



## *Volunteer Handbook*

# Welcome!

*Thank you for volunteering at Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy, Inc (TREAT)! We are glad to see you! Volunteers are critical to the success of TREAT. We could not provide a high quality program without you and we rely on you to help our program operate as safely as possible.*

*It is exciting to watch students develop their skills and become physically stronger over time, while achieving improved self-esteem and confidence.*

*We hope your experience at TREAT will bring you satisfaction, personal growth and fulfillment. Your spirit of volunteerism is a valuable asset and “thank you” is just not enough to express our appreciation for your time and talents.*

*We welcome you as a member of the team! Please do not hesitate to share your opinions and questions with us to help our volunteer program be an enriching experience for you.*

*Taylor Sandoval*

*Executive Director, Tailored Rides*



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# **Welcome to Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy, Inc (TREAT)**

TREAT was founded in January 2016 by Taylor Sandoval as a non-profit corporation for the purpose of providing physical, psychological and social growth to individuals with disabilities and their families through a high quality horseback riding program.

TREAT uses the healing power of a unique team of horses, farm, VOLUNTEERS and professional staff to help individuals seeking physical, mental, spiritual or emotional growth.

Therapeutic riding applies the majesty, sensitivity, and physical attributes of a horse to the task of treating an individual with disabilities. Examples of disabilities that therapeutic riding benefits:

- CEREBRAL PALSY
- SPINA BIFIDA
- NEUROMUSCULAR DISORDERS
- POST TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
- COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS
- EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES
- AUTISM
- ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER

TREAT serves riders age 5 years and up, with no age maximum. A site visit and screening process is conducted to determine a rider's eligibility into the program. This process will determine if the program activities will be safe and appropriate for the individual and what resources would be needed, such as horse, instructor, volunteers and equipment.

Once in the program, rider goals are determined and progress is documented. TREAT's participants ride one time per week for 30 minutes to one hour, depending on their independence and riding level. Lesson activities may include developing basic riding skills, exercises, games on horseback and ground activities.

## **Benefits of Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies**

The physical movement of the horse produces a 3-dimensional movement that closely resembles the normal human gait in the rider's pelvis and trunk. This movement helps to:

- **Strengthen muscles**
- **Improve muscle coordination and motor skills**
- **Improve balance**
- **Improve posture**
- **Improve endurance**

Socially and emotionally, therapeutic riding improves:

- **Self-esteem**
- **Self-confidence**
- **Relationship building**
- **Overcome fear and anxiety**
- **Social and communication skills**

Cognitively, the horse and rider is a strong motivator for participants to work on:

- **Following multi-step directions**
- **Staying on task**
- **Counting**

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteers provide an invaluable service to TREAT. No matter the amount of time you are able to devote, your support is greatly appreciated!

Due to insurance regulations and our PATH International center accreditation standards, all volunteers must be at least 14 years old.

Volunteers must be available a minimum of 2 hours per visit. Volunteers will receive their assignment and schedule following attendance at the Volunteer Orientation and Training or have one on one training completed by one of our certified instructors. Volunteer assignments and schedules are based on interest, experience and availability.

1. Volunteer Application and Release forms must be completed and returned to TREAT.
2. Volunteers must attend a training provided by TREAT for the role they select.
3. Volunteering may involve moderate physical activity and working outside in varying weather conditions. Please be sure you are comfortable with the conditions of the role you select.
4. Volunteers must be able to work independently with minimal staff supervision.

5. Volunteers must have a positive attitude and be able to adapt to change and be flexible.
6. Volunteers must possess the ability to follow directions and take instruction.
7. Because of the nature of the service provided, TREAT reserves the right to make the final determination as to the appropriateness of volunteers for our organization.

## **Qualities of a TREAT Volunteer**

- Reliable
- Flexible
- Empathetic
- Punctual
- Common sense
- Patient

## **Volunteer Policies**

### **Ability of Volunteers to Perform Activities**

Volunteering with Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy can be a very wonderful experience, however, it is a physically and mentally challenging job. Volunteer duties must be performed in a safe and competent manner. Volunteers must be able to perform to a certain standard to participate in the following activities:

#### **Leading a horse**

Volunteers must be capable of a mix of walking/jogging for 45 minutes while maintaining vigilance and control of the equine in the lesson. They must be able to participate for the duration of a lesson without water or bathroom breaks. They must be able to exercise safe control of the equine in the case of behavior from either the equine or the participant. They must be able to follow directions of the PATH International Instructor in control of the lesson at all times. They must be able to lead the equine in a manner that maintains the training of the equine and exhibits good ground manners.

#### **Side walking**

Volunteers must be capable of a mix of walking/jogging for 45 minutes while maintaining vigilant and often using upper body strength to assist the participant. They must be able to assist the participant with the activities and follow the directions of the Path International Instructor in control of the lesson. They must be able to participate in this

activity for the duration of a lesson with no water or bathroom breaks. They must be able to maintain safe control of the participant in all situations, including incidence of unexpected behavior of the equine or participant.

## **Volunteer Roles**

### **Horse Leader**

Main Responsibility: To focus on the horse, leading and controlling the horse in the lesson. The Leader must also be aware of the rider, instructor, side-walkers, and any potential hazards in and around the arena. Report any problems to the instructor.

Before the lesson: Arrive at the barn at least 30 minutes before lesson to groom and tack up the horse. Check lesson plan/consult with instructor to understand the pattern and purpose of the day's lesson.

Horse preparation: Communicate with other volunteers to groom and tack. Collect tack first then collect horse, tie them for grooming and tacking up. Give a thorough clean (pick hoofs, curry, brush, etc.).

Tack: Check lesson schedule for list of tack for each lesson/horse. Tack the horse up, saddle pad first, then lift the saddle on gently, ensure that the saddle is in the correct position, gently tighten the girth, ensuring that no one is near the horse's head while tightening. Put on bridle or headstall, leave halter on (under bridle). Put on reins.

Take horse to mounting area: Please be aware of your surroundings. Many parents, family members and volunteers gather around the mounting areas. THIS IS NOT PERMITTED. Ask them to relocate to safer area outside of the arena.

Mounting Procedure: Lead horse from the right side to guide horse as close as possible to the mounting side of the ramp. Stand directly in front of the horse when entering the chute. (Halt position) Ask permission of rider and sidewalkers to walk away from the ramp. Leave the chute walking one step at a time straight out towards the middle of the arena in an open area so the instructor can complete tack check.

In the Arena: Begin with a direct lead and release to a passive lead if instructed to do so. Keep a light touch on the lead unless restraint is required. Always keep two horse lengths from the next mount. Provide assistance only as such assistance as is necessary; only lead the horse forward or turn if the rider cannot perform the instructions on his/her own. Some of our riders need extra time to process an instruction, so be sure to give them that time. Assume the halt position if the instructor requests a halt. When standing in the halt position, please keep far enough to the side of the horse to avoid contact if the horse should throw its' head up.



Completion of lesson: Help put the horses and equipment away. Report observations to the instructor.

Emergency procedure: The horse leader REMAINS WITH THE HORSE AT ALL TIMES even if a rider falls off.

#### Qualifications for Horse Leader

- Previous experience with horses, including riding and/or stable management
- Knowledge of good leading technique and a willingness to demonstrate it
- Knowledge of a horse's moods and behaviors and the ability to demonstrate that knowledge
- Knowledge of how to safely guide horse through the ramp or mounting block
- Attentiveness to input from instructor and rider is essential
- Ability to walk briskly for 45 minutes over uneven footing
- Must attend a volunteer training session and demonstrate abilities required

## Sidewalker

Main Responsibility: To focus on the rider, listening to the instructor, relaying and interpreting commands to the rider and other support team members as necessary while ensuring the overall safety of rider during mounting and lesson. Usually a rider has two sidewalkers. One sidewalker is directly responsible for the rider; the second sidewalker will be the person called upon in an emergency situation. The sidewalkers walk on either side of the horse (one on each side) at the rider's knee, and give the rider support. The support the sidewalkers give is either at the joints, a solid pressure on the thigh with the hand, or their forearm over the rider's thigh with the side-walker's hand holding the saddle or surcingle. The side-walker must be aware of the rider, instructor and any activities in and around the arena. He/she will be responsible for aiding the rider in traditional mounting at the ramp or mounting block

Before the Lesson: Arrive at the barn 30 minutes prior to class session. Check lesson plan and assignment board. Consult with second sidewalker to determine who will be in charge of the rider.

Rider arrival: Greet rider, help rider with helmet as needed, stay with the rider until the lesson is over and the rider is returned to their caregiver, especially if rider is a small child or a flight risk. The sidewalker not in charge of the child can assist in setting up the arena for the lesson or help the barn manager/horse leader with the horses.

Mounting procedure: Assist rider from mounting block/ramp as necessary, off side sidewalker should hold saddle secure while rider is mounting by holding stirrup down. Insure that the rider is squarely in the saddle before exiting the chute. Exit using a thigh hold.

Lesson procedure: Walk or jog beside the rider providing physical support as necessary. Be continually alert for the need for immediate help. Monitor the rider's balance; advise other sidewalker and horse leader if rider needs assistance regaining balance. Reinforce the instructor's directions as needed. Keep chatting to a minimum (many riders get overloaded or confused with too much auditory input). Encourage rider with eye contact, simple gestures and directions. Always remember - *as much as necessary as little as possible*. Notify instructor of unusual behavior or continued issues with balance.

Trotting: Trotting can be stressful on both the sidewalker and the students. It is necessary to jog alongside the horse for brief periods of time; if you feel you are not capable of doing this without injury to yourself, please let us know. For a student's first trot it may be best to use both a thigh hold and an ankle hold. It's very important to do your best to keep the rider in the saddle while letting them experience the sensation of trotting.

Falling: Emergency procedures are explained in more detail during sidewalker training but to protect yourself and the student turn your back on the rider and use your back to break their fall.

### Support Positions:

Thigh Hold --- Sidewalker holds arm over the rider's thigh being careful not to rest your arm on the rider's thigh, this can result in loss of circulation.

Ankle Hold – Sidewalker holds the back of the rider's ankle – Never the shoe

Thigh and Ankle Hold – the holds can be used together for more security in the saddle.

Changing Sides: When the need arises for sidewalkers to switch sides the horse leader will assume the halt position. Sidewalkers will notify each other that they are changing sides; first sidewalker will remain stationary until relieved by other sidewalker. Lesson will proceed only when sidewalkers notify the horse leader that they are ready to continue.

After the Lesson: Aid rider in dismounting if necessary. Ensure that the rider's feet are out of the stirrups if dismounting in the arena. If dismounting from the mounting ramp; keep the same hold used in the lesson while entering the ramp and assist the instructor as necessary to help the rider dismount. Sidewalker in charge of the rider will accompany them to a safe place, help them remove their helmet and return it to its proper place. Sidewalker not in charge of the rider will help put the horse and equipment away.

Emergency procedure: Sidewalker in charge of the rider will remain with the rider until the instructor takes over. Other sidewalker will summon assistance as necessary or directed by instructor. Horse leader will move horse away from area, control and hold horse until other instructions are given.

### Qualifications for Sidewalkers

- Minimum age 14 years old
- Must be of appropriate size and strength to properly support their assigned rider

- Attentiveness to input from the instructor and rider is essential
- Must be able to demonstrate knowledge and ability to assist the instructor with traditional mounting at the ramp or mounting block
- Ability to walk briskly for 45 minutes, over uneven footing.
- Must attend a volunteer training session and be able to demonstrate abilities required
- No Experience? Don't worry we offer a sidewalking class that prepares you for the challenges of sidewalking; please speak to the instructor if you are interested.

## **Additional Volunteer Roles**

**Equine Program Volunteers:** Volunteers work directly with barn staff to assist with horse care, grooming, feeding, cleaning stalls and paddocks, etc. While not the most glamorous job at TREAT, these volunteers are essential for the care and safety of our very important horses. Prior to handling horses, an Equine Program Volunteer must attend mandatory horse handling training and be deemed ready for the role. These training are available throughout the year.

**Facility and Farm Volunteers:** Volunteers help with grounds keeping, general maintenance, repairs and improvements to the facility.

**Office Volunteers:** Volunteers assist with word processing, data entry, website maintenance, social media coverage, reception and general office support.

**Special Events Volunteers:** Volunteers serve on event committees and assist with various fundraising events held throughout the year at TREAT.

**Special Skills Volunteers:** Many volunteers come with special skills and talents such as photography, computer knowledge, grant writing, etc. and we encourage you to share those skills with us.

## **Volunteer Procedures**

### **Program Operations**

TREAT operates year-round. There are no lessons on Mondays and for most major holidays; though volunteers are still needed to care for the horses. We don't operate with the typical sessions, once in the program, our riders can continue as long as they wish. We have "off weeks" roughly every six weeks. We ask that you commit to a day/time for at least the time between our off-weeks, which allows us to ensure we have the support necessary to hold lessons and provide consistency for the riders. The smooth operation of our program depends on the commitment and reliability of our volunteers.

## **Program Closures and Lesson Cancellations**

In the event that TREAT must close due to inclement weather, rider cancellations or other circumstances, we will make every attempt to notify volunteers one hour in advance to their scheduled volunteer time. TREAT reserves the right to cancel lessons based on the availability of instructors, volunteers, and/or horses. Further, any factor or situation considered by TREAT staff to be a threat to the safety of students, volunteers, staff, or horses is reason for cancellation. TREAT will make every effort to update all volunteers and participants of weather and program status changes.

## **Weather Cancellation Policy**

**Tailored Rides is privileged to have a covered arena to ride in which makes lesson cancellations rare.**

### **Winter Weather**

On the day of lessons, please check the forecasted high for the day for Paris, Texas. If the wind chill is at or below freezing, we will either cancel certain riders or move to a barn lesson. Some of our students have a difficult time regulating their body temperatures or will not wear appropriate winter clothing like gloves or hats due to sensory issues. IF LESSONS ARE CANCELLED a member of staff will text/call either the day before or the morning of lessons. You are always welcome to reach out and ask too!

### **Summer Weather**

On the day of lessons, please check the forecasted high for the day for Paris, Texas. If the high temperature or heat index for the lesson time is 103 degrees or higher, lessons will be moved to a barn lesson. A member of staff will call either the day before or the morning of lessons IF LESSONS ARE CANCELLED.

Cancellations due to weather will also be made if TREAT staff determines that the following conditions exist one hour prior to class:

- Winds exceeding 25 MPH.
- Tornado warnings, severe rain, hail, snow or thunderstorms.
- Hazardous driving conditions.

**Volunteer Attire**: Volunteers must wear closed toed shoes or boots at all times and avoid flapping clothing such as jackets tied around the waist or loose jackets that are not zipped or buttoned. Sunscreen and hats are advisable. Please avoid shirts with inappropriate wording or logos. Shorts are fine and even preferable due to the heat and humidity at certain times of the year. Volunteers are encouraged to drink lots of water during

breaks and have snacks handy. Dangling or loose jewelry is no advisable as it can get hung up or lost during your shift.

**Volunteer Orientation and Training:** New volunteers will learn how our horses are prepared for their lessons and will receive hands-on training by one of our certified instructors. Training and practice for sidewalking will be provided so that new volunteers will be ready to begin assisting in lessons. At this orientation meeting, volunteers will be introduced to the Tailored Rides facility, the riders we serve, our horses, and our policies and procedures.

**Volunteer Sign In:** Upon arrival volunteers are required to sign into our binder, and check the daily schedule for their assignment. At the end of their service, volunteers are asked to sign out. TREAT must keep track of volunteer hours for governmental paperwork required to maintain its 501(c)3 status. Your help with signing in and out is greatly appreciated.

**Volunteer Cancellations:** Volunteers are critical to the success of our program. When you commit to your volunteer role, your support is truly needed to serve our riders and care for our very special horses. **Please reserve canceling your scheduled day and time for emergencies only. If you must cancel, please call Tailored Rides (903-401-9644) as soon as possible so a substitute may be found.**

**Confidentiality Policy:** Any information in regards to the participants of Tailored Rides, volunteers, and personnel shall remain privileged and confidential. This information may include but is not limited to any medical, social, referral, personal, and/or financial information. Information concerning students will be shared with volunteers on a need to know basis. Disclosure of any confidential information shall not be released to anyone not associated with TREAT. Volunteers must seek staff permission prior to taking any pictures or videos.

## Volunteer Conduct

Volunteers of Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy will conduct themselves at all times as role models and good citizens. The mission of our program is to improve the lives of our participants, and they must be treated with respect at all times. Some of our participants may look or act differently; however, it is never acceptable to treat them in a manner that could be viewed as inappropriate or rude. We expect our volunteer to be honest, helpful, friendly and mature.

## When you meet a person with disabilities

- Remember that a person with disabilities is just like everyone else.
- A disability need not be ignored or denied, but until your relationship is one of friendship, show interest in the person as you would any other person you have just met.
- Be yourself.
- Talk about the same things you would with anyone else.
- HELP HIM OR HER ONLY WHEN THEY REQUEST IT or after you have asked. If a person falls down, he or she may wish to get up on their own. Ask for permission to give help.
- Be patient. Let the person set their own pace walking or talking.
- Don't be afraid to laugh **with** them.
- Offer a person with disabilities the same courtesy that any other person would receive.
- Be supportive and encouraging. If a person wants to talk about their disability, he/she will bring it up.
- Showing pity or charity does not help. Each person wants to be treated as an equal. He/she/they wants the chance to prove him or herself.
- The rider may feel insecure when his/her aids (crutches, wheelchair, etc.) are too far away. Be sensitive to this and remove aids only when asked.
- Keep an open mind.
- Enjoy yourself and your friendship with rider. His/her philosophy and good humor can be as inspiring to you as yours is to the rider.

Please note that volunteers are asked NOT TO HANDLE participants unless requested to by a member of the staff. Handling a participant without knowledge of his/her/their disability could be very harmful to the participant.

## Mounting and Dismounting of Participants

All mounting and dismounting must be done by either a PATH International instructor or a PATH International Instructor in training under the direction of a PATH International Instructor. Qualified individuals at this time are as follows:

Taylor Sandoval, PATH International Therapeutic Riding Instructor

Other individuals may undergo training by PATH International Instructors to be qualified to mount and dismount participants.

# Dismissal of Volunteers or Guests from the Facility

An instructor or staff member may ask a volunteer or guest to leave the premises for reasons including:

- Behavior that is dangerous to themselves, others, the equines or staff of the program
- Apparent intoxication or illegal behavior
- A breach of confidentiality of a participant in the program
- Behavior that is insulting or unharmonious to others, the equines or staff of the program
- A demonstrated inability to follow direction which puts themselves, others, the equines, or staff of the program in danger

Volunteers or guests who are asked to leave for any reason will be treated with respect but must leave the premises immediately. The Executive Director will be informed of any such incident as soon as practicable.

## Reassignment and Termination Policy

TREAT policies have been determined to serve the best interest of the entire TREAT community. Safety and respect for riders, participants, volunteers and horses are of utmost importance in order to provide and maintain a high quality program, and are the primary reasons for the strict adherence to these policies and procedures.

Volunteers who are not able to perform their volunteer role, or maintain a reasonable level of commitment, or fail to observe the policies and procedures of the program will be given an opportunity to discuss the situation that is perceived to be in violation of the TREAT policies and may be provided with job re-assignment.

Because of the nature of the service provided, TREAT reserves the right to make the final determination as to the appropriateness of volunteers for our organization and may determine that it is in the best interest of the program to terminate a volunteer's involvement with the program.

**Accidents and Occurrences:** All accidents must be reported immediately to TREAT staff and an occurrence form must be completed by all involved. Please request an occurrence form from staff when necessary.

**Facility Operations:** Please respect posted off-limit areas. Volunteers are only on the property when TREAT staff are on site.

**Visitors:** Please make an appointment and check in with a staff member to fill out a waiver form when bringing any visitors to TREAT. We enjoy having visitors and are happy to guide you through the facility.

# **Additional TREAT Policies**

## **General Rules**

- Cell phones and car alarms must be turned off as they disrupt lessons and could potentially startle horses
- The consumption of alcohol prior to and/or while at TREAT is prohibited, except for events approved by TREAT. The use of illegal substances prior to and/or while at TREAT is strictly prohibited.
- Please refrain from offering food or other gifts to participants without permission as they may have a medical condition such as food allergies.
- Please do not perform a volunteer role you have not yet been trained for

## **Farm Rules**

- No running
- Close all gates behind you
- Return things to where you found them
- If something is broken notify someone so it can be repaired
- Be respectful of all living creatures on the property and remember our purpose
- Do not enter any enclosure without permission
- Do not handle any animals without permission
- No Glass containers allowed in pasture, paddocks or arenas

## **Safety Rules**

- Staff and volunteers should act in the best interest of the students in terms of safety, respect and privacy.
- No smoking is allowed in the tack area, arena or while classes are being conducted.
- All children should be supervised by an adult when on the premises.
- Pets must be leashed and under control at all times.
- ALL mounted persons MUST wear ASTM-SEI approved helmets at all times.
- Horses must be properly tacked with all necessary safety equipment.
- Only authorized personnel (instructors, volunteers, and staff) are allowed in the tack area and arena space.
- Unauthorized personnel are not allowed in the pastures.
- Observe and obey all safety signs posted.
- All gates should remain closed during classes.
- No illegal activities will be tolerated on the grounds of Weybap Farm, including but not limited to: drinking by minors, illegal drug use, sexual misconduct or harassment, assault, physical or verbal abuse, animal abuse, etc.
- Smoking only allowed in designated areas
- Volunteers should report anything that seems unusual about riders, horses, the facility, the equipment, etc. to the instructor or closest staff member.



## **Safety Around Horses**

- Respect the horse, they are a large and heavy animal.
- Introduce yourself by letting them sniff your hand and petting them gently on the neck.
- Always approach a horse where they can see you, a horse cannot see directly behind it, or under its nose.
- Don't run near or around horses, sudden movements can scare them, especially around young/ inexperienced horses.
- You can be hurt by a horse even if they don't mean to hurt you.
- Talk to the horse or make a soothing or unexcitable noise when approaching so the animal is aware you are there
- Pet the horse by stroking him on the shoulder or neck and avoid excessive touching on their face and ears.
- Avoid ducking under the horse's neck or lead rope.
- Avoid walking directly behind the horse or stand directly in front of them.
- When leading a horse, walk beside them on their left side unless otherwise directed by an instructor.
- Remember to go through doors/gates before the horse.
- Keep lead ropes and reins off the ground.
- Avoid wrapping a lead rope around your hand/arm/body instead, hold it about one foot from where it is clipped to the halter with your right hand and loosely hold the rest looped up in your left hand. Position your hands as if you were holding a tray.
- Never sit or kneel on the ground while grooming your horse - squat or bend instead
- Never crawl under a horse to get to the other side - walk around
- Be aware of your horses' ears and body language - horses usually give a warning before behaving badly

# Required Forms

## Volunteer Information and Health Form

General Information - *Please Print*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Employer/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/LegalGuardian/CaregiverName/Address/PhoneNumber: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about the program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you volunteering to fulfill community service hours? (School, club, courts, etc?)

Yes

No

Hours needed? \_\_\_\_\_

For which organization(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check areas in which you are interested

Horse Care

Assistance in lessons

Facility Repairs and Maintenance

Fundraising

Grant Writing

Volunteer Recruitment

Photography/Video

Please list all hours that are you available, on a weekly basis, for at least 6 weeks. We may need to explore your 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> choice of shifts.  
 Please fill in specific times. Do not write “flexible”.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Best way/time to be contacted? \_\_\_\_\_

## Health History

Please describe your current health status, particularly regarding the physical/emotional demands of working in an equine assisted program. Address fitness, cardiac, respiratory, bone or joint function, recent hospitalizations/surgeries or lifestyle changes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Medication(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Recent medical tests: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Tetanus Shot: \_\_\_\_\_

Tuberculosis Test + — Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Consult your physician or local health department if you are not up to date with these shots/tests)**

I understand that the information provided above is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I know of no reason why I should not participate in this center’s program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Volunteer/staff/caregiver; signed in presence of center staff)*

# Release of Liability

Name of Volunteer: \_\_\_\_\_

Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy, Inc, its officers, members, employees, contractors, and property Owners and agents will not be responsible for any damages to person, animal or property at the Tailored Rides leased or owned facility or its grounds, nor will they be responsible for any property lost or destroyed. The undersigned rider/parent/guardian/volunteer hereby releases Tailored Rides, its officers, members, employees, contractors, property owners and agents from any and all liability, claims and damages whatsoever (including costs, expenses, and attorney's fees) that might result from damages, injuries, or losses to their person or property during, or in connection with, or arising out of any show, clinic, event or function, whether or not such damages, injuries, or losses result directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omission of such released parties.

**WARNING: UNDER TEXAS LAW (CHAPTER 87, CIVIL PRACTICE AND REMEDIES CODE), AN EQUINE PROFESSIONAL IS NOT LIABLE FOR AN INJURY TO OR THE DEATH OF A PARTICIPANT IN EQUINE ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM THE INHERENT RISKS OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES.**

In exchange for the use of property leased or owned by Tailored Rides and other valuable consideration, I agree that my use of the premises and any animals, facilities, or equipment leased or owned by Tailored Rides is at my own risk. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless Tailored Rides, their respective officers, members, employees, contractors, property owners and agents from any and all suits, actions, or claims of any type arising from my use of the premises or participation in the equine activity of such use by my guest, whether or not such claims result directly or indirectly from the negligent act or omissions of the indemnified parties or otherwise. I acknowledge that riding and involvement with horses is a high-risk activity. I have read this agreement and fully understand its content.

PLEASE SIGN HERE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Adult rider or parent / guardian of minor rider/volunteer)

\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Riders and Volunteers cannot participate in any activity at Tailored Rides without this signed form.**

# Photo Release

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

I DO

I DO NOT

consent to and authorize the use and reproduction by Weybap Farm and/or Tailored Rides Equine Assisted Therapy, Inc (TREAT) of any and all photographs and any other audio/visual materials taken of me for promotional material, educational activities, exhibitions or for any other use for the benefit of the program.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Background Information

Have you ever been charged with or convicted of a crime? Y N

IF YES please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Confidentiality Agreement

**I understand that all information (written and verbal) about participants at this PATH Intl. Center is confidential and will not be shared with anyone without the expressed written consent of the participant and his/her parent/guardian in the case of a minor.**

Volunteer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_