

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International

Recipient of the 2013 Equine Industry Vision Award, sponsored by Zoetis, presented by American Horse Publications

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September 2015 PATH Intl. Specialty Certificate Allows for Better and Increased Service to Veterans Programs

Denver – As PATH Intl. continues to be a leader in credentialing professionals in equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT), it is excited to announce the launch of online courses, increasing the offerings of quality educational opportunities available. To date, this has included conference session video recordings, webinars and new publications. Online courses will launch with "Instructor Training for PATH International Equine Services for Heroes®."

Made possible by a grant received from the United States Department of Veteran's Affairs, this course for PATH Intl. Certified Instructors will develop their skill set for working with this specific population. This course was initially piloted as an in-person workshop at BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding & Educational Center, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center in Harvard, IL, in March 2015 with great success. PATH Intl. staff and volunteers spent the summer transforming the workshop content into an online format.

Because many instructors and centers are providing services for veterans and service members, this course will give current instructors an opportunity to advance their skills beyond their current certification level. Upon successful completion of the workshop and an online assessment, course attendees will receive a PATH Intl. Specialty Certificate in working with veterans and service members. This is the first specialty certificate to be offered by PATH Intl. and aims to provide focused education in special interest areas for PATH Intl. Certified Professionals.

Visit the Online Courses page on the PATH Intl. website for information about this first online course.

Get a taste of what's coming and watch <u>this short video introduction</u> to the new wave of education available from PATH Intl.

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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 866 member centers, more than 61,000 children and adults may find improved health, wellness, fun 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 more than 55,000 volunteers, 4,666 instructors, 7,672 equines and thousands of contributors from all over the world helping people at PATH Intl. Member Centers.