representing the City of Hollywood Firefighters and their families.

Retired now from both of his previous positions, Bill feels extremely fortunate to carry out his calling to help others by doing his upmost to accommodate his wife, Kristi's dream, which has such a positive impact on Martin County children in need and their families. He maintains the entirety of our beautiful property at Harmony Hope Stables and takes care of the horses that reside there, considering it a blessing that he can help provide such a pastoral setting for all of our therapeutic programs.