



**Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding**  
**MISSION STATEMENT**

*We improve quality of life through equine-based therapy to physically, mentally and socially/emotionally challenged individuals.  
Our unique program integrates academic, social and physical skills, using the horse as a catalyst.*

**Year Founded:** 1990    **YEAR ROUND Programing**

**Age of Participants :** 2 to 100 years old

**Serving:** 185 special needs individuals **EACH WEEK**

**Counties Served:**

Allegan, Ingham, Ionia, Kalamazoo,  
Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Ottawa

**Volunteer Hours Served:**

Year 2016—54,200 hours

**Total Staff:** 13    Full Time: 2    Part Time: 11

- 8 PATH International Certified Instructors
- Certified Elementary Ed Teacher K-8
- Certified Secondary Ed Teacher
- Certified Classroom Music Teacher
- Certified Counselor
- Equine Specialists in Mental Health & Learning
- Licensed Music Therapist

**Equest Programming:**

- Therapeutic Riding Program
- Summer Horsemanship Day Camp
- Special Star Horsemanship Day Camp
- Horses for Heroes ~ U.S. Veterans & Injured Military
- Vocational ~ Job skills training
- Senior Saturdays ~ Connecting with the Elderly
- Horses as Healers ~ Partnership w/Gilda's Club / those effected by cancer

- Music Therapy on Horseback
- Horses and Hands Program
- Equine Facilitated Mental Health
- "Saddle Safari Discovery Trail"- Specialized Sensory Trail  
those with Sensory Processing Issues
- Therapeutic Driving program ~ coming 2018!



Equest Center is a **501(c)3 not-for-profit** charity that owns its **35 acre Therapeutic Riding facility** in Rockford, MI

**University / College Partners:** 14

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Aquinas College             | Grand Rapids Community College |
| Calvin College              | Grand Valley State University  |
| Central Michigan University | Michigan State University      |
| Cornerstone University      | Montcalm Community College     |
| Davenport College           | Muskegon Community College     |
| Ferris State University     | University of Michigan         |
| Kuyper College              | Western Michigan University    |

**Primary Disabilities of Clients Served:**

Most clients have primary coupled with secondary disabilities

- ADD / ADHD..... 4 %
- Amputees..... 1.2 %
- Autism Spectrum.....13 %
- Arthritis.....2 %
- Brain / Spinal Cord Injury.....8 %
- Cancer.....1.5 %
- Cerebral Palsy.....14 %
- Dementia.....2.5 %
- Developmentally Delayed.....3.3 %
- Down Syndrome.....4 %
- Eating Disorders.....2 %
- Emotional / Behavior.....4 %
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.....1.5 %
- Hearing Impaired.....2.5 %
- Hunters Syndrome.....1 %
- Mentally/Learning Impaired.....15 %
- Multiple Sclerosis.....2.7 %
- Muscular Atrophy.....1 %
- Muscular Dystrophy.....2.7 %
- Post Traumatic Syndrome.....2.3 %
- Prader-Willi Syndrome.....2 %
- Sensory Dysfunction.....3 %
- Spina Bifida......1 %
- Stroke.....2 %
- Tourette Syndrome.....1 %
- Visually Impaired.....1.3 %
- Others.....1.5 %

**FINANCIAL PROFILE:** Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding, Inc. is a non-profit organization that holds a 501(c)3 status. Income is generated by in-kind donations (4%), grants (14%), donations (25%), fundraising / special events (41%) and program fees (16%). It is vital for us to raise needed funds because our policy is to turn NO students away due to lack of financial ability.

