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“Riding horses is the highlight of my week...
it's what I look forward to doing.”

“The only time I don't feel pain is
when I'm riding in the saddle.”

—Chris Petrone

LSCW, Program Manager, Operation Iraqi Freedom,
Veterans Administration, White City, OR
quoting two veterans



OFFER

EQUINE SERVICES FOR
HEROES AT YOUR CENTER

- ★ **LEARN HOW TO BECOME A PATH INTL. MEMBER CENTER**
Learn about the requirements your center should meet to offer these special activities.
- ★ **BECOME A PATH INTL. PREMIER ACCREDITED CENTER (PAC)**
PACs are eligible for funding opportunities specifically for veterans programming.
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RESOURCES

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- ★ **APPLY FOR GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS**
Find funding opportunities available to PATH Intl. Center Members offering services for veterans.
- ★ **JOIN OUR MEMBER CONNECTIONS GROUP**
Share and connect with other centers' representatives.
- ★ **ACCESS ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**
Take online seminars or purchase the PATH International Equine Services for Heroes® DVD.

PATH International Equine Services for Heroes®
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➔ pathintl.org | ✉ pathintl@pathintl.org



PATH INTERNATIONAL
EQUINE SERVICES
FOR
HEROES®

How your center can support
our heroes through EAAT



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

PATH International Equine Services for Heroes® provides equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) for wounded service personnel and veterans.

Since April 2007, more than 300 PATH International Member Centers offer these activities with meaningful and effective outcomes.

BENEFITS OF EAAT FOR VETERANS

EAAT has shown to be especially beneficial for those with the diagnosis of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI) and many other physical, social, cognitive and emotional conditions.

PHYSICAL

Veterans with mobility impairments, including spinal cord injuries and amputations, and physiological dysregulation may benefit from the horse's simulated gait, which improves balance, posture, core strength, flexibility and confidence.

SOCIAL

The equine environment provides a safe space for veterans to come together to share triumphs and challenges. Veterans often report feeling a loss of community after leaving the service so the opportunity to bond with fellow veterans, staff and volunteers, as well as the horses, breaks patterns of isolation and disconnection associated with trauma.

COGNITIVE

Order and direction required while learning proper horsemanship are familiar skills to veterans and military personnel. Focus, organization, reasoning and attention are applied during EAAT sessions.

EMOTIONAL

Bonding with a large animal can be emotionally satisfying and comforting. EAAT provides veterans with opportunities to learn and practice emotional regulation, distress tolerance and resilience. These new skills can lead to increased self-confidence and self-worth resulting in hope and healing.



★ ★ ★ OUR GOAL

To promote the healing and improvement of the physical, mental and psychological well-being of wounded military personnel and veterans.



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