

Thank you for your interest in Hands and Hearts for Horses. Enclosed is a packet of information and the required forms, which must be filled out and returned to the Office Administrator prior to placement in the program. Please keep this first section for your future reference.

Hands and Hearts for Horses (HHH) is a non-profit therapeutic equine assisted activities and therapies program in a supportive and dynamic environment to enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities living in Thomasville, Tallahassee and the surrounding areas. This program strives to be therapeutically beneficial in the physical, psychological, cognitive, and behavioral aspects of each individual who participates. All programs work towards fostering independence, enhancing individual strengths, and achieving personal goals.

What is Therapeutic Horseback Riding?

Therapeutic riding uses equine-oriented activities for the purpose of contributing positively to the cognitive, physical, emotional, and social well-being of people with special needs. Therapeutic riding provides benefits in the areas of sport, recreation, education, and medicine to individuals with a wide range of disabilities.

What are the Benefits of Therapeutic riding?

Physically, therapeutic riding can improve coordination and help normalize muscle tone. It can help improve posture and increase the functional range of motion, muscular strength, and flexibility. Perceptual motor skills and sensory motor skills may also improve. The psychological benefits for the individuals who participate include improved motivation, self-esteem, and confidence. Therapeutic riding enhances the development of cognitive skills and allows the rider to improve socialization skills and learn teamwork.

How do I qualify to participate as a rider with Hands and Hearts for Horses?

You must:

- Be over the age of 4
- Weigh no more than 250 lbs.
- Have sufficient balance to maintain sitting on the horse
- Behave appropriately to maintain safety

Hands and Hearts for Horses may be unable to accommodate a potential rider due to resources available and program capabilities (i.e. horses, equipment, and availability of therapist involvement, volunteers, and instructor capabilities). Hands and Hearts for Horses follows PATH Intl. Precautions and Contraindication guidelines.

How do I get started?

Each rider, parent, or guardian begins by reading the attached information package, completing the attached forms and returning them to the barn. Please note the medical forms **must be completed and signed by the rider's physician**. New riders will require an assessment to determine the riders' individual needs, suitability, class type, exercise tolerance, mounting technique, volunteer assistance, horse and adaptive equipment assignments, availability and goal setting. Riders are then placed in classes based on their individual needs, ability, age, personal goals and availability.

Through carefully designed objectives and lesson plans prepared by our PATH Intl. Certified Instructors, riders work towards their personal goals in a therapeutically beneficial setting. The rider's instructor records measurable outcomes and documents progress notes each week for the individual riders they serve; always working towards the goals agreed upon at the beginning of each semester.



Hands & Hearts for Horses, Inc. Participant Application 3824 Lower Cairo Road



Thomasville, Georgia 31792

This information must be updated and submitted annually. Please print legibly.

Participant Name:		Date of Birth:		Gender:	
Address:					
City:	County:		State:	Zip:	
Primary Phone: ((home/c	cell/work) Alterna	te Phone: (.)	
Participant School or En	nployer:	School Grade	e/Occupation:		
Email(s):					
Preferred Method of Co		ail Text			
If under age of 18 or de	pendent adult, please list par	rent/guardian/ca	regivers' names b	elow:	
Name:	Cell Phone:(_)	Relationship	:	
Name:	Cell Phone:())	Relationship	:	
In case of emergency, p	lease contact the following it	fother than parer	nt/guardian/careg	iver:	
Name:	Cell Phone:()	Relationship	:	
Name: Cell Phone:()	Relationship	:	
	Programs of Intere	st (circle all that a	apply)		
Therapeutic Horsemans	hip (Mounted Lessons)	Equine Grov	wth & Wellness (U	nmounted Lessons)	
Occupational Therapy -	Equine Assisted	Vocational 7	Vocational Training Program		
	<u>Referr</u>	al Method			
□ HHH Client	☐ HHH Volunteer	□ Medical F	Referral		
☐ Family/Friend	☐ HHH Website	□ Other:			

Payment Methods

Preferred Payment (circle	one):	Private Pay (\$35/l	esson)	Scholarship Application (Must Be Included)
How do you wish to pay:	Cash	Credit/Debit	Check	
			OR	
My participant is covered t	:hrough	another pre-appro	ved entity	r:
Name of contact/support of	coordina	tor:		
Phone Number:		E	mail:	
		<u>Scholar</u>	ships & Fe	<u>es</u>
funding to support the pro through vigorous fundraisi	gram an ng effort	nd make it affordak ts. <i>Although riders</i> <i>son</i> . Scholarships r	ole for ever pay \$35 pe	olunteers continue to aggressively pursue by rider we serve. Our riders are subsidized er lesson, the actual cost for therapeutic riding asidered on a case-by-case basis.
& Hearts for Horses, Inc. po above-named Participant, Horses, Inc., its advertising Horses, Inc. and its work to publicize the same by all m	ermissio including agencie use and neans, in	on to take, or have g television picture es, news media and d reproduce the pluding, without li	taken, still es, and con d any other notographs miting the	dged, the undersigned hereby grants to Hands and moving photographs and films of the sents and authorizes Hands & Hearts for persons interested in Hands & Hearts for films or pictures, and to circulate and generality of the foregoing, newspapers, books and clinical materials.
Hearts for Horses of any ar	nd all pho	otographs and any	other aud	ation the use and reproduction by Hands and liovisual materials taken of me/my child/my r for any other use for the benefit of the
I do NOT consent to	any pho	otograph or other	audiovisua	al materials taken of me/my child/my ward.

Therapeutic Horsemanship & Horseback Riding Program Information

Hands & Hearts for Horses Therapeutic Horsemanship classes are organized to assign riders to a class according to age and level of riding skill. We periodically re-define rider levels to best meet our riders' abilities. The Director and Instructors will determine final placements of riders. Although times are listed for

lessons below, these times are subject to change based on the instructor's decision on what is best for the rider.

- Group lessons are 45 to 60 minutes and may have up to 4-6 clients per class.
- <u>Semi-Private lessons</u> are 45 minutes and have 2-3 clients per class.
- <u>Private lessons</u> are 30 minutes in length. These are ONLY assigned by the Director and are reserved for severe clients who may need additional support.

Attire: All students must wear approved ASTM-SEI safety helmets while mounted. Helmets are provided by Hands & Hearts for Horses, unless your purchase your own. If you decide to purchase a helmet, we need to approve it. All students must wear closed toes shoes and long pants are preferred.

General Safety Rules:

agreement and fully understand its content.

- Riders who are minors require a parent or caregiver to remain onsite during the lesson.
- Guests and spectators should remain in the designated viewing areas in order to minimize distractions.
- Please do not leave any children unattended.
- Please note: The barn is not open to parents, caregivers or visitors without prior permission. Horses are large and often unpredictable animals, no one should be riding or interacting with them without being under direct supervision or permission from a staff member.

Weight Policy

For the safety of our clients, horses, and volunteers, we adhere to our veterinarian's recommendations for height to weight ratios listed below. If you are not within the height to weight ratios, accommodations may be made at the discretion of the Program or Executive Director.

Under 5'0" tall = 150 lbs.	5'0'' - 5'6'' = 175 lbs.
5'7" – 6'0" = 200 lbs.	6'1'' - 6'5'' = 250 lbs.

Please initial as acknowledgement of the height to weight ratio:

[Participant's Name] would like to participate in the Hands and Hearts for Horses therapeutic riding program. I acknowledge the risks and potential for risks of horseback riding. However, I feel that the possible benefits to myself/my child/my ward are greater than the risk assumed. I hereby, intending to be legally bound, for myself, my heirs and assigns, executors or administrators, waive and release forever all claims for damages against Hands and Hearts for Horses Inc., its Board of Directors or Trustees, Instructors, Therapists, Aides, Volunteers, and/or Employees for any and all injuries and/or losses I/my child/my ward may sustain while participating in any Hands and Hearts for Horses program. I understand that for the purpose of assisting volunteers in providing safe and responsible services to students, Hands and Hearts for Horses will release information pertaining to the student's disability as

necessary. By signing below, I acknowledge involvement with horses is a high-risk activity. I have read this

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Hands & Hearts for Horses No-Show and Cancellation Policy

We ask that the following policies be adhered to so that we may be able to offer the best quality program possible.

- 1) Please arrive a few minutes early for your class. This will give you a chance to use the restroom, find and put on your helmet, and be ready to mount on time. It may not be possible to mount a late arrival and if the arena gate is closed and the class has already started, then you will not be able to ride that day.
- 2) We will consider you "absent" if you have notified us at least 24 hours in advance. Otherwise, we will consider you a "no-show."
- 3) If you will be absent, please call 229-551-0086 and LEAVE A VOICEMAIL clearly stating the client's name, class day and class time.
- 4) In the case of an emergency, please contact us within 24-48 hours after the emergency to ensure that we have you marked correctly in our system.
- 5) In case of sudden illness, the client or parent/guardian should call as soon as it is apparent that they will not be able to attend (at least 2 hours prior to the lesson time).
- 6) Excessive absences (3 or more) or no-shows (more than 3) will be subject to losing your class slot and being placed at the end of the waiting list.
- 7) Clients who have been awarded a scholarship for the semester and do not follow our cancellation procedures will be subject to forfeiting the scholarship and being ineligible for future scholarships.

"No-Shows, No-Calls" result in:

Decrease in recruiting and retaining volunteers

Unnecessary tacking and untacking of our horses

Inefficient use of staff and volunteers

(Please initial) I have read and understand the Hands & Hearts for Horses No-Show and Cancellation

Policy.

HANDS & HEARTS FOR HORSES, INC. EQUINE ACTIVITY RELEASE/WAIVER, ASSUMPTION OF RISKS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND NOTICE OF RISKS

ı,, do r	nereby:
owners, and each of them, their officers, agents, employed collectively referred to as RELEASEES) from any and all personal representatives, assigns, heirs, next of kin, or negligence of RELEASEES which causes the UNDERSIGN COVENANT to hold RELEASEES harmless and indemnify	TO SUE Hands and Hearts for Horses Inc., its operators, horse byees, leasees, volunteers and participants (all hereafter claims, loss, damage, and liability to the UNDERSIGNED, his/her anyone claiming through them, arising out of any liability or IED injury, death, damages, or property damages. I HEREBY RELEASEES for any claim, judgment, or expense including neur arising out of my activities or presence, or travel to or from, property of RELEASEES or at horse shows.
involves DANGER AND RISK OF INJURY OR DEATH, that time and may become more HAZARDOUS, and that the VOLUNTARILY ASSUME because I CHOOSE TO DO SO. I participate in and I have inspected the grounds, horse, and participants pose a danger to me; nevertheless, I V my participation. Likewise, I understand that use of the of the equipment involves DANGER AND RISK OF INJUR	ses of RELEASEES, riding, showing, or attending horse shows conditions of horseback riding and horses change from time to the is INHERENT DANGER in horse riding which I appreciate and have observed horses and riding of the type that I seek to and equipment provided. I further know that other riders, horse OLUNTARILY ELECT TO ACCEPT ALL RISKS connected therewithing a playground and playground equipment is voluntary and that use BY OR DEATH. I have personally inspected the playground and D ALL RISKS connected therewith in my participation and the
that the foregoing RELEASE, WAIVER, AND INDEMNITY permitted by the law of the state in which I participate	e been made to me to sign this Release. I further expressly agree AGREEMENT is intended to be as broad and inclusive as in activities conducted by the RELEASEES and that if any portion II, not withstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.
Under Georgia law, an equine activity sponsor or equal participant in equine activities resulting from the inh	WARNING quine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a erent risks of equine activities, pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 4 ode of Georgia Annotated.
LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT FULLY RELEAS	D, AND UNDERSTANDS THAT THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF ALL ES HANDS AND HEARTS FOR HORSES FROM ANY LIABILITY TO TH NDERSIGNED.
READ CAREF	ULLY BEFORE SIGNING!
Participant's Signature:	Date:
Signature of Parent/Guardian:	Date:

(if participant is under 18 years of age)



Hands and Hearts for Horses Code of Conduct

Respect for Others

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of other Hands and Hearts for Horses participants, volunteers, instructors, staff, friends, family members and spectators.
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religion or ability.
- I will display control, respect, dignity and empathy to all involved including participants, volunteers, instructors, staff, friends, family members and spectators.

Responsibility for My Actions

- I will not use profanity or insult or taunt others or engage in other forms of poor behavior. I will practice good sportsmanship.
- I will not engage in any type of inappropriate behavior, sexual activity and/or verbal or physical abuse with other participants, volunteers, instructors, staff, friends, family members or spectators.
- I will respect the property of Hands and Hearts for Horses.
- I will respect every horse/equine and will not engage in physically abusive behavior toward any.
- I will obey all posted rules of the barn.

By signing below, I am saying that I have read, or have had read to me, this Code of Conduct. I agree to obey and understand the words and meaning of this Code of Conduct. I understand that it is a general guide and does not describe all types of good and bad behavior. I understand that if I do not obey this Code of Conduct, I may be discharged from the Hands and Hearts for Horses program.

Print Name of Participant	Printed Name of Guardian or Parent (If participant is under 18 years of age)	Date	
Signature of Participant	Signature of Guardian or Parent	Date	



Hands & Hearts for Horses

COVID-19 Acknowledgement of Risk and Acceptance of Services

I,	(Client) and	(Parent/Guardian), is/are aware of the
	ng COVID-19 or Coronavirus while rece e of the pandemic outbreak.	iving in person services from Hands & Hearts for Horses
telehealth offered services increase	d instead of, or in combination with, in pmy/our risk of contracting and passing	I services, including but not limited to telephone and video person services. I/we am/are also aware that in person g on the COVID-19 or Coronavirus and agree to hold we may encounter during any such interaction and receipt
recommended by home until I am a and at the end of	HHH, its instructors and staff. This masked to enter the building or vehicle, ei	hygiene, personal safety and public safety as by include but is not limited to: waiting in my vehicle or ther in person or via telephone; washing my hands prior to n request; wiping down surfaces with disinfectant; and
symptoms of, or l presented with il virus or bacterial them of these syr	been in contact with, someone who has lness including persistent coughing, snot disease. In addition, I/we will follow to a coughting, or of my/our exposure to a CO g this pandemic and until such time as I	at any time within the previous 2 weeks personally had admitted being positive to, COVID-19/Coronavirus or eezing, fever, chest congestion or any other signs of any he recommendations of HHH staff once I/we have notified VID-19 positive person, as it pertains to my future receipt HHH staff should determine that said precautions are no
as well as office s	urfaces and doors, and all frequently to by the CDC and our contracted Veterin	eaning and sanitizing of horse tack and grooming supplies, uched areas, between all client visits and on a daily basis arians for the safety of all visitors, clients, employees,
as may be presen	5,	oice and agree to follow these and any other precautions old harmless all individuals associated with or through any as staff, volunteers, agents or assigns.
Client Name:		Date:
Client Signature:		
Parent/Guardian	Name:	Date:
Parent/Guardian	Signature:	
Witness Signatu	ıre:	Date:



Medical and Participant History



This form must be updated annually and submitted with required signatures. All forms must have required signatures and be returned to Hands & Hearts for Horses prior to participating.

The following conditions ARE contraindicated for therapeutic riding

- Hemophilia
- Positive x-ray for Atlantoaxial Instability
- Tethered cord or Chiari II malformation
- Hip subluxation, dislocation, or degeneration
- Spinal cord injury above T6
- Uncontrolled seizures
- Indwelling catheter
- The following conditions MAY BE contraindicated for the rapeutic riding:
 - Osteoporosis
 - Heart condition
 - Varicose veins
 - Recurrent pathological fractures
- Osteogenesis Imperfecta
- Diabetes
- Spina Bifida
- Spinal fusions/spinal instability
- Recent surgeries
- Lordosis or Kyphosis
- Spinal stabilization devices
- Structural scoliosis > 30 degrees

Participant Name:			D	ate of Birth:	
Height:	feet	_ inches Weig	ght:	lbs. Gender:	
Primary Diagnosis:			ICD	Code:	
Diagnosis ONSET (ple	ease check one): □ Birth	□ Childhood	□ Adolescence	□ Adulthood	□ Date:
Secondary Diagnosis	·		Tertiary Diagnos	s:	
Client Is:	□ Verbal	□ Hearing	□ Ambula	atory	□ Seeing
	□ Verbal Assisted	☐ Hearing Assi	isted □ Ambula	atory Assisted	☐ Seeing with Assist
	□ Non-Verbal	□ Deaf	□ Non-Ar	nbulatory	□ Blind
PLEASE LIST ALL CUR	RENT MEDICATIONS:				
1			Taken for:		
2			Taken for:		
3			Taken for:		
4.			Taken for:		

CURRENT/PREVIOUS THERAPIES:

□ Occupational Therapy:			
□ Physical Therapy:			
□ Other:			
			ses GOALS for IMPROVED DAILY LIVING SKILLS:
			kills and goals, as well as daily living skills and goals.
1.			
2.			
3			
4			
5			
Hobbins and other interests			
riobbles and other interests			
Riding Experience: New to HHH? □YES □NO	First ye	ear at HHH	I: Other equine therapy facility:
_	•		one □ Minimal □ Moderate □ Extensive ndependent □ Spotter/Leader □ Sidewalker(s)
Describe previous equine expe	erience:	Year starte	ed: Duration:
Please indicate if	the clie	nt has or	has had history of the following by checking yes or no.
Concern	YES	NO	If Yes, please describe
Allergies			
Asthma/COPD			
Auditory			
Brace			
Cardiac			
Circulatory			
Dislocating Joints			
Laminectomy/Fusion			

Learning Disability		
Mental Impairment		
Neurological		
Ossification		
Osteoporsis		
Pain		
Psychological		
Impairment		
Scoliosis	Degree: Type:	
Seizures, Type:	Controlled: NO	
Scizares, Type.	Last Seizure Date:	
Skeletal		
Speech Impairments		
Spinal Column Injury		
Spondylolisthesis		
Subluxing Joints		
Surgical Implants		
Visual Impairment		
Other		
Mobility:		
Independent Ambulation?		
Cane/Crutches/Walker		
Prosthetics		
Orthotics		
Wheelchair		



Hands & Hearts for Horses, Inc. Physician's Statement and Release (Part 1 of 2)



To be completed by participant's physician or licensed/credentialed health professional (e.g. PT, OT, Speech, Psychologist, etc.)
This form must be updated annually and submitted with required signatures.

Physician, please note – the conditions noted on the accompanying medical history, if present, may represent precautions or contraindications to equine assisted activities. Therefore, when reviewing the medical history, please note whether these conditions are present and to what degree. Please be as specific as possible so that we may best serve the client's needs. *Hands & Hearts for Horses will make the final determination about the individual's ability to participate in the program based on the Physician's Statement and the availability of horses. Please complete the form in its entirety.*

Patient Name:			Date of B	Birth:				
Patient Primary Diagnosis:ICD 10 Code:								
Secondary Diagnosis:Other:								
Date of Onset: Weight: Weight:								
Specific limitations not noted on medica	Specific limitations not noted on medical history:							
ALL Participants with Down Syndrome – PLEASE NOTE: Due to the nature of Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies, we require that ALL individuals diagnosed with Down Syndrome must have an ANNUAL certification from their physician that a neurological and/or physical examination reveals no sign of AAI (Atlantoaxial Instability) or decrease in neurological function: A) Annual neurological/physical exam for AAI/decreased neurological function: Positive Negative Exam Date: B) Most recent cervical x-ray for AAI: Positive Negative X-ray Date:								
ALL Participants with Scoliosis – PLEASE NOTE: Moderate or severe scoliosis MAY be a contraindication for Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies if the participant cannot achieve full upright posture. The participant's spine should have enough flexibility to accommodate the movement of the equine activity. Degree of Scoliosis:								
ALL Participants who have seizures – PLEASE NOTE: Due to the nature of certain seizures, please consult with your physician to determine if therapeutic horseback riding is a safe activity. Seizure disorders that are not controlled and certain types of seizures (atonic or drop attack seizures) may be a contraindication for horseback riding.								
Seizure Type:	_ Controlled:	_YesN	O Date of Last S	eizure:				



Hands & Hearts for Horses, Inc. Physician's Statement and Release (Part 2 of 2)



I have reviewed the attached medical history and release my patient to participate in appropriate programming at Hands & Hearts for Horses, Inc. I am aware and permit my patient to actively participate in the following area (check all that apply):

	k all that apply)		aware and permit my	patient to	actively participate in the follow	ring area
	□ Sitting ast	ride a horse	□ Grooming hors	ses I	□ Other equine related ground	activities
partic weigh Hands	ipating in super the medical inf	vised equine-assi formation against orses, Inc. for on	sted activities. Howeve the existing precaution	er, I underst as and contr	son is not medically precluded fro and that the therapeutic riding co raindications. Therefore, I refer th her eligibility for participating in s	enter will is person to
Physic	cian/Medical Pro	ofessional Name	(please print):			
□ MD	□ DO □ NP	□PA □PT □	OT □ SLP □ Other:_		License/UPIN#:	
Physi	cian's Signatur	e:			Date:	
Addre	ess:				City:	
State	:Zip: _	Of	fice Phone:		Office Fax:	
		When comp	leted with ALL SIGNAT	URES pleas	se return this form to:	
			Hands & Heart	s for Horse	es	
			3824 Lower (Cairo Road		
			Thomasville, Go	eorgia 3179	92	
		ı	Phone: 229-551-0086	Fax: 916-	-644-8182	
		1	Email: info@handsand	heartsforho	orses.com	



□ Grant

□ Horse

□ Other: _____

How Can I Help Hands & Hearts for Horses?

We ask for your voluntary response to the following questions as we grow and expand our services. This



information will be used ONLY for purposes of fundraising, obtaining financial and in-kind support from foundations and other support agencies as well as government entities. Your responses will in no way influence your registration or participation at Hands & Hearts for Horses. Name: ______ Phone: _____ Email: _____ Hands & Hearts for Horses Affiliation: □ Participant □ Client Parent/Guardian □ Volunteer □ Other: Please indicate any civic or service organizations that you or your family are involved with: Club/Organization Type **Club Organization Name Rotary Club** Lions Club Junior League Exchange Club Religious Organization Military or Retired Military Organization Service Organization Other Please indicate the employment of you and/or your family. **Employer** Who My Employer Offers: **In-kind Donations Matching Gifts Sponsorships** You Spouse/Partner Family Member **Family Member** I would like to share my story as a part of a Hands & Hearts for Horses Ambassador. □ Yes □ No I am fluent in a language other than English. ☐ Yes ☐ No Language: I would like to share my talents: ☐ Photography ☐ Database ☐ Handyman ☐ Other: _____ I would like to sponsor a Hands & Hearts for Horses Horse (\$1,500 annually): _____ (Name of Horse) I have media connections: ☐ Yes I have a suggestion for one of the following and would like to be contacted: □ In-Kind Donation □ Donor □ Sponsor □ Community Partnership □ Corporate Partnership