

Horses Hold the Key to Unlocking Miracles



River Valley Riders

Our mission is to enrich the lives of children and adults with special needs by providing equine assisted activities and therapies.



Benefits of Equine Assisted Activities

Physical

A horse's gait is similar to the human walk; this three-dimensional movement is transferred from the horse to the rider and helps to strengthen spine and pelvic muscles and to improve posture and balance. Additional exercises during lessons help to improve coordination and increase flexibility.

Cognitive

Lessons incorporate educational activities to improve hand-eye coordination. Communication and social skills are improved. In addition, academic skills may also be strengthened.

Emotional

Riders develop self-confidence by accomplishing challenges as independently as possible. The instructors and volunteers interact with the riders with patience and kindness. The horses offer unconditional acceptance.



Would you like to help?

- *Volunteer: Horse leaders, side walkers, help with fundraising and administrative tasks*
- *In-kind gifts: Donations for fundraising events, construction materials, office supplies*
- *Tax-deductible financial donations: funding program expansion or expenses such as horse care, scholarships, and equipment*

River Valley Riders is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your financial and in-kind donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Our Federal EIN is 41-1949447.

River Valley Riders

Then: Founded 1999

- Therapeutic horseback riding (TR)
- 2 Certified therapeutic riding instructors (TRI)
- Leased or borrowed arena space
- Borrowed horses

Now: 2015

- TR + carriage driving (CD)
- 8 TRIs + 1 Certified driving instructor (CDI)
- Own property with outdoor arena, picnic shelter, well, carriage building
- Borrow 20 and own 4 horses
- Program runs April-October

Future

- TR + CD + additional programs
- Further property development with indoor arena, barn, offices, pastures
- Own herd of 14 horses
- TRIs, CDIs + other professional staff per program needs
- Operations & administrative staff
- Program to run year round

60 participants



24 horses

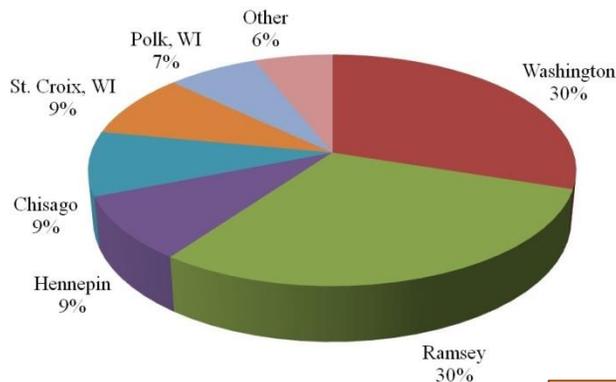
210 volunteers

9 PATH, Intl. certified instructors

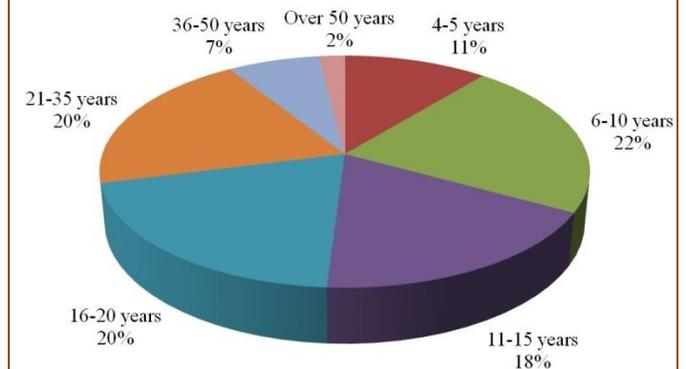


The individual RVR logo is used to form a star, symbolizing individual members coming together to form a community. Each point on the star represents a member of a riding unit: the rider, the horse leader, two side walkers and the horse.

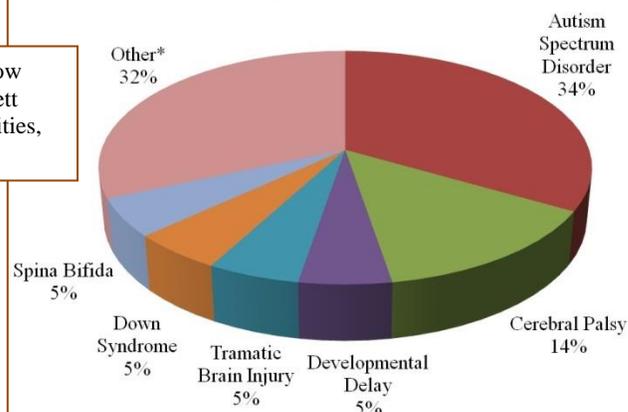
Participants' Home Counties



Participants' Ages



Participants' Diagnoses



* Other category includes, but is not limited to, low muscle tone, stroke, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Rett Syndrome, quadriplegia, chromosomal abnormalities, ADD/ADHD, Angelman Syndrome.

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