







Trooper and 1SG (Retired) Mark Hansen, U.S. Army, Iraq/Afghanistan

The BLM and EquiCenter, located in western New York, partnered to develop a national model called *Mission Mustang™*. This program's purpose is to document the process of gentling and training wild horses and burros for eventual placement into loving homes, including integration into other therapeutic equestrian programs designed to improve the health and well-being of veterans suffering from PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injuries, and other physical and mental wounds. EquiCenter initially purchased six wild horses and partnered them with ten veterans and two nationally acclaimed professional wild horse and burro trainers to document their individual outcomes. The veterans realized profound changes through *Mission Mustang™*, including a decrease in hyper-vigilance and stress, increased trust, and a renewed sense of purpose, while the wild horses progressed at their own pace, becoming the veterans' trusted partners and equine celebrities with other EquiCenter participants.

There is a wild horse or burro waiting for you!



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