Turning Disabilities into Possibilities through the power of the horse.

Riding Unlimited is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Your donation is tax deductible. Without the generosity of supporters like you, the accomplishments of our riders would never be possible.

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ACCREDITATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

PATH Int’l
(Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship)
We are a Premier Accredited facility. That means we have a site visit every 5 years to demonstrate our adherence to the PATH safety standards and best business practices for the industry.

EQUUS
The EQUUS Foundation is the only national animal welfare charity in the United States 100% dedicated to safeguarding the comfort and dignity of America’s horses throughout their lives and sharing their magic and power with as many people as possible. Our mission is to protect America’s horses and strengthen the bond between horses and people. We have earned the designation of Guardian with EQUUS through documentation and transparency of our program policy on caring for our horses.

GuideStar
Gold level with Guide Star (GuideStar USA, Inc) an information service specializing in reporting on U.S. nonprofit companies.

CFC 65891
Call us at 940.479.2016 if you need more information.

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Jason has cerebral palsy, a seizure disorder, and is partially paralyzed on his right side. He took his first therapeutic riding lesson when he was 13 years old. He could not sit up and had no control over his lower extremities. As time went by, he began to gain control of his body and could actually sit on the horse unassisted. He took his first step when he was 15 years old and I believe horseback riding enabled his body to feel the motion of walking and it gave him the strength he needed to progress. Jason is now (30 years old) walks with some assistance, is able to walk short distances on his own, and it all began at Riding Unlimited.

Jason’s Mom

After a year in occupational and physical therapy, we enrolled our 4 year old in equine therapy in the hopes of assisting him with confidence, social emotional challenges, sensory input, and decreasing anxiety levels. We had high hopes ... I am pleased to say that equine therapy exceeded our expectations and within a few weeks, we saw huge improvements ... Initially, our son made significant improvements ... in fine motor activities. Even his occupational therapist noticed the difference! We saw our son, previously frightened of our hyperactive dog, begin to play with, care for, and love on her. We saw increase in regulation of sensory input and improved balance and coordination. ... Seeing the amount of confidence with which he approached riding and caring for PowerPlay in areas such as leading him through the arena is heartwarming to us... seeing the volunteers and employees of Riding Unlimited treat our sweet son as a person with skills, abilities, and worthy of respect rather than a person defined by his special needs has been such a valuable experience.

Thanks, a rider’s grateful mom
WHAT WE OFFER

Programs are offered for children and adults.
- Small class size
- Private lessons available.
- All instructors are PATH certified
- Services for Heroes
- Horse Shows
- Equestrian Special Olympics

All veterans, policemen, firemen and their families ride free as our thank you for their service.

EQUINE-ASSISTED ACTIVITIES AND THERAPIES

Equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) include, but are not limited to therapeutic riding, mounted or ground activities, grooming and shows. Equine-assisted therapies are treatments that incorporate equine activities and/or the equine environment. Rehabilitative goals are related to the participant’s needs and the medical professional’s standards of practice.

A physical, cognitive or emotional special need does not limit a person from interacting with horses. Research shows that individuals of all ages who participate in EAAT can experience physical and emotional rewards.

Riding a horse rhythmically moves the rider’s body in a manner similar to a human gait, so riders with physical needs often show improvement in flexibility, balance, muscle strength, circulation and breathing. The unique relationship formed with the horse provides such benefits as increased confidence, patience and self-esteem.

WHAT IS THERAPEUTIC RIDING?

Therapeutic riding, the most popular form of equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT), is mounted horseback riding for the purpose of contributing positively to cognitive, physical, emotional and social well-being of people with disabilities through the teaching of horsemanship skills.

Benefits include:
- Promoting strength
- Increasing flexibility
- Developing balance
- Improving coordination
- Helping breathing and circulation
- Boosting self-confidence
- Building self-esteem

Therapeutic riding is extremely effective. In addition to the physical benefits, it offers psychological benefits because riders feel a sense of achievement and control. Therapeutic riding requires both balance and muscular control and that often enhances or expedites recovery.

Dr. Walter Bobechko, Director of Columbia Advanced Surgical Institute Orthopedic Center of Dallas

Riding Unlimited’s mission since 1990 has been to help individuals with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities through the power of the horse.