

Seeing my daughter, Charlotte, walk up the ramp at CTR last week and mount her pony was an amazing experience. CTR works so hard to give her, and others with special needs, meaningful experiences. The director, instructors, and volunteers genuinely care about all of their clients and love watching each one reach milestones, no matter how small. Every success is celebrated!"

"I am thankful to CTR and what that experience did for my son, Garrett. He was a kid who struggled with being accepted by his peers in school and was bullied horribly through middle school. Riding at CTR gave Garrett that feeling of acceptance because of that bond he developed with his horse. For that hour, he felt in control and was able to "get away from the cruel world around him". All the volunteers treated him with dignity and respect and helped him develop his social skills. He is now a freshman in high school and is playing JV football."



THIS HOLIDAY SEASON GIVE THE GIFT OF EMPOWERMENT!

Dear Friend,

Working in cooperation, CTR horses and volunteers are dedicated to providing horse and horse-related activities as a means to provide therapeutic recreation and alternative therapy to over 200 special needs individuals and groups served annually. CTR programs focus on facilitating the expansion of the physical, mental, and emotional abilities of each and every client and the outcomes include the satisfaction that comes from the bond between horse and rider, the joy and increased self-esteem that comes from making physical, mental and emotional progress and achieving personal success and individual empowerment! There is no better feeling than that, and everyone deserves and needs this in their lives!

CTR has enjoyed three years of growth and currently is poised to partner with Harford County to move its programs to a permanent home on county owned property. It is an exciting time, but daily operations are costly and challenging to cover when funds are also needed for program expansion and an upcoming capital campaign. Currently there are individuals and groups in the county who want to participate in therapeutic, horse-related activities as well as other nonprofit organizations who wish to have CTR provide programs/services specific to the needs of their clients. Program fees do not cover the full cost to operate our programs and provide appropriate care for our horses and facility. Instead, we must rely on successful fundraising and the support of people and organizations that care about providing safe, proven and positive opportunities for the special needs population in our community.

Please help us continue to meet the needs of our current and prospective clients by giving the most wonderful gift this holiday season. Make a donation to CTR and your money will fund our daily operational costs so that we can expand our programs/services, update riding equipment, provide comprehensive horse healthcare, and meet the growing need for CTR services in our community.

Positive comments and outcomes like those regarding Garrett and Charlotte keep us inspired and committed to fulfilling our mission and meeting our daily challenges. Please help us to continue to do so.

Sincerely,

Cathy Schmidt
Executive Director



CHESAPEAKE THERAPEUTIC RIDING
P.O. Box 475, Abingdon, MD 21009
410-914-5183

info@chesapeaketherapeuticriding.org www.chesapeaketherapeuticriding.org

CTR is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, Tax ID #26-0068227. All donations are fully tax deductible.

Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding Reflections



I had a really lousy week. Lots of worry and anxiety over stupid things in life. On Saturday, I volunteered at CTR for the 11am ride. As I stood by the horse awaiting the rider, I saw a small boy walking toward us. I watched as he walked with care with braces on both legs. As he mounted Crystal, I noticed the scars on both of his legs, and the deep scar on his neck. As he settled into the saddle, he looked down at me, and with the sweetest smile, he said: "So how was your week?" I thought I would burst into tears....I had been so consumed with myself all week, and to see this beautiful little boy concerned about MY week really put things in perspective for me. Anna Lambdin, Volunteer

Through the healing energy of horses, I have witnessed the strength, determination, and ability that lie within each individual. Knowing that I am helping enhance the lives of my students is what keeps me motivated and dedicated to therapeutic riding.

Beth Cole, Head Instructor & Board Member



As a member of the United States Air Force for eighteen years and a mother of twins, I have deployed and experienced personal and professional challenges that I have drawn on my experience from CTR to find my way through. The equine assisted growth and learning (EAGALA) activities at CTR, provide learning experiences through the help of a horse that you have to be a part of to believe! This is an amazing way for people of all ages to find inner strength to overcome life's challenges. I am excited for others in the community to continue to benefit from what this program has to offer. Natalie Cerchio, Instructor

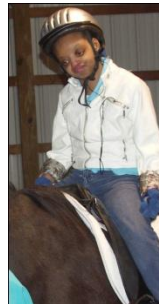


Description of Programs & Services

Therapeutic Riding – Mounted or ground based activities focused on physical and cognitive therapeutic recreation and emotional support for individuals with special needs.

Hippotherapy – Licensed physical therapists use the movement of the horse to facilitate improvements in the client

Equine Assisted Learning/Equine Assisted Psychotherapy – Experiential encounters focused on self exploration and self awareness, through close connection with horses in ground based sessions.



This CTR mailing was assembled by the Harford County Public Schools Future Link Program. This is a post Secondary transition Program designed to link students with opportunities to make community and agency connections, develop daily living skills, develop job readiness skills, explore career opportunities, develop self determination and self advocacy skills and well as other skills that will be needed upon school completion.