

Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International

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

For more information, contact:

Cher Smith, Communications Coordinator (800) 369-7433, ext. 123 csmith@pathintl.org

December 2015

Be Like Yoda: Give the Gift of Training

Denver – A long time ago, in a barn far, far away, PATH Intl. was born. With an emphasis on horseback riding for those with special needs, PATH Intl. met a need that was just starting to make itself known. Since that time in 1969, PATH Intl. has expanded to 866 member centers and 4,666 instructors. More than 61,000 children and adults, including a growing veterans population, have discovered an appreciation for the benefits of equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT). More than simply horseback riding, PATH Intl. Member Centers now provide activities such as carriage driving, interactive vaulting, hippotherapy, trail riding, groundwork, stable management and equine-facilitated mental health

With the growth of programs and of public awareness, PATH Intl. is focused more than ever on providing safe and effective EAAT. Through the credentialing of its centers and professionals, participants and their families can rest assured they are receiving the very best the EAAT field offers.

One of the most important things anyone can do is train those who are coming up and following in our footsteps. Master Jedi Yoda summed it up best in his training of young Jedi knights: "Always pass on what you have learned."

PATH Intl. has nearly 200 trained mentors who have attended additional trainings and are considered to provide superior mentoring to instructors and those working with participants. (For a list of PATH Intl. Trained Mentors by state, please visit the Find a Mentor page.) More training for instructors and mentors is always needed; the need is great, and waiting lists for services at centers are getting longer.

For your end of the year giving, please consider a gift to PATH Intl. Your gift will help mentors pass on what they have learned, will help certify more instructors, will work to ensure the quality of education received and will keep safety at the center of everything we do.

PATH Intl. is committed to training and credentialing the very best. There is no try.

Click here to make your donation. Thank you from all of us.

-30-

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.