



Mobile Equestrian Outreach

*Educating the community
about therapeutic riding and its
benefit to individuals with disabilities*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Mobile Equestrian Outreach (MEO) is a resource designed to provide an educational experience for the public with regard to therapeutic riding and the positive impact it has for individuals with disabilities.

In 2002, the **Ronald McDonald House Charities** awarded EQUI-KIDS a generous grant for the construction of a vehicle specifically designed to provide a mobile resource of information about therapeutic riding. The 28-foot custom made trailer boasts a stall for our equine ambassador, 'hands on' interactive displays and photographs of our therapy horses and students during our lesson program. Our MEO is wheelchair accessible and is the first of its kind in the country.

Through the generous support of Mr. Wally Thacker of Sterling Meadows Farm and Mr. Jackson Gore of Gore Trailers, the Mobile Equestrian Outreach educational experience was made possible. And through the continued support of the Virginia Horse Industry Board to support equine education, EQUI-KIDS' MEO provides a unique showcase to share the impact and achievement horses can provide for the special needs community.



OUR MISSION

To provide, promote and support equine assisted activities for individuals who have mental, physical, emotional, social or learning disabling conditions.

ABOUT EQUI-KIDS

EQUI-KIDS has grown to become Virginia's largest accredited equine assisted riding program that benefits the special needs community.

Our program horses serve hundreds of riders each year.

Therapeutic riding gives each individual a sense of empowerment and opens up a world of possibilities. Interacting with our horses doesn't just strengthen muscles and improve balance and coordination—the generous nature of our horses strengthens emotional bonds, building trust and confidence with each session.

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Norfolk is a 'home away from home' for families of seriously ill children being treated at nearby hospitals and outpatient clinics. The first Ronald McDonald House was opened in 1974 in Philadelphia, and on December 10, 1981, the Tidewater Ronald McDonald House (RMHC-Norfolk) opened its doors at 404 Colley Avenue in Norfolk. This house, located within walking distance of Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, allows parents of sick children to stay in close proximity while their children are hospitalized. The House originally began with only eight bedrooms, a kitchen, dining room, living room, playroom and laundry facilities. To accommodate more families RMHC-Norfolk, added nine more bedrooms, increased the size of the kitchen, and added a playroom, boardroom, quiet room and handicap room in 2001.



VIRGINIA HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD

The Virginia Horse Industry Board was established in 1994 and is responsible for the promotion and economic development of the horse industry in Virginia. Through their generous funding support, EQUI-KIDS can continue to use its Mobile Equestrian Outreach to provide education about therapeutic horseback riding throughout the communities we serve.



OUR PROGRAMS



Seasonal Lessons

EQUI-KIDS offers private, semi-private and group lessons to our special needs riders. Lesson sessions are typically 8-weeks and are hosted year-round to riders throughout Southeastern Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina.

EQUI-VETS Service Program

Launched in 2010, EQUI-VETS offers active and retired members of the armed services wounded in the line of duty the opportunity to participate in private therapeutic riding sessions at our facility. In appreciation for their service and sacrifice, this program is offered at no cost to our EQUI-VET participants.

School Partnership Program (SPP)

EQUI-KIDS offers a School Partnership Program to benefit special needs students from area elementary and middle school systems. Students participate in riding and theory classes to enhance the life skills and development of special needs students.

Summer Camp

Our summer camp series offers two individual week-long sessions that consist of riding instruction, barn theory classes and art classes exclusively offered to children with mental, physical, social, emotional or learning disabling conditions.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (Daytime)

Telephone (Evening)

Email Address

Please send me more information about: (Check boxes)

- Volunteering
 Student Enrollment
 Programs Offered

I would like to make a donation.

Please accept the enclosed donation of \$
to further EQUI-KIDS' mission.

Please make checks payable to EQUI-KIDS.

All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.



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