



Minnesota Programs for Riders with Disabilities

April 2017

NOTE:

This listing does not indicate approval or recommendation of any program by the Minnesota Horse Council. These are self-reports from the programs. Be sure you research a program that you are interested in. The PATH Intl. programs are usually non-profit.

PATH Intl. (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, formerly NARHA) has a national certification of programs & instructors for riders with physical disabilities & mental health/developmental issues.

EAGALA: (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association). National certification of programs & instructors for riders who have mental health/developmental issues (ground work only).

Unless it is stated that a program has an indoor arena, assume that it has only an outdoor arena.

PATH Intl. (Formerly NARHA) Affiliated Programs:

COURAGE KENNY RIDERS:

Liz Flynn (651-241-3342). Affiliated with Courage Kenny Rehab Institute. Lessons offered to children (age 5-18) who have physical and/or sensory integration disabilities. Located at Washington County Fairgrounds. Indoor arena. Lessons offered April-October. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Non-profit.

EQUUL ACCESS, INC.:

Marsha Anderson, 13769 Pheasant Rd, Hutchinson, MN, 55350 (320-234-7895). Email: info@equulaccess.org. Web: www.equulaccess.org. Equul Access offers equine-assisted activities for individuals with special needs in the McLeod County area. Sessions offered year around. Indoor arena. PATH Intl. Premier Accredited center and PATH Intl. certified instructors. Also offers mentoring and consultation on EAAT. Non-profit.

FREEDOM FARM:

Susie Bjorklund, 11500 Ferman Ave. SW, Waverly, MN, 55390 (952-955-2505). www.freedomfarmmn.org
Email: info@freedomfarmmn.org. Program serves children and adults who have physical, mental, and emotional challenges as well as veteran military service members. Healing with Horses program for female war veterans. Hope with Horses program for the disengaged high school student and at-risk teen. Year-round. Indoor arena. PATH Intl. Premier Accredited center & instructor. Non-profit.

HEALTH DIRECTED RIDING:

Rhonda Mostrom, PO Box 335, Grandy, MN, 55029 (612-247-9582) www.healthdirectedriding.org email: rkmostrom@hotmail.com. Program located in Cambridge, MN. Therapeutic horseback riding opportunities are offered to children and adults who have disabilities, while promoting physical, mental and emotional well-being. May-October. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Non-profit.

JACK PINE STABLES:

Kristine Oppegaard, 8875 Jack Pine Hills Trail, Walker, MN, 56484 (218-547-2720). Program serves children & adults who have physical & mental disabilities. Serves North Central Minn. Special Olympics training site. Jun-Oct. Indoor arena. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Non-profit.

MN VALLEY RIDING ACADEMY at LEE-MAR RANCH EQUINE CENTER:

Jerry Ims, PO Box 151, 5328 State Hwy 212 W, Granite Falls, MN 56241 (320-564-2310, 320-226-3349), www.lee-marranch.com, lmrec@mvtvwireless.com. Main focus is on equine assisted riding for individuals with physical, mental, or behavioral challenges. Two PATH Intl. certified instructors. Spring-fall. Indoor & outdoor arenas. Non-profit.

MAJESTIC HILLS RANCH FOUNDATION:

Kris Zieska, 24580 Dakota Ave., Lakeville, MN, 55044 (952-426-5688), kzieska@majestichillsranch.com
www.majestichillsranch.org. Serving children and young adults with special needs (4-25), as well as active military and veterans
in rehabilitation. PATH Intl. certified instructors. Spring-fall. Non-profit.

MIRACLE HORSE RIDERS, INC.:

Candy Esterberg, 19016 County 38, Long Prairie, MN, 56347, (320-766-2994), www.miraclehorseriders.com and
miraclehorseriders@hotmail.com. Miracle Horse Riders provides therapeutic riding lessons to children and adults who have
physical or mental disabilities. May-Nov. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Non-profit.

MOUNTED EAGLES:

Lynn Fairbanks, P.O. Box 566, Nisswa, MN 56468, (218-828-9920, 218-454-3228), www.mountedeagles.org and
info@mountedeagles.org. Facility located at Spirit Horse Center in Brainerd, MN. www.mountedeagles.org email:
info@mountedeagles.org. Lessons offered to children and adults with physical, emotional and/or mental disabilities. Focus on
self-esteem. Year-round. Indoor arena. PATH Intl. Premier Accredited center & certified instructors. Non-profit.

NORTH COUNTRY R.I.D.E. :

North Country R.I.D.E., Anne Deignan, PO Box 312, Esko, MN, 55733, (218-879-7608), www.northcountryride.org, email:
ncride@gmail.com. Email: ncride@gmail.com. Program serves Duluth and greater northeastern Minnesota and northwest
Wisconsin area. Riding sessions run from April through October in six-week segments. R.I.D.E.'s goal is to provide safe,
therapeutically sound, goal-oriented riding sessions through the cooperation of educators, instructors and volunteers. All
disabilities considered, with ages ranging from 4 to 82 years to date. Indoor arena. PATH Intl. certified instructors. Non-profit.

PROJECT ASTRIDE:

Greg Schlosser, P.O. Box 873, St. Joseph, MN, 56374 (320-250-9137) info@astride.org, email: projectastride@gmail.com.
Program serves the St. Cloud and central Minnesota area. Project ASTRIDE provides a community based recreational horseback
riding experience for children and adults with disabilities. Riding sessions run from April through October in eight-week
sessions. The program strives to meet the individual physical and social needs of its riders. Indoor/outdoor arena and trails.
PATH Intl. Premier accredited center & Advanced instructor and registered instructor. Non-profit.

RIDEABILITY:

Jeanie Michelizzi, P.O. Box 995, Pine Island, MN, 55963 (507-356-8154 or 507-271-8908) www.rideability.org, email:
promisedmeadows@gmail.com. Serves riders with physical, mental and emotional disabilities and their siblings. Family
centered approach. Goal is to integrate the riders with able-bodied riders. Apr-Oct. PATH Intl. Certified instructors. Indoor
arena. Non-profit.

RIVER VALLEY RIDERS:

Joan Berg, 8362 Tamarack Village, #119-440, Woodbury, MN, 55125 (651-439-2558) www.rivervalleyriders.org, email:
rjberg@centurytel.net. Enriching the lives of children and adults with special needs by providing equine assisted activities and
therapies. Offering therapeutic horseback riding and carriage driving lessons. 2 locations : Afton, Scandia. Apr – Oct. PATH
Intl. certified instructors. Non-profit.

SPECIAL RECREATIONAL SERVICES::

Michael Oldfield, 10590 90th Ave. SE, Lake Lillian, MN, 56253. (320-220-0940) Program serves children and adults who have
physical, mental, or emotional disabilities, as well as at-risk youth. Special Olympics training facility. Year round. Indoor
arena. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Non-profit.

STABLE PATHWAYS:

Patti Franz, PO. Box 480106, Minneapolis, MN 55448 (952-222-8106) www.stablepathways.org, office@stablepathways.org.
Groundwork, and horse assisted activities for children and adults living with physical and/or cognitive challenges. Private &
group lessons. Apr-Nov. Indoor arena. Site in Oak Grove. PATH Intl. certified instructors. Non-profit.

THIS OLD HORSE at Wishbone Ranch:

Nancy Turner, 19025 Coates Blvd, Hastings, MN 55033 (651-437-1889) www.thisoldhorse.org, info@thisoldhorse.org Lessons
available to children and adults who have physical, cognitive, or behavioral disabilities. Special Olympics training site. PATH-
certified instructors. Contact Wendy Gray for lesson information at wgray@thisoldhorse.org. Year round. Indoor arena. Non-
profit.

TRUE STRIDES:

Shari Mangas OTR, hippotherapy certified, 952-852-0126, sharim@truefriends.org, www.truestrides.org. True Strides is located at the Camp Courage site in Maple Lake. It offers hippotherapy & therapeutic horseback riding and horse activities to residential summer campers and individuals from the community all ages. Year-round. Indoor arena. Instructor is PATH International certified. Non-profit. Initial Consult free. Non-profit.

VICTORY RIDERS:

Shelly DeRosier, 21315 Territorial Rd, Rogers, MN, 55374 (612-805-6279) web: www.victory-riders.org, victoryriders@hotmail.com. Program offers lessons to people with physical and mental disabilities, as well as people with mental illness. PATH Intl. certified instructor. Apr-Nov. Heated indoor arena. Non-profit.

WE CAN RIDE, INC. :

Mary Mitten, P.O. Box 1102, Minnetonka, MN, 55345, (952-934-0057) www.wecanride.org, email: office@wecanride.org. Provides equine-assisted activities to persons of all ages with physical, cognitive, and emotional/behavioral disabilities or special needs. Lessons offered January through October; lessons offered days, evenings, and weekend afternoons. Sites at: Minnetonka (riding & hippotherapy), and Marine on St. Croix (riding), Indoor arena. PATH Intl. certified instructors & PATH Intl. Premier Accredited center. Non-profit.

Walk By Faith:

Kristen Schwartz, 34211 290th Street SW, Fisher, MN 56723, 218-280-3284, walkbyfaiththerapeuticriding@gmail.com, walkbyfaiththerapeuticriding.com. Lessons offered to youth 4 – 18 who have varying disabilities.

Windy Ridge Ranch:

Shelley Ellingson, 8526 Union Ridge Road, Hokah, MN 55941, 507-894-2210, info@touchmoments.org, www.touchmoments.org. Riding offered to people who have physical or cognitive disabilities May to October. Non-profit.

EAGALA Affiliated Programs:**Acres for Life Therapy & Wellness Center:**

Lynn Moore, LADC, Box 831, Lindstrom, MN 55045 (651-353-2860) www.acresforlife.org lmoore@acresforlife.org. Instructor is EAGALA Advanced certified & licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor working with adults & children who have experienced chemical dependency, mental health issues, fetal alcohol syndrome, ADHD, trauma, abuse, grief & loss. Services offered to school groups and summer camp. Site is in Forest Lake and Chisago. Covered arena. Year around. Non-profit.

Cross P Ranch:

Michele Pickel, 1225 W Rondeau Lk Dr, Forest Lake, MN 55025 (651-343-5016) Web: www.crosspranch.com pickel@csp.edu Instructor is a licensed teacher, reading specialist, college professor at Concordia University, St. Paul and is Advanced EAGALA-certified. Cross-P Ranch is the home of Horse Powered Reading. By combining EAGALA model Equine Assisted Learning activities with reading strategies, struggling readers engage their mind, body and emotions to learn reading skills. Horse Powered Reading addresses emotional and behavioral issues along with reading skills. Summer reading camps and literacy field trips as well as limited tutoring opportunities are offered. Site in Lino Lakes. Introduction to experiential and horse powered reading instruction available online.

Delta Equine Center:

Tammy (LICSW) and Doug Knick, 6620 60th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288, 507-276-4015, deltaequinecenter.org and deltaequinecentermn.org Lessons offered to all ages, team building also offered. EAGALA certified instructors. Year around. Indoor arena.

Eagle Vista Ranch:

Liz Letson, MS, CLPCC, Licensed Professional Counselor, 16150 Golden Eagle Court NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 (218-760-0656) www.eaglevistaranch.com eaglevistaranch@gmail.com. Facilitator has master's degree in counseling and is certified by EAGALA & OK Corral series. Population includes all ages including EBD & people at risk, individual & family group sessions, addiction, depression & anxiety, veterans & military families, specializing in trauma. Focused on strength-based activities. Access to indoor arena.

Family Attachment and Counseling Center of MN:

Melissa Nichols LMFT, Melissa@familyattachment.com, Joanne May LMFT PhD., Joanne@familyattachment.com www.familyattachment.com, 952-475-2818. Site is in western suburbs. May through November. All ages, specialty: children who have experienced trauma. EAGALA certified instructors.

Hillside HOPE Thru Hooves:

Angel Bateman, 15175 79th St. NE, Otsego, MN 55330, 763-238-7283, www.hillsidehopethruhooves.com, info@hillsidehopethruhooves.com. HHH provides alternative secondary support services and spiritual growth for those struggling with life's challenges through equine-assisted growth and learning. HHH offers equine assisted learning activities for individuals, groups, retreats and camp at our fun, enriching, insightful and empowering sessions. Children, teens and adults go there to find hope and healing from the harsh world. Indoor arena, Year-round. EAGALA certified instructor. Non-profit.

HOPE RANCH:

Kit Harries-Muellner, LICSW, 6005 Salem Rd SW, Rochester, MN, 55902 (507-281-3033) www.hoperanchteam.com, kit@hoperanchteam.com. Equine-assisted psychotherapy that addresses many mental health and human development needs through doing groundwork with horses. Indoor arena. Year round. Facilitator is Licensed Ind. Clinical Social Worker, EAGALA certified.

ON TRACK FOR LIFE:

Pat Wagner, (651-270-5611) pwagner@ontrackforlife.com. Equine assisted learning for teams & corporations to improve communication, problem solving, effectiveness, decision-making & leadership development. Local site in Independence, MN but she works all over the country. EAGALA certified.

RSI EQUINE ASSISTED PSYCHOTHERAPY:

Sandy Knoll, 320-393-4719, www.residentialservices.org. Equine assisted psychotherapy & equine assisted learning. Site in Brookton & Duluth area. Indoor arena. Year round. EAGALA certified staff.

TRUE BALANCE:

Dr. Leslie Russell-Martin (LMFT, PhD, LP), 16016 233rd St, Little Falls, MN, 56345, (218-831-1871) www.truebalancefarm.com email: info@truebalancefarm.com. Offers outpatient mental health services for children, individuals, couples, & families. EAGALA advanced certified staff. Indoor arena. Year-round.

STEPPING AHEAD:

Shannon Bruce, (763-479-9970) www.steppingahead.com shannon5bruce@frontier.net. Clients primarily have substance abuse issues. Sites at Leatherdale Center, U of MN St. Paul, and Metro area. EAGALA certified. Non-profit.

Other Programs:

BEHAVIOR SOLUTIONS PLUS P.A.:

Dr. Jean Johnson, Licensed Psychologist, 1301 Corporate Center Dr, Suite 116, Eagan, MN 55121 (651-402-6209). Works with people who experience anxiety, depression, trauma, ADHD, intellectual disabilities, persistent developmental disorder, and serious and persistent mental health issues. Site in Inver Grove Heights.

BUNKER PARK STABLES:

Kris Kelly, PO Box 10804, White Bear Lk, MN 55110 763-757-9445. kriskelly@kakelly01@aol.com. Site in Andover. Indoor arena Year round. A training site for Special Olympics & Special Olympics coaching certification.

CENTAUR Healing Center:

Sharon Davern, LP, LMFT, 2928 90th Ave SE, Eyota, MN 55934. (507-534-2668) sharondavern@ymail.com. Web: www.sharondaverntherapy.com Working with therapeutic groups for kids 8-12, women who have experienced domestic violence, PTSD (especially veterans). Also, team building and leadership training. Indoor arena. Site in Eyota (Rochester area).

CLOVERDALE FARM:

Sue Hancock or Kim Lundell, 45109 Brunswick Rd, Harris, MN 55032 (763-689-5335) cloverdalefarmmn@gmail.com. A training site for Special Olympics. Also offers 4-H program for kids with disabilities. All ages. Indoor arena. Non-profit.

FREE WINDS:

Lynn Richert, 28131 Clear Lake Rd, Richmond, MN, 56368 (320-597-3312) Program provides very individualized riding & EAGALA-type experiences for people who have been bullied, have developmental delay, autism, seizure disorder, All one-on-one. Ages 7+. May-Oct. Indoor arena. Non-profit. No cost.

HOLD YOUR HORSES:

Janet Weisberg, OTR, 5265 Woodland Trail, Greenfield, MN 55357 (763-498-0007) www.holdyourhorses.org, email: officemanager@holdyourhorses.org. Therapy practice provides individualized equine-assisted services to improve quality of life, specializing in OT, PT, and psychology. Staff are board certified hippotherapy clinical specialists. Mental health sessions in partnership with Cairns Psychological Services. For information about mental health services contact Molly DePrekel at 952-736-6478. Daily. Heated indoor arena, year-round. Non-profit.

HOPE RIDES:

Vollie Heitkamp, 12801 DoLittle Dr, Minnetonka, MN, 55305 (612-310-6350) www.hoperides.org, info@hoperides.org. . Two sites: Mayer & Stacy, MN (indoor arenas at both). Lessons offered to at risk kids, kids in foster care & shelters, terminally ill kids & kids who need mentoring. Interaction between horse and human to develop life skills. May-Dec. non-profit.

Making Strides, LLC:

Jill Beuch, 95 Country Trail West, Jordan, MN, 612-567-0802, makingstridesot@gmail.com, www.makingstridestherapy.com. Offers hippotherapy.

PJS RIDING AND MUSIC SERVICES:

Pat Jensen School of Horsemanship, located at Mill Creek Farm in Buffalo, MN (763-477-4764). PJS serves children and adults who have autism, developmental delay, physical disability, ADD, learning disabilities, visual and hearing impairments, as well as civic and recreational groups, day campers and other individuals and groups of all ages with varying disabilities and special problems. The PJS experience includes riding and music therapy designed to meet many different psychological and physical needs of riders. Primarily private lessons, but some group activities available. Vaulting is sometimes used as a therapeutic modality. Indoor arena.

REINBOWS, INC:

Damon Weinandt, 43341 480th Ave, Windom, MN 56101, 507-822-0526 www.RainbowsInc.org, rainbows@windomnet.com. Program works primarily with at-risk youth and seniors. Homework help and a reading program with emphasis on life skills, mentoring support services, and visits to nursing homes are offered. Emphasis on life skills. Indoor arena. Non-profit.

Second Chance Youth Ranch:

Robin Veatch Fitzgerald, 7202 181st Avenue, Ramsey, MN 55303, 763-226-4471, info@2ndchanceyouthranch.org. equestrianquest@yahoo.com. Equine assisted learning for at-risk youth focusing on communication, teamwork and leadership. Also offers workshops. Faith based. Non-profit.

SPECIAL HORSES FOR SPECIAL PEOPLE::

Kari Haslip, P.O. Box 7, Waseca, MN 56093 (507-835-2058) email: khaslip@live.com. A program sponsored by Achieving Dreams For Disabilities of Waseca County. Horseback riding experience and wagon rides for physically /developmentally disabled clients of all ages. Program is located at Waseca County Fairgrounds. June only. Non-profit.

SpiritDance Coaching:

Lynn Baskfield, (612-823-7022) www.equinecoaching.com. Equine experiences geared toward mid-life women, , retreats, workshops, and corporate clients. Also offers a yearlong course and workshops teaching people to teach these concepts. Various sites.

Sun Country and You:

Eleisha Owens, 23241 273rd Street SW, Crookston, MN 56716, 218-521-0056, Equine assisted group and one-on-one lessons for all disabilities. Indoor arena.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

PATH International, Inc., PO Box 33150, Denver, CO 80233 (1-800-369-7433). Website: www.pathintl.org

EAGALA (Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association), P.O. Box 993, Santaquin, UT 84655 (877-858-4600). www.eagala.org

Prepared by: Trina Joyce, Minnesota Horse Council, (612-729-7798), trinajoyce@MnHorseCouncil.org
Please contact Trina if you have updated information or know of any additional programs.