Regional Conference
March 18-20, 2022

Presented by: PATH Intl. Region 3

Hosted by: Great Oak Equine Assisted Programs
Aiken, South Carolina

PATH Intl. Region 3 welcomes you to an educational and fun weekend with your friends and colleagues in Aiken, South Carolina. Your registration fee includes lunch and dinner on Saturday and light refreshments on Saturday and Sunday morning.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Friday and Sunday
Great Oak Equine Assisted Programs
1123 Edgefield Highway
Aiken, SC 29801

Saturday
Horse Creek Academy
1200 Toolebeck Rd.
Aiken, SC 29803

Lodging Options

Holiday Inn Express
2897 Whiskey Rd.
Aiken, SC 29803
803-508-7700
$95/night

Hilton Garden Inn
350 East Gate Dr.
Aiken, SC 29803
803-641-4220
$139/night

Carriage House Inn
139 Laurens St.
Aiken, SC 29801
803-644-5888
$165/night
PATH INTL. REGION 3 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be available February 4 through March 11, 2022. After March 11, 2022, 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 February 4, 2022 through March 11, 2022:
Full Conference $175 members $225 non-members

Registration on-site after March 11, 2022:
Full Conference $205 members $255 non-members

Refund Policy:
No refunds due to weather unless the conference is canceled. Written cancellation request is required for refund. Email manderson@pathintl.org

Deadline for Full Refund – Request received in PATH Intl. office by March 11, 2022.
Deadline for 50% Refund - Request received in PATH Intl. office by March 20, 2022.
Individuals who do not submit a written request to PATH Intl. by March 20, 2022, will not receive a refund.

Education:
This conference satisfies up to 10 hours of continuing education requirements.

AGENDA

Friday, March 18, 2022
Great Oak Equine Assisted Programs

12 – 1:15 p.m. Registration & Welcome

Session A
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

A1, Loose Lips CE
Our offhand remarks about horses can deeply wound our participants and interfere with their relationship with their horse. Learn how some simple changes to your organization's language can make all the difference.

Melissa Abbey is the director of Ride Like a Knight, the therapeutic horsemanship program at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg, NC. She serves as assistant professor of therapeutic horsemanship at the college and is a member of the PATH Intl. Mental Health and Learning Subcommittee. She has worked at four other PATH Intl. Centers in the 13 years she’s been in the EAS industry: As a volunteer, a psychotherapist intern, an Instructor, volunteer coordinator, and leading EAL classes.

A2, It's Not Just a Float! Balance Begins in the Mouth! CR All
Proper horse care includes a yearly dental examination. During this session, Dr. Cissell will explain the benefits of a thorough dental exam, what to look for in developing a relationship with a practitioner who provides dentistry and answer questions about your horse’s mouth.

Mike Cissell, DVM, MS, DACVS-LA, graduated from Auburn University and went to complete his internship and surgical residency at Virginia Tech. After completion he stayed at Virginia Tech as a clinical instructor of large animal clinical sciences. His experiences brought him to Arizona, where in addition to his veterinary practice, he served on the board for a therapeutic riding center. Prior to joining Mid Atlantic Equine Dentistry, Dr. Cissell worked at North Carolina State Veterinary Hospital as a clinical veterinarian in the equine emergency service department. He now resides in Aiken with his wife and three children.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. BREAK
Session B
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

B1, Horse Agility Is Cool CR All
Come and learn about a new and exciting way to present groundwork skills to your clients! Learn about horse agility (yes, this is a real thing!) and how it can help your clients develop a deeper bond with their horse and gain confidence, problem solving skills and creativity all while having fun!

*Anna Baucum* has a degree in psychology and has been involved with horses for 22 years. She is currently an equine vet tech and participates as a PATH Intl. Equine Specialist in Mental Health and Learning (ESMH) in an equine-assisted learning (EAL) program with youth at-risk. She is a program supervisor at Brook Hill Farm, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center (PAC).

B2, The Therapeutic Riding Horse From Head to Hoof CR Riding
During this session, Dr. Reda will share strategies on evaluating a horse for a career in therapeutic riding and explain components to a pre-purchase exam. There will be a hands-on experience sharing tips to evaluate a horse before adding them to your program.

*Jen Reda, DVM* was born and raised in Florida and began riding horses at the age of six. She rode both Western and English growing up and competed in local barrel races, in addition to breaking and training young horses. Dr. Reda attended veterinary school at University of Florida; she then completed her internship at Southern Equine Service. After practicing for a while in Florida, Dr. Reda knew she wanted to rejoin Southern Equine and officially returned to the practice as an associate. She loves all aspects of ambulatory medicine including reproduction, lameness and wellness care. In her spare time, Dr. Reda enjoys traveling and living on Salt Life Farm with her family, horses and dogs. She is a member of the AAEP and AVMA.

3:45 – 4 p.m. BREAK

Session C
4 – 5 p.m.

C1, Three Simple Steps for Happier Horses, Leaders and Staff CR All
Our program horses are key to the success of our work with clients. Helping them be happy and content in their job is critical. How our volunteer leaders handle our horses can be tricky but with three simple steps, you can empower your staff and volunteers for success.

*Julie Robins* is the founder of The Horsemanship Academy and her mission is to educate, inspire and empower horse people to connect better with confidence. Julie has been a PATH Intl. Advanced Instructor since 1994 and has a wide variety of program experience.

C2, Zoetis: Always By the Side of Horses and Their Humans CE
Dr. Mark Crisman explains how to care for your horse in several ways and how Zoetis can assist.

*Dr. Crisman* received his DVM in 1984 from the University of Warsaw, Poland. He completed an internship and residency in 1987 at Washington State University in large animal internal medicine. He became a Diplomate (Equine Internal Medicine) in 1990. From 1987 to 2010, he served on the faculty of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine where he was a professor of large animal clinical sciences. He has authored over 85 refereed publications and book chapters. He joined Zoetis as senior veterinarian in July 2010 and joined the board of HHRF in 2020.

5 p.m. Facilitated Networking Sessions and Dinner
Food trucks will be available onsite. This meal is NOT included in the registration fee so is self-pay.

Saturday, March 19, 2022
Horse Creek Academy
7:30 – 9 a.m. Registration & Welcome
Session D
9 – 10 a.m.

D1, Challenge Accepted CR Riding
This session is a visual presentation discussing the realities of teaching riding skills to participants who are low functioning. The learning objectives include: Defining the characteristics of participants who are low functioning, understanding theories about efficacy of equine-assisted services (EAS) for these individuals, developing strategies to assist these participants in succeeding in EAS, and understanding how to plan lessons that engage them.

Sarah Newman is a retired pediatrician and a PATH Intl. CTRI at HALTER in Spartanburg, SC. She has been an instructor for five years and has volunteered for 13 years.

D2, Increase Your Funding Using Data and Research CE
Understand the differences between outcomes and outputs, learn what data is important and where to find data and research to support grant proposals.

Nancy Paschall, PATH Intl. ESMHL is the current president of the Horses and Humans Research Foundation Board of Directors and the executive director of Healing and Learning Through Equine Relationships (HALTER) in Spartanburg, SC. She has been involved in research in EAS for 15 years at two EAS centers. She is an author on the 2013 study, “Association Between Therapeutic Horseback Riding and the Social Communication and Sensory Reactions of Children with Autism” in The Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. Her current research includes using the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory Computer Adaptive Test (PEDI-CAT) for participants in therapeutic riding, and the impact of psychotherapy incorporating interactions with horses on adolescents with serious mental health conditions.

D3, Evoke the Strategic Essence of Your Brand CE
Most ideas never see the light of day. Many creative endeavors never get off the drawing board. It is the evolution and refinement of creative ideas or objectives into solid business and brand strategy that involves the culmination of collective thought and capabilities in order to become, or to establish, how a group or team will function when executing initiatives. The core objective is to define total asset performance.

Gary Finnan is an award-winning inspirational author, designer, entrepreneur and creative expression mentor. He is a sought-after presenter with a powerful yet down to earth, story-driven and humorous style. He has an ability to not only inform and inspire, but to leave participants with tangible, actionable ideas, strategies and practices proven to make a difference in both work and life. Gary’s first book, Hector at Ground Level, and his various online and interactive programs provide a rich platform for teachable moments with different age groups and levels of creative expression. He shares in his own work with the same passion he hopes to reveal when exploring the essence of his clients and associates. He utilizes a depth of experience gained in Africa, Europe, Asia and the United States to bring a fresh cross-industry and global perspective. Gary has taught at Sonoma State University Wine Institute and has co-hosted retreats in the United States and Europe. Born in Scotland and raised in Zimbabwe and South Africa, Gary splits his time between Sonoma County, California, and Aiken, South Carolina, with his wife Eva and two daughters.

10 – 10:15 a.m.
BREAKE

Session E
10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

E1, Eyesight vs. Insight DE
Many times, there is a lack of knowledge on the part of center staff of the impact blindness has on program participants and lessons. This presentation will educate attendees on participants who are blind. The goal is to give center staff the tools needed to improve their programs for these participants.

Kimberly Taylor, blind from birth, has 15+ years riding experience at two PATH Intl. Centers and a BA degree in psychology. She loves educating others about daily life with blindness. She taught independence skills to adults who are blind for nearly 10 years during her day job. Kimberly has taught other blindness presentations including information on guide dogs, adaptive aids for seniors, summer camps and school presentations. She has taught several blindness lectures at her current PATH Intl. Center, at a PATH Intl. State Education Day and at a PATH Intl. National Conference.
E2, Grant Writing Tips for Success CE
Funding your center involves revenue streams of many sources – grant writing is one of the easiest ways to fund your center. Learn the basics of grant writing, where to find grants, and get helpful hints from behind the scenes, to help have your grant accepted. The presenter has worked on both sides of the process, as a grant writer and has worked in the industry, reviewing grants to be funded.

Jo Anne Miller is the executive director of a fully accredited equine rescue and PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center. She is a professor of equine science at Randolph College and has helped EAS centers with strategic planning and creating revenue streams. She successfully funds her organization with many grants and has served on the board of a national grant-making organization in the field.

E3, A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words CE
A photo chosen to include in a publication, social media or on the internet provides a view or insight of the program’s professionalism and effectiveness. A quick search on the internet brings up photos that give the viewer a positive or a negative glimpse of a program. The negative glimpses are a concern for the program and the industry. A photo that does not meet the standards of the industry sends the wrong message to the general public. Making a poor photo choice can degrade the professionalism and effectiveness in the eyes of the viewer. There are a few key points to consider in order to ensure that a photo is truly worth the right thousand words.

Pebbles Turbeville is currently the executive director for Horses and Humans Research Foundation. She is and has been an adjunct professor as well as a consultant for other higher education institutions in the field of equine studies. Pebbles received her Doctor of Education degree in sport management with Sports Leadership Specialization from United States Sports Academy, her master’s degree from NC State and her BA degree from Columbia College. Previously, she was the associate professor and chair of the sport studies department at St. Andrews University. Pebbles is a PATH Intl. CTRI and Advanced Instructor, Mentor Faculty, Associate Faculty for the PATH Intl. advanced certification and Lead Faculty for Registered On-Site Workshop/Certification and Mentor Training. Equine photography is one of her favorite hobbies.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.  BREAK

Session F
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

F1, Grief Explored CE
This session explores using EAL to make sense of grief and how it affects us and our family dynamics. It will offer compensatory techniques for accepting that we all grieve differently. Even in the same family who lost the same person, each family member has lost someone different.

Adrienne Freeland, PATH Intl. CTRI has a bachelor of science degree in recreational therapy from West Virginia University. Adrienne owns and operates Holistic Horsemanship Services, a nonprofit business in Northern Virginia that connects horses and humans through equine-assisted learning. She is also the equine module provider for Boulder Crest Retreat in Bluemont, Virginia, and hosts grief support groups in the barn with the horses in collaboration with Blue Ridge Hospice.

F2, Don’t Burn the Candle at Both Ends CE
Feeling overwhelmed? Under-appreciated? Feel like you are burning both ends of a candle stick? Join this interactive presentation to get some techniques and strategies to manage burnout for yourself and your equine partners. This presentation has the following learning objectives: identify three early signs of burnout, describe three ways to prevent burnout, and explain three ways to manage individual, industry, and equine burnout. Come enjoy this interactive presentation to decrease burnout for yourself, your center and your equines.

Samantha Bannock is a native Californian who graduated from Colorado State University with a bachelors degree in equine science. She has spent 10 years in the equine industry utilizing her expertise in myriad specialty areas, including reproduction, rehabilitation, equine facility management, as well as equine-assisted services. Samantha has managed a diverse population of employees, as well as served veterans, youth identified as high-risk and participants with emotional, cognitive and physical needs throughout her career.
F3, See Yourself as a Brand and Not Just a Nonprofit CE
Sometimes when we focus on the nonprofit and program sections of our organizations, we forget the side of marketing our business. Branding often becomes something done in haste or a very long time ago and becomes stale, often hindering rather than helping your organization. This presentation aims to help focus on the importance of GOOD branding and tips on how to get the most for less amount of money.

Gloria Gonzalez, PATH Intl. CTRI, studied graphic design at SCAD, while riding on the equestrian team for four years. In addition to being an instructor and Certified Special Olympics Coach, Gloria has over 11 years of experience in marketing and has worked at the two largest advertising agencies in South Carolina, working with clients such as South Carolina Tourism, Verizon, Progressive Insurance, LGE Appliances, Sears Automotive, Denny’s and Milliken/Maxwell.

12:45 – 2:15 p.m. Lunch and the PATH Intl. Update

Session G
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

G1, Equine Services for Veterans CE
RideAbility Therapeutic Riding Center in Clover, SC, has been conducting their Equine Services for Heroes program for the past seven years. This year they have introduced Raymond Fernandez on as the Veterans Services coordinator. Ray is a Vietnam Veteran who suffers from severe PTSD and depression. Together they will discuss their program: the challenges, the benefits and the success of the program. They will discuss how to start a program. How to get Veterans to participate and the challenges to expect. They will discuss the many successes for the men and woman they serve in the program. Raymond will discuss the different branches of the military and how together in the Equine Services for Heroes they all come together to heal.

Wendy Schonfeld is the executive director of RideAbility Therapeutic Riding Center.

Raymond Fernandez is the Veterans Services Coordinator for the Equine Services for Veterans program at RideAbility Therapeutic Riding Center.

G2, Supporting Students With Disabilities in the Community DE
This session will offer insight and strategies to support individuals with disabilities.

Dr. Ann Marie Taylor is an accomplished educator with the titles of 2009 SC Teacher of the Year, PSTA’s 2016 Education Service Award, and CEC’s 2019 Advocate of the Year, just to name a few. Ann Marie began her career in juvenile justice and made her way into public education because she wanted to change the lives of students and leave a legacy. Ann Marie is a hot mess - in a fabulous way, of course. She loves supporting and empowering SC teachers, and she is determined to make SC’s education system better. She is currently the lead learner of Horse Creek Academy. Ann Marie has an undergraduate degree in criminal justice, a master’s degree in administration, and a doctoral degree in administrative leadership for teaching and learning.

G3, Be Prepared to Stop: Words Whoa Wisdom CE
As equestrians, we all know what it feels like to be unsure, personally or professionally. It takes a certain courage to be prepared to stop and re-calibrate our desires and objectives. However, a shared expectation and clear direction make it possible to live fully in your element and creative expression when working and communicating with horses.

Eva Finnan, PATH Intl. CTRI, ESMHL, knows how horses can be the catalyst for positive change and personal growth. Powerful equine-assisted services are an effective way to reach people who may be struggling to fully express themselves.

Gary Finnan see bio in session D3.

3:30 – 3:45 p.m. Break

Session H
3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

H1, Lessons in Reading, Riding and Arithmetic CR ESMHL & CR Riding
Equine Assisted Learning in Academics is a new and emerging field. Learn how educators working with riding instructors and an ESMHL create lesson plans that can provide visual, auditory and kinesthetic learning opportunities through actual academic lessons done in the arena, helping kids of all ages improve their grades
at school. The participants will learn how to create their own academic lessons in conjunction with an educator, with the goal of learning how they could implement EAL in their programs, partnering with schools to provide a new revenue stream for their center.

Jo Anne Miller see bio in session E2.

H2, Becoming Trauma-Informed as a Practitioner and Center DE
Trauma-informed practices cross all aspects of a center and impact participants, providers, families and volunteers. Understanding trauma and implementing trauma-informed practices are essential.

Nancy Paschall, PATH Intl. ESMHL see bio in session D2.

5 – 7 p.m.    Dinner at Great Oak Equine Assisted Programs
PATH Intl. Region Meeting & Field Test Standards Hearing
PATH Intl. Region 3 Awards

Sunday, March 20, 2022
Great Oak Equine Assisted Programs

9 – 10 a.m.    PATH Intl. State Meetings facilitated by State Chairs

10 – 10:15 a.m.    Break

Session I
10:15 – 11:15 a.m.

I1, Strategies for Riders With Autism DE
This presentation will provide an overview of the special needs and considerations that need to be taken into consideration when working with riders with autism. There will be some specific lessons and activities shared that have been implemented.

Carisa Hooks worked as a special education teacher with self-contained students for 23 years. She currently holds a National Board Certification. She has worked as a PATH Intl. therapeutic riding instructor for the past six years. She graduated with her MSW in 2020 and currently works as a school social worker at a school for students with severe mental and physical disabilities. She also has an adoptive son with autism and mental health needs who has taught her more than any of her academic activities combined.

I2, Dimensions of Diversity CE
This presentation is a basic overview of terms frequently used in conversation about diversity. Along with defining terms associated with diversity, the presentation will introduce simple take-home strategies to begin cultivating an inclusive environment at your center.

Veronika Williams is a PATH Intl. Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor in training and a member of PATH Intl. Racial Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Workgroup. She received her bachelor’s degree in exercise physiology from the University of Lynchburg. While receiving her degree, she was the secretary of the Black Student Association and founded an organization called Woman to Woman with the purpose of creating an inclusive and safe space for women of color.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.    Break

Session J
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

J1, Guided Herd Observation CR All
When thinking about what piece of education was most helpful in developing more horse centered programming, guided herd observation came to the forefront. Instructors, volunteers and participants become very familiar with the equines they work with in a lesson setting. But what are the individual horse’s personalities, patterns and preferences when they are allowed to move within a group of friends in relative freedom? Who are they as a herd community and as individuals? How do they express themselves, negotiate space and boundaries?
Kim Hallin is the founder and president of Unbridled, LLC in Charleston, SC and the author of Horse Wisdom: Life Lessons for Humanity. Kim specializes in demystifying horse behavior, nurturing the horse-human bond and facilitating transformational cross-species healing and growth. Kim is a passionate voice for positive change in the horse industry.

Anja Cain is the program director at Charleston Area Therapeutic Riding (CATR), a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center in Charleston, SC. Anja is a PATH Intl. CTRI, Advanced Instructor and Interactive Vaulting Instructor. She is currently exploring and learning about different ways of expanding programs in a way that benefits both participants and horses involved in activities.

J2, Research Demystified CE
Does EAS research have you perplexed, confused or frustrated? This session will explain what Horses and Humans Research Foundation is and what they do. Research will be explained including research types. How can research help centers and where to locate quality research. We will also discuss current research studies and their impacts. This session will make research fun and informative. Learning objectives include: describing research and several types of research methods; how to find research; how research can assist centers, and current research in the field of EAS.

Pebbles Turbeville see bio in session E3.

We look forward to seeing you soon in South Carolina!