

"Ensuring excellence and changing lives through equine-assisted activities and therapies"

Recipient of the Equine Industry Vision Award,

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January 2015 Discover What Therapeutic Horsemanship Is About at PATH Intl. Region Conferences

Denver—The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) is made up of more than 7,600 individual members and 850 center members from all over the world. This vast network is divided geographically into 11 different regions. These regions facilitate communication, networking, educational opportunities and outreach as well as increasing the professionalism and knowledge of the equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) field.

Annually, each region conducts a region conference to provide networking and opportunities for continuing education on a more local level. Workshop sessions are generally presented by regional experts in the EAAT field and are on a broad spectrum of topics, from horse care and EAAT programs (such as veterans or carriage driving) to marketing, games and research findings on the impact of EAAT on individuals with disabilities. For instance, at the PATH Intl. Region 3 conference this year in North Carolina, attendees will learn the role of social media in equestrian programs, how to include classes for seniors at a center or how to evaluate horses for equine-assisted programs. At the Region 6 conference in South Dakota, attendees will learn the do's and don'ts of fundraising, how to write grants and understanding post-traumatic stress disorder in veterans. These are just two of the wonderful conferences offered by PATH Intl. regions.

While PATH Intl. members may gain the greatest benefit from PATH Intl. Region Conferences, non-members have a wonderful opportunity to learn more about EAAT in a fun and relaxed setting, while meeting long-time members and newcomers. If you have ever wondered what EAAT offers or if it could benefit you or someone you know, find out at a PATH Intl. Region Conference.

Visit the PATH Intl. website to find a region conference near you.

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About PATH Intl.:

The Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International® (PATH Intl®.) was formed in 1969 to promote safety and optimal outcomes in equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) for individuals with special needs. At 852 member centers, more than 58,000 children and adults may find improved health, wellness and a sense of pride and independence through involvement with horses. Therapeutic horsemanship at member centers may include hippotherapy, equine-facilitated mental health, driving, interactive vaulting, trail riding, competition, ground work and stable management. Through a wide variety of educational resources, the association helps individuals start and maintain successful EAAT programs. There are nearly 53,000 volunteers, 4,544 instructors, 7,733 equines and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. Member Centers.