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January 2011 NARHA 2011 National Conference Call for Papers Coming Soon

Denver—After an extremely successful National Conference in Denver, CO, in November, 2010, NARHA is excited to continue the tradition of excellent workshops and sessions offered at the conference. Approximately 6,000 people came together to learn more about equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) and to network with other professionals.

The NARHA National Conference features several tracks: Integrative Programming, Practical Applications, two Administrative Tracks and Research. With the various tracks, everyone can find many sessions to inform them better about the EAAT field. Some of the highlights from 2010 included "Developing a Horse Maintenance Program" in the Practical Applications Track, "Event Planning Tips and Strategies," in the Administrative Track, "EFP [equine-facilitated psychotherapy] and Yoga for Trauma Survivors," in the Integrative Programming Track, and "The Effect of EAAT on Balance in Older Adults," in the Research Track.

NARHA's 2011 National Conference and Annual Meeting is November 9-12, 2011, in Lexington, KY. The theme is "On Course, Lengths Ahead." The call for papers will be announced in February. If you are an expert in the equine industry or the medical or psychology fields dealing with people with disabilities, mental challenges or at-risk issues, start planning now to present a paper at the next NARHA conference. Present your research and ideas to approximately 6,000 people in the EAAT industry.

For information on the conference, visit the <u>NARHA website</u>. And look for the call for papers in February.

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<u>About NARHA:</u>

NARHA, formerly North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, was formed in 1969 to promote equine assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. At over 700 member centers, a total of 42,000 children and adults find a sense of independence through involvement with horses. These member centers range from small, one-person programs to large operations with several certified instructors and licensed therapists. In addition to therapeutic equitation, a center may offer any number of equine-assisted activities including hippotherapy, equine facilitated mental health,



driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work, or stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful equine-assisted activities and therapies for individuals with special needs. There are more than 24,000 volunteers, 2000 instructors, 5,700 therapy horses and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at NARHA centers.