

# 20 Reasons Why

In order to grow and thrive, Pony Club needs your support of  
The USPC Annual Fund.



1. **The annual fund is the foundation of Pony Club's funding.**
2. **Pony Club is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.** Your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts may also be made in honor of a special person or equine partner, or to commemorate a special event.
3. Participation numbers tell the story, showing the collective strength of our community: in 2019 100% of the USPC Board of Governors gave to the Annual Fund; 29% of clubs, 6% of our Riding Centers, and 60% of our Regions supported the Annual Fund.
4. More than 590 donors—including members and graduates, parents, friends, volunteers, sponsors, foundations, corporations—gave in 2019.
5. Teamwork makes the dream work. Riding is an individual sport, but team competition is a fun and important part of Pony Club's education and training—and a strong bonding element.
6. Pony Club teaches HORSEMANSHIP, not just riding.
7. **Setting the standards worldwide.** The tremendous value of the Pony Club experience and education is well recognized everywhere in the equestrian world.
8. **Pony Club is committed to providing the best education in riding and horse care.** Our standards and instruction continue to be instrumental in developing curriculum for schools, universities, equestrian professionals and organizations across the United States.
9. **Benefits last a lifetime, beyond the barn.** The Pony Club program instills confidence and teaches valuable life skills in teamwork, leadership and more.
10. **Pony Club creates future business leaders for any industry.** Strong business skills are built through stable management: budgeting, record-keeping and interacting with professionals in the equine industry.
11. **Hug a Horse, Hug a Tree, Give to Pony Club.** Care and preservation of the open spaces over which we ride is one of the core values Pony Club teaches.

12. **Pony Club is a leader in safety.** In addition to teaching safe horse handling skills, Pony Club was instrumental in developing the current standards for protective headgear and remains committed to safety for both horse and rider.
13. Gifts to the annual fund help bridge the gap between national dues and the actual costs to provide programs and services—**more than \$200 per member.**
14. The USPC Annual Fund helps keep dues increases to a minimum so that participation remains accessible to more members and families.
15. Your gifts provide members with transformational opportunities to learn, to lead, to succeed and to give back.
16. Every gift, regardless of size, gives current and future members the opportunity to excel and be part of a team.
17. **Give for the Greater Good.** The 2019 unrestricted Annual Fund goal is \$247,600. This money will be used to support all areas of the organization, touching the greatest number of members.
18. The Pony Club Annual Fund supports the operational budget of USPC—more than **\$2.5 million dollars** in 2019.
19. **If every participating member gave just \$32.31 we would meet our goal.\***
20. **Supporting an impressive legacy.** Since 1954, more than 150,000 equestrians have gotten their start through Pony Club. Gifts to the Annual Fund not only fill the gap between dues and services—they allow us to expand and enhance current programs and opportunities and build for the future.

*WHAT IS YOUR WHY? Tell us WHY you give to the Annual Fund.*

\*based on 2019 participating membership numbers.