

**PATH Intl.
Regional
Conference**

**Presented
by
PATH Intl. Region 6**

**VIRTUAL
March 12 - 14, 2021**

**Hosted by:
Three Gaits, Inc.
&
NDSU**

PATH Intl. Region 6 welcomes you to an educational and fun weekend
with your friends and colleagues – virtually!

PATH INTL. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be available January 5, 2021 through March 10, 2021.

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

Registration January 5, 2021 through March 10, 2021:

Full Conference	\$125 members	\$175 non-members
PATH Intl. Higher Ed	\$100	

Refund Policy:

No refunds. Content will be recorded and available to watch on your own time.

Education:

This conference satisfies up to 8 hours of annual continuing education requirements. 13 hours potentially if you watch the recordings of the sessions you do not attend live!

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	CEU Conversion (Virtual)
DE	Disability Education	45-60 min = 1 DE
CR	Certification Core Requirement	45-60 min = 1 CR
CE	General Continuing Education	45-60 min = 1 CE

AGENDA

All times are Central Standard Time

Session links will be provided prior to the conference.

Friday, March 12, 2021

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|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6:30 – 7 p.m. | Welcome and introductions
Erika Berg, PATH Intl. Region 6 Representative |
| 7 – 7:30 p.m. | PATH Intl. Region 6 Meeting
Erika Berg, PATH Intl. Region 6 Representative |
| 7:30 – 8 p.m. | PATH Intl. State Meetings in Breakout Rooms
PATH Intl. State Chairs |
| 8 – 8:30 p.m. | PATH Intl. Region 6 2020 and 2021 Awards Ceremony
Kathy Alm, PATH Intl. CEO |

Saturday, March 13, 2021

9 – 10 a.m. Welcome and Keynote: Center Sustainability and Navigating the New Normal (CE)

The pandemic's effect isn't just temporary. With the impact of COVID-19 on center operations came opportunities for centers to adapt and create new ways of fulfilling their mission. Many of these new or adapted programs continue to be a vital part of services offered as we navigate the ways the pandemic has permanently impacted center operations. The pandemic also brought new ways of fundraising and financial operations. Assessing best practices and determining how your center will deliver on its mission in a financially sustainable way is key to ongoing organizational health and success. Join Kathy Alm, CEO of PATH Intl., as she explores successful new business and program practices and provides you with an opportunity to see how you might continue to pivot your center to successfully operating now and into the future.

Kathy Alm served 15 years as executive director of Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center (PAC) in Woodinville, WA, one of the largest organizations in the industry. She grew the previously grassroots organization from a \$280,000 annual operating budget to a professional \$2.1 million organization, leading a staff of 23 full-time employees and building and operating a new \$11 million facility. Kathy has a unique depth of knowledge and understanding of PATH Intl. and its membership and has served in many different roles in the organization.

10 – 10:30 a.m. Facilitated Networking Breakouts: How Will Your Center Survive and Thrive in 2021? (CE)

Session A

11 – 11:45 a.m.

A1, Mindful Presence Application to Teaching: Relating and Being (CR All)

As instructors, we know our best lessons are the ones where we feel a mutual connection with participants. This session will demonstrate the power of an instructor's presence, mindfulness and awareness on student reaction, response or experience. Delve into mindful practice, teaching and inquiry-based strategies to impact the quality of connection between you and your audience.

Elizabeth Leigh Gust is a Doctor of Physical Therapy, alignment yoga Instructor and fellow equestrian devoted to the advancement of awareness in the equestrian community. Elizabeth believes quality of presence in body, mind and spirit lends to quality instruction, riding, teaching, training, relating and BEING in the equestrian community. Elizabeth's teachings and practices benefit all arenas: recreational, professional, competitive, therapeutic or otherwise. Liz aspires to give back to the equestrian community through teaching, educating and elevating conscious awareness of biomechanics, anatomy application and mindful influence.

A2, Fundraising When You're Not an Essential Service (CE)

COVID-19 has put a new twist on fundraising priorities for foundations and individual donors. Learn how to share your message to funders so they understand your organization--and give! Attendees will craft a message that captures the essential nature of their program services and will articulate at least two new fundraising activities and changes to one on-going activity.

Dana Butler Moburg has served for 21 years as the executive director of the JF Shea Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. PAC in San Juan Capistrano, CA. She brings an extensive background in nonprofit management and administration, with an emphasis in community relations, development, communications and board management. A fourth-level dressage rider, she is also one of only 18 equestrian instructors trained in the Balimo™ system to teach riding, and the Shea Center is the first to use these principles in therapeutic equestrian activities. Her work in the therapeutic equestrian field is well known and has been nationally recognized a number of times.

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Do something physical and grab your lunch in time to join Kathy for the PATH Intl. Update.

12:15 – 12:55 p.m. PATH Intl. Update with Kathy Alm, CEO

Session B

1 – 1:45 p.m.

B1, The Benefits of Choice: Challenges and Opportunity (DE)

People with disabilities have historically been excluded from decision making and many of the life experiences that are available to neurotypical people of the same age. This includes chances to make choices based on personal preferences and goals, face self-identified challenges and have the opportunity to experience and learn from taking risks and failures. This session provides a facilitated discussion with attendees about how to intentionally plan for choices, challenges and opportunities for riders during all aspects of their therapeutic riding experience. We all deserve the dignity and respect to learn from our choices, make mistakes and gain from lessons learned; and communicate with significant people in our lives about our own priorities.

Molly Murphy, PhD, BCBA-D, is a licensed doctoral level behavior analyst and the director of the Waisman Center Autism Treatment Programs, in partnership with UW Health. Molly provides leadership in the development, coordination and provision of treatment services to individuals with ASD and their families. Molly also has a history with therapeutic riding as a volunteer, volunteer trainer, co-instructor and serving as a consultant to the Three Gaits Board of Directors.

B2, Incorporating Equine-assisted Services Into School and Community Programs (CE)

During this interactive and engaging presentation, attendees will gain knowledge on how to approach and recruit community partners and schools, as well as learn how to adapt programming to suit community and school needs.

Katy Flint is the outreach specialist at Fieldstone Farm Therapeutic Riding Center, a PATH Intl. PAC in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. She holds the PATH Intl. CTRI certification. Katy graduated from the University of Findlay where she focused on equine studies and art. She holds a special interest in developing new programs and collaborating with community partners. She has been working to develop digital content and virtual program offerings over the last several months. In her spare time, Katy rides and shows her own horse as well as teaches able-bodied lessons.

1:45 – 2:15 p.m. **BREAK**

Session C

2:15 – 3 p.m.

C1, Assessing Quality of Life and Navigating End of Life Decisions for Program Horses (CR All)

Attendees will learn about the Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare, a theory of humane animal treatment that can be used to assess quality of life and will consider those Five Freedoms from both a welfare perspective and a quality of life perspective. A tool for objectively measuring pain in horses will be discussed, and attendees will practice identifying signs of pain that might be exhibited by program horses.

Mary Galle, DVM, is a 2018 graduate of UW-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine and has completed a certificate in veterinary acupuncture. Her professional interests include lameness, ophthalmology, reproduction and pain management. She grew up as an eventer and currently focuses on dressage.

C2, Veteran Recruitment and Retention (DE)

Veterans are a growing population in the field of Equine-assisted Services, with unique needs and goals. Attendees will come away with a better understanding of the veteran population. This session will provide programming ideas for veterans as well as examples of recruitment and retention tools.

Meggan Hill-McQueeney is a PATH Intl. Certified Master Level Instructor, Advanced Evaluator and 2015 James Brady Professional Achievement Award winner. She is the President and COO of BraveHearts Therapeutic Riding and Educational Center, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center with two sites in Illinois. Meggan is also a Special Olympics Equestrian Coach and USEF Bronze Para Dressage Coach.

Amber Eck is the veteran's service director and has been with BraveHearts for three years. Both Meggan and Amber work hands-on with all veteran activities, as well as serving veterans across the U.S. through various programs, a transportation grant and Trail to Zero efforts.

Sunday, March 14, 2021

9 – 10 a.m. Introducing Equity as a Core Value to Your Organization (CE)

Equity is rapidly becoming a "must" for organizations, both from an ethical standpoint and as a funding imperative. Despite the sincere interest in holding equity as a core value, many organizations, especially those in the horse world, struggle to engage a diverse staff, volunteer and student population. Learn what "equity" means in the real world, the power of that viewpoint and how to introduce the learning, and lead your organization to a new level of broad inclusivity.

Nina Gregorson, MPH, MCHES, grew up in a Wisconsin farming community, and has focused her public health career with the lens of equity for housing, tobacco cessation and community health planning. She received her undergraduate degree in community health education from UW-La Crosse (2013) and her master's degree in public health from UW-Madison (2016). She maintains a Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) certificate, as well.

10 – 10:30 a.m. Facilitated Networking Breakouts: Small Steps to Equity – Ways to Get Started (CE)

Session D

10:45 – 11:30 a.m.

D1, Building Resilient Families Door-to-Door (DE)

The stress of caregiving can take a big toll on families and marriages. In this session, we will explore some of the science of stress, trauma-informed care and the possibility of nurturing resilience in parents/caregivers as a part of and beyond the pick-up/drop-off routines.

Jessica Dallman, MA, LPC, NCC, is a counselor and therapist who incorporates equines and who specializes in trauma, attachment and infant mental health. Jess especially loves working with diverse populations (e.g., deaf/hard of hearing, Spanish-speaking, LGBTQ2IA+, adoptees, etc.).

Elizabeth Seeliger, AuD, is a longtime horse-lover and consultant for professionals working with young children who are deaf or hard of hearing. She is finishing training through the Gestalt Equine Institute of the Rockies and has lived experience as a parent with a child with special needs.

D2, Building Your Board for Effectiveness (CE)

Boards can serve as guiding forces, funding partners or extra hands for work. What board structure best serves your organization today? Where does your board look for future success? Learn the difference between a policy board and a working board, and how to recruit, train and engage board members to reach your organizational goals.

Beverly Dusso, MBA, earned her MBA degree focused on arts administration from the Bolz Center at UW-Madison. After leading several arts organizations, including the Miami Ballet, she turned her nonprofit expertise to the Harriett Tubman Center, a domestic violence education, advocacy and housing organization in Minnesota's Twin Cities area. In her tenure, she grew the organization from a small shelter to a \$7 million dollar organization that provided legal, housing and prevention services throughout the greater Twin Cities area and was effective at legal advocacy to change perceptions and laws regarding domestic violence.

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch and physical activity break

Session E

1 – 1:45 p.m.

E1, Riding in the Moment: Developing Best Practices for Older Adults With Alzheimer's Disease (DE)

Interacting with horses has significant benefits for many medical conditions. Learn the benefits of a program for those with Alzheimer's disease and upcoming research to quantify the benefits and establish standardized programming. The presentation will present research insights into equine safety with vulnerable populations.

Beth Fields, PhD, OTR/L, BCG, is an occupational therapist with expertise in qualitative and mixed methods, caregiving, aging and nonpharmacological approaches. Her research program addresses two foci: 1) assessment development and performance improvement to ensure quality person and family-centered acute care delivery; and 2) implementation of evidenced-based programs designed to support the health and quality of life of aging adults and their families.

E2, Universal Design for Learning in the Riding Arena (CR All)

The clientele of an organization providing equine-assisted services is naturally diverse, and instructors face a variety of challenges to optimizing teaching and learning for all. In this interactive session, attendees will explore the Universal Design for Learning framework, an evidence-based set of guidelines for increasing access to and participation in learning. Its three core principles are that instructors allow for multiple means of representation, expression and engagement when they teach. Initially developed for classroom educators, these guidelines offer one way to think about the design of equine-assisted learning experiences that meet the needs of more learners. Attendees in this session will

- Explore the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) guidelines and language
- Generate practical applications of the UDL guidelines in their own equine-assisted learning spaces
- Analyze the benefits and challenges of translating the UDL framework into non-classroom spaces.

Jessica TeSlaa, PhD has been a riding instructor at Three Gaits, Inc., a PATH Intl. PAC in Stoughton, WI, since 2013. Before that, she was a volunteer at Three Gaits and other riding programs in Iowa and Michigan, going back to her childhood. In her spare time, Jessica works at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a STEM educator, community engagement specialist and instructional consultant. She holds a PhD from the cellular and molecular biology program at UW-Madison.

1:45 - 2:00 p.m. Wrap Up & Adjourn

We look forward to seeing you soon online!