

**PATH Intl.
Regional
Conference**

**Presented
by
Region 4**

May 16-18, 2019

**Hosted by:
Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center
Augusta, MI**

PATH Intl. Region 4 welcomes you to an educational and fun weekend with your friends and colleagues in beautiful Augusta, Michigan. Your registration fee includes lunch and light appetizers (at the meet & greet) on Thursday, 5/16, lunch and dinner on Friday, 5/17 and lunch on Saturday, 5/18.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Thursday & Saturday Sessions:

Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center

8450 N 43rd St.
Augusta, MI 49012

Friday Sessions:

Gull Lake Ministries Retreat

1800 Burlington Dr.
Hickory Corners, MI 49060

Lodging:

Candlewood Suites

3443 Retail Place Dr.
Kalamazoo, MI 49048
(269) 270-3203
\$89.00/night (1 king or 2 double beds)
Mention the Cheff Center for this special booking rate

PATH INTL. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be available March 8, 2019, through May 3, 2019. After May 3, 2019, registration will need to be completed on-site.

***IF YOU ARE A PRESENTER OR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBER,
DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER WITH YOUR CODE***

Registration Fees

Registration March 8, 2019 through May 3, 2019:

Full Conference	\$165 members	\$215 non-members
Single Day	\$110 members	\$160 non-members
PATH Intl. Standards Course*	\$40 members	\$55 non-members

***Register by April 19, 2019. If less than 15 are registered by this date, this course will be canceled and refunds issued. Registration on-site is not available.**

Registration on-site after May 3, 2019:

Full Conference	\$190 members	\$240 non-members
Single Day	\$140 members	\$190 non-members

Refund Policy:

Written cancellation request is required for a refund.

Deadline for Full Refund – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **May 3, 2019**.

Deadline for 50% Refund – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **May 18, 2019**.

Individuals who do not submit a written request to PATH Intl. by May 18, 2019, will not receive a refund.

***Deadline for Standards Course Refund** – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **April 19, 2019**. No refunds after this date.

No refunds due to weather unless the conference is canceled.

Education:

This conference satisfies up to 19 hours of annual continuing education requirements.

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	LIMIT	CEU Conversion
DE	Disability Education	Minimum six hours (no maximum)	60 min = 1 DE
CR	Certification Core Requirement	Minimum of two hours per certification	60 min = 1 CR
CE	General Continuing Education	No minimum or maximum requirement	60 min = 1 CE

AGENDA

Thursday, May 16, 2019 – Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **P1, Administrative Workshop for Center Sustainability** **CE**

The workshop will include: 1) a nonprofit development stage assessment; 2) a nonprofit center business, administrative and governance evaluation tool; 3) a strategy discussion based on a center's individual goals and needs; and 4) presentation and practice of strategy to implement changes and achievement specific to attendee's own center.

KC Henry is principal of Transitions Unlimited LLC, a consulting firm for nonprofit businesses. She helped thousands of leaders and administrators with organizational development, board development and strategic planning. KC has served on boards, staffs and committees nationally and internationally; she has also presented training sessions and facilitated retreats across the world. She has served on the PATH Intl. board, as a PATH Intl. state and regional chair and was honored with the PATH Intl. James Brady Professional Achievement Award. KC was a certified, practicing EAA instructor for 20+ years, helped to found three equine-assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) centers and served as executive director or interim ED for numerous programs, including Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center (14 years) and the Horses and Humans Research Foundation. Although her career work has involved a broad spectrum of nonprofits, her greatest passion has remained in the equine-assisted activity field.

Kim Berggren is a PATH Intl. Certified Advanced Instructor with over 20 years' experience in the equine-assisted activities and therapies industry. As lead instructor and education coordinator for the Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center (PAC) in Augusta, MI, Kim juggles her time and talents between the classroom and the arena. Kim has held PATH Intl. titles such as state chair, region representative, MOC chair and PATH Intl. grievance panel member. She functions as a mentor, site visitor, Standards Course faculty, registered level instructor evaluator and advanced instructor evaluator. She is currently serving on the PATH Intl. Board of Trustees and governance committee.

- 12:30 – 1 p.m. **Lunch Break**
- 1 – 6 p.m. **PATH Intl. Standards Course ^{CE} With Kim Berggren**
- 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Meet & Greet Networking Session/Pre-registration**

Friday, May 17, 2019 - Gull Lake Ministries Retreat

- 8 – 9 a.m. **Registration & Welcome**

Session A

- 9 – 10 a.m. **A1, Integrating Animal Partners in Psychotherapy: A Case Study of a Young Male Refugee**
Part 1 ^{CR ESMHL, DE}

Learn the use of the PATH Intl. diamond model from an ESMHL-certified team through exploration of a dynamic and challenging case with a young refugee man to the U.S., who presents with profound loss, PTSD, war-trauma, disabilities and adjustment issues. Explore the integration of evidenced models of psychotherapy enhanced through relationships with horses and other farm animals, as well as the therapist and animal handler. These methods include trauma recovery, cognitive-behavioral activities and relational-cultural approaches. Cultural considerations, social justice issues and animal welfare are important aspects of the work with this client that present treatment dilemmas and wonderful opportunities for discussion.

Laura Sanders, LMSW, has a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan. She has been an adjunct instructor in U of M's graduate program for 22 years and a therapist in the Ann Arbor area for 30 years. She provides private therapy, consultation and training, supervision, etc., in the areas of sexual abuse, trauma, attachment and adoption, relational and behavioral problems, and culturally sensitive adaptations of methods to diversity-based age, race, gender, immigrant status, etc. Most recently she has acquired her PATH Intl. ESMHL Certification and PATH Intl. center membership, extending her practice to her own farm setting where she partners with horses and a variety of farm animals, and often a trained ESMHL animal handler, to promote growth and well-being in her clients. Laura's presentation style is dynamic, including case examples and experiential activities that invite participation.

Ramiro Martinez is a PATH Intl. Certified Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning. He is from Mexico, a co-founder of the Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights and is Laura's spouse and the farm manager for the Lovingway Family Farm. In specific cases, he works closely with Laura as an adept animal handler and brings a unique perspective to the work based on his experiences as an immigrant man.

- 9 – 10 a.m. **A2, Developing Relationships in Your Barn: It's More Than Just Talk ^{CE}**

No man is an island. And no business can succeed without fostering myriad healthy relationships. We all know the importance of communication in our lives: at home, at work and at play. But we often forget that communication is more than just talk. It is about developing positive and beneficial relationships. Join us as we explore tips and proven methods that

participants can use to successfully develop and nurture relationships with their riders, volunteers, families, board members, community, vendors...and even their horses. We will discuss various methods of communication—verbal, non-verbal and written—and the importance of varying these to meet the situation. We will talk about the traditional community outreach our programs work on, as well as some of those that may be atypical but beneficial. Success stories will be shared as well as examples of how to turn a bad situation into a benefit for your program.

Claudine Hildreth has more than 22 years of experience in therapeutic riding, being part of the Offering Alternative Therapy with Smiles, Inc. (O.A.T.S.) program, a PATH Intl. PAC located in Ortonville, MI, team for 17 years, and having worked previously as a key member of a start-up PATH Intl. center. She is a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Therapeutic Riding Instructor as well as the board president of O.A.T.S. She received her BA degree in communications from Michigan State University and has spent her career working in relationship development roles for national organizations. She has presented at numerous national level conferences over the past few years.

Elizabeth Pellerito has been with the O.A.T.S. program for more than 20 years, working as the program's executive director since 2013. She is a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Therapeutic Riding Instructor and is ASL certified, bringing an in-depth knowledge and expertise to the program as the parent of a son with special needs. Beth achieved her experiential learning with horses (ELH) certification, allowing her to work with individuals as they develop more successful problem-solving skills and learn to communicate more effectively, leading to healthier relationships.

10 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**

Session B

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. **B1, Integrating Animal Partners in Psychotherapy: A Case Study of a Young Male Refugee Part 2** CR ESMHL, DE

See information under A1.

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. **B2, Working With Foundations** CE

Exploring the legal side of working with foundations and the importance of developing relationships within your community.

Kelly Boles Chapman is a graduate of Michigan State University (undergraduate) and Virginia Tech (master's degree). Currently, she consults with a variety of nonprofit organizations and foundations, in her capacity as senior consultant for the Battle Creek Community Foundation. In addition, she is an approved judge with AQHA, NSBA, APHA, ApHC, PHBA, and the World Conformation Horse Association (WCHA). She is currently an AQHA National Director, a past president of the Michigan Quarter Horse Association (MQHA), a national director for APHA and is also on the board of the American Paint Horse Foundation. She served as the immediate past chair of the board of directors for the Cheff Center, a PATH Intl. PAC in Augusta, MI. Most recently, she was named the 2018 APHA Professional Horseman of the Year.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. **Break**

Session C

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **C1, Attaining Life Skills Goals Through Therapeutic Horseback Riding: The Perspective of a CTRS** CR ALL

This presentation is meant to provide PATH Intl. professionals an overview of the exciting connection between purposeful lesson plans and life goal outcomes for a participant of therapeutic horseback riding services through the lens of a certified therapeutic recreation specialist. A variety of evidence-based research and testimonials will be briefly reviewed, as well as specific program evaluation samples. Therapeutic horseback riding allows us to

creatively challenge many aspects of our client's life, making it a beneficial treatment modality to partner with recreation therapists and other healthcare professionals in order to achieve measurable goals together.

Shaina Strikwerda, CTRS, graduated from Grand Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in therapeutic recreation. She is a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Therapeutic Riding Instructor and has been teaching at Renew Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. PAC in Holland, MI, for six years. She became the program manager at Renew TRC in March 2018.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **C2, Ages and Stages** ^{DE}

This lecture will focus on developmental milestones in children, how they might be different in children with special needs, and how this may affect the approach to them in the use of therapeutic horsemanship.

Kari Leikert, DO, FAAP, is a pediatrician with 25 years' experience in primary care pediatrics. She is the mother of five children, two of whom are horse lovers!

12:30 – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch Break – PATH Intl. Update**

Session D

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **D1, Are You Feeding Your Horse Like a Horse?** ^{CR ESMHL, CE}

This presentation will explore feeding forage and minimizing digestive disorders, while maximizing condition and performance of the horse through its various ages and stages of activity.

Sarah Massey is a 2001 graduate of Michigan State University, where she majored in animal science with nutritional emphasis. Prior to that, Sarah avidly and successfully showed on the MQHA and AQHA show circuit, including being part of the Congress and World Show Teams. After graduating from MSU, Sarah was employed by Consolidated Nutrition out of Portland, MI, which eventually merged with Moormans Feed to become ADM Animal Nutrition as we know it today. Sarah has represented ADM Animal Nutrition's Equine and Specialty Team for 18 years through an ever-changing equine market. Sarah still loves being part of the equine industry through her work, doing seminars and being involved in 4-H, as well as passing the love of agriculture on to her 14-year-old son and 11-year-old daughter!

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **D2, Moving Forward: Developing Leaders From the Inside Out** ^{CE}

Solid leadership is essential to move an organization toward a flourishing future and is essential for growth and impact in a community. This session will explore different styles of leadership and will consider the idea that everyone has something to contribute to the vision of a healthy organization.

Melissa Jolly Conner leads a growing PAC as an executive director and has held many leadership positions in EAAT over the years. In addition to being a PATH Intl. Certified Advanced Instructor, Lead Evaluator, Lead Site Visitor, Mentor and ESMHL, Melissa has contributed to educational materials in PATH Intl. and regularly speaks in the community and across the country with groups interested in advocating for people with disabilities.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. **Break**

Session E

2:45 – 3:45 p.m. **E1, Work Smarter, Not Harder: Making Technology Work for You** ^{CE}

A look at how technology can help you better manage volunteers, keep track of horse care and use, keep better attendance records, complete progress notes/report cards, schedule more quickly and with more accuracy, improve client and volunteer communication,

cultivate data across our programs, and much, much more! Includes real life examples of technology in use at Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center.

Whitney Feltner has been the client and volunteer administrator at The Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center for over three years. In her role at Cheff, she is responsible for the entirety of the volunteer program (including intake, orientations/trainings, scheduling, communication, etc.) as well as client communication and scheduling. Whitney presented "From Paper to Paperless: Improving Your Volunteer Program" at the 2017 PATH Intl. Conference and later wrote an accompanying article in the Summer 2018 issue of PATH Intl. Strides that was followed by a "Beyond the Article" Strides Webinar in the fall of 2018.

Morgan Meulman has a bachelor's degree in business management, a strong background in horses, and has been working in administration at the Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center for over 12 years. In her role at Cheff, she is responsible for writing grants, marketing, social media, website maintenance, assisting in event planning/fundraising and supporting the executive director.

2:45 – 3:45 p.m. **E2, Creating an Emotionally Safe EAAT Program** ^{DE}

Many clients who attend EAAT programs have experienced some form of trauma. To best serve our clients we need to understand the effect trauma has on our clients' mind, body and behavior. It colors their experience at our facility; their ability to feel safe, both physically and emotionally; and ultimately the outcomes they achieve. We will explore simple changes that programs can implement to create an emotionally safe environment for clients.

Melissa Houserman is the president and founder of a center focused exclusively on providing mental health services through equine-facilitated psychotherapy (EFP) and equine-assisted learning (EAL). Formerly, she was the program director for a premier accredited center and started its veterans and EFP programs.

Christina Goodall is the director of clinical services at a residential treatment facility for youth and provides EFP services through In Step with Horses. She is a faculty member teaching EFP and learning as well as social work with families. Chris is a certified trauma practitioner through the national institute for trauma and loss in children and has a decade of experience working with veterans.

3:45 – 4 p.m. **Break**

Session F

4 – 5 p.m. **F1, The Heart and Art of Philanthropy** ^{CE}

Join in an interactive session designed to provide the nuts and bolts of grantsmanship, as well as a broad view of tips and trends in the philanthropic sector. We will also take time to reconnect with the values and sense of vocation that brought you to your work in the first place. Gain skills and renew and rejuvenate in the process.

Angela H. Graham, EdD, is director for partnership at the Fetzer Institute, an operating foundation located in Kalamazoo, Michigan, providing leadership for developing and nurturing a broad range of relationships with individuals and organizations. She has a breadth of executive experiences with community and university foundations (Southwest Michigan, Philadelphia, PA, and Cleveland, OH), academic administration (Kalamazoo, MI, and Philadelphia, PA) and as a researcher (Urbana, IL). She holds a bachelor's degree in performing arts history from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (IL), a master's degree in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (IL), and a doctor of education degree from Temple University, Philadelphia, PA. Angela has a deep interest in the human-animal bond and is proud to serve on the board of the Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center.

4 – 5 p.m. **F2, Upper Extremity Injuries and Their Impact on Horsemanship** ^{DE}

This session will address basic upper extremity injuries and diagnoses that impact engagement in riding tasks as well as provide simple and appropriate activities to address any deficits within the scope of a typical lesson.

Toby Cross, MOT, OTR/L, is a clinical instructor in the Eastern Kentucky University OS/OT program. She also serves as an advisor and instructor in the Horse, Humans and Health program with a background in upper extremity rehabilitation, work hardening and conditioning, sports rehabilitation, industrial rehabilitation and equine-facilitated therapeutic interventions. She is a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Instructor. Her clinical interests include sports rehabilitation and equine-facilitated therapy including hippotherapy. She lives with her husband and stepdaughter on a small cattle farm and raises horses, goats, dogs and chickens. She is active in the Kentuckiana Ranch Horse Association and competes in dressage and lower level eventing.

5:30 – 7:30 p.m. **PATH Intl. Region 4 Awards Dinner**

Saturday, May 18, 2019 – Cheff Therapeutic Riding Center

8 – 8:45 a.m. **Registration, Welcome & Networking**

Session G

9 – 10 a.m. **G1, Prader-Willi Syndrome & Hippotherapy** ^{DE}

This will be a practical look at utilizing physical therapy in a hippotherapy setting for individuals with cognitive challenges. This presentation includes a case study featuring the effects of hippotherapy on several clients with Prader-Willi syndrome.

Charlene Swain, PT, has been practicing hippotherapy at Cheff Center for 20 years. She graduated in 1985 from Marquette University with a BS degree in physical therapy and obtained her graduate certificate in hippotherapy from Western Michigan University in 1999. Her patients range from pediatric to geriatric, presenting with neuro-muscular and musculoskeletal diseases, developmental delays and more. She has participated in research studies in hippotherapy involving seniors with balance issues. Char also practices in skilled nursing and assisted living facilities.

9 – 10 a.m. **G2, Hit Them With Your Best Shot: Strengthening Your Brand Awareness to Increase Donors** ^{CE}

This workshop will look at how Central Kentucky Riding for Hope has increased its donor base through a rebranding process and by implementing simple marketing strategies, including a revamp of the year-end annual fund, personalizing and professionalizing social media posts, good old-fashioned networking and more. You will gain ideas and templates to help with your own comprehensive fundraising plan.

Jessica Byassee initially came to CKRH as a volunteer sidewalker in 2016, having recently moved to Lexington and needing a horse to pet in a new city. Later that year, she was hired as the development director and has overseen a rebranding campaign and expanded the organization's fundraising reach. She earned a degree in ag. science with an emphasis in communications from Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky, and a masters degree in intercultural service, leadership and management from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. Jessica has more than 15 years of experience in marketing and public relations. She served three years with the Peace Corps in Tanzania and worked as the communications and programing strategist for the Alliance for Haiti's Children in La Vallee, Haiti.

10 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**

Session H

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. **H1, The Value of Ground Lessons** **CR ALL**

Explore the value of ground lessons at your center and how to work this into your day-to-day program as another form of learning.

Sommer Boss was diagnosed with a learning disability as a child and was a student at a therapeutic riding center in Cleveland, Ohio, for five years. She then transitioned to being a volunteer. After going to college for farrier science and a different career, she came to realize that she missed helping the riders and being around horses. Sommer wanted others to have the same positive experiences and opportunities she did. She completed the PATH Intl. Registered Riding Instructor certification and began teaching at a center in Virginia. While in Virginia, she became a PATH Intl. Certified Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning. In January 2018 she moved back to Ohio to teach full time, assist with program scheduling and rider assessments at a center in Cridersville, Ohio.

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. **H2, National Snaffle Bit Association – A Model of Inclusion** **CE**

The National Snaffle Bit Association Foundation serves as the fiduciary arm of the National Snaffle Bit Association to support and provide funding for programming specific to the equine industry and the NSBA membership. Primary in this effort is the association's goal to promote a "model of inclusion" in equine competition. NSBA began including riders with disabilities in 2009 with the introduction of the Equestrians with Disabilities program at the NSBA World Championship Show. Providing a platform for riders of all abilities has become a primary mission of the NSBA and the NSBA Foundation. By offering competition for EWD and Veteran riders, NSBA helps individuals gain independence and confidence while promoting additional paths for therapeutic riding centers to achieve their goals. This session will explore opportunities in the NSBA Heroes on Horses Program and how you can get involved!

Stephanie Lynn is the director of operations at NSBA and works side by side with the NSBA Foundation. A horse trainer for over 35 years, Stephanie was a judge for NSBA, AQHA and APHA before taking her position with NSBA. She is a renowned trainer, exhibitor, coach, judge and author. Stephanie continues to provide education for riders and judges as well as facilitating the education programs for NSBA.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. **Break**

Session I

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **I1, Equine-Assisted Leadership Development™ (EALD™)** **CE**

In this session we will share the Equine-Assisted Leadership Development™ (EALD™) methodology proven in multiple PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Centers to develop leadership skills for local organizations (corporate/professional), colleges/universities, veterans, and youth identified as at risk. The methodology involves certifying your instructors to offer and teach the EALD courses to local organizations, which then generates revenue to fund your center's sustainability. The methodology focuses on advancing an individual or team's leadership skills using equine-assisted learning (EAL) – assisting organizations and society to develop better and more inspiring leaders while creating a unique and innovative additional revenue stream for your facility. Join us to learn about the methodology, licensing, certification and results centers have experienced in generating revenue to support their employees, horses, programming and infrastructure.

Jeff Arnold is the founder of Leadership Adventures, Inc., which focuses on developing inspiring leaders around globe. He has spent a 24-year career working in corporate consulting with clients all over the world developing leaders. He has worked with more than 100 CEOs and client organizations worldwide, including colleges and universities, Fortune 100 companies, nonprofits and faith-based organizations. He is a student of leadership and believes that each of us is on a journey to become a better leader, and that becoming a

better leader is an adventure requiring both new skills and practice opportunity. In 2008, he was honored with the esteemed Inspiring Leadership award by the world's largest consulting firm as measured by revenue, a Fortune Global 500 company. He was recently featured in JH Style magazine discussing the benefits of experiential, accelerated, equine-based leadership development.

Courtney Gramlich is the director of the Storm Harbor Equestrian Center on the campus of Slippery Rock University in western Pennsylvania. She is a therapeutic recreation specialist and has been working in the field of therapeutic riding and equine-assisted activities for over 20 years. She has been employed by Slippery Rock University for 13 years and currently works with many different academic majors helping to give students opportunities to work with people with disabilities and horses. Courtney has presented at many PATH Intl. conferences on a variety of topics from research to American veteran programming. She is also currently certified in the EALD™ program.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **I2, I Made It to Management – Now What? CE**

As our organizations grow, we move our instructors or barn staff into roles as managers. However, management requires specific skills that are different from leadership concepts.

Kathy Corbett began teaching therapeutic horseback riding in college and has been in love with it ever since. She was certified under NARHA in 1999 and currently serves the Therapeutic Riding Institute in southwestern Ohio. When not in the barn, she manages a multi-million-dollar health care practice. She is involved in day-to-day operations as well as long range planning. She develops policies and procedures in addition to managing the staff and all of the human resources of a small business. She has managed retail, nonprofit and medical businesses. Kathy has served on several professional and human service board of directors and holds professional certifications in management and human resources. She believes that managing people is essentially the same in every industry and giving people the tools to do their jobs to the best of their abilities is the key to successful management.

12:30 – 2 p.m. **Lunch – PATH Intl. Region 4 & State Meetings, and Field Test Standards Hearing**

Session J

2 – 3 p.m. **J1, Interactive Vaulting: The Benefits to Your Center and Participants and How to Get Started**
CR VAULTING

During this presentation we will share our experience starting an interactive vaulting program at our center. We will cover the certification process, necessary equines and equipment, and the benefits to both the center and the participants.

Amanda Bubb is a PATH Intl. Certified Registered Instructor, Interactive Vaulting Instructor and ESMHL at Reins of Life, Inc., a PATH Intl. PAC in South Bend and Michigan City, IN, where she also serves as the barn manager. Amanda has served as the Indiana State Chair and the PATH Intl. Region 4 Representative. Amanda is also a PATH Intl. Mentor and Associate Site Visitor.

Daniele Charriere began volunteering at Reins of Life at the age of 13. Once she turned 18 she began the instructor-in-training process and was hired as a part-time instructor after becoming certified in 2014. She has also been working toward becoming an interactive vaulting instructor. She enjoys working closely with the students, volunteers and horses; she couldn't imagine a better job.

2 – 3 p.m. **J2, The Effect of Therapeutic Horsemanship on the Development of Communication and Social Interaction Skills of Children At Risk DE**

During 2018, Renew TRC conducted a six-week study to test the hypothesis that therapeutic horsemanship has an effect on the development of communication and social interaction skills in children identified as at risk ages eight through 10. Participants were selected by the

Boys and Girls Club of Holland, MI, according to specific criteria. Using the results and the experience gained by this study, further research is being planned.

Dan Gerbens spent his career in higher education, working as a professor and advisor in the health sciences field at Grand Valley University and Hope College. He joined the board at Renew Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. PAC in Holland, MI, in 2018, and continues to volunteer there on a regular basis.

Melissa Jolly Conner see bio under D2

We look forward to seeing you soon in Augusta, Michigan!