



How can this program help our deaf and hard of hearing community?

Physical Benefits

- Improved balance, posture and coordination (fine and gross motor skills), faster reflexes, improved respiration, circulation, digestion; increased strength, endurance and relaxation; provides sensory integration, normalization of muscle tone.

Mental Benefits

- Strengthens receptive short-term memory, improves math and reading skills, problem solving, spatial relationships, ability to follow directions, learning empathy between humans and animals, learning new skills surrounding self-care and care of others, staying safe in situations that require people with hearing loss to be more visually aware.

Social/Emotional Benefits

- Provides general sense of well-being, improved self-confidence, Increased interest in outside world and interest in one's own life, community building, healthy identity development, develop patience, emotional control and self-discipline, learning and building self-advocacy skills, improves communication skills, develops courage and a willingness to take risks, social relationships, breaks down barriers, teaches kindness and develops a respect and love for animals.

To learn more about this program, please reach out to our Client Program Coordinator,
info@EquestCenter.org



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.



**EQUEST CENTER
FOR THERAPEUTIC RIDING**

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Equest is a member of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH) <http://www.pathintl.org>



DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM



Equest Center for Therapeutic Riding's Deaf and Hard of Hearing equine program is specifically designed for our DHH population. We use a Total Communication approach, so each student is instructed in their preferred language.

Riders will gain self-advocacy skills, social/emotional connections and knowledge, as well as physical riding skills. They will work on community building and identity development as well. We have Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT) such as FM systems, video relay service, and interpreted informational videos to best assist our population for whatever they may need.

What does it mean to be Deaf or Hard of Hearing?

According to Deaf C.A.N., there are about 40,000 people in Michigan who are deaf and more than one million people who are hard of hearing in the state. Deafness and hearing loss have many causes ranging from exposure to loud sounds, illness, genetics, or age.



Marie DeRegnaucourt, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Coordinator

- Certified K-12 Deaf Education
- Certified American Sign Language Teacher
- Certified K-12 Special Education
- Certified K-5 General Education
- Experienced in kids K-12 with Trauma
- Experienced in HAT equipment
- Experienced in Deaf Culture and History

My name is Marie DeRegnaucourt. I am hard of hearing myself and have been working at Northview High School as an ASL teacher since 2014. I'm also the coordinator for Northview PAH, an expo that brings the Deaf/Hard of Hearing community together to provide resources, connections, fellowship, and fun. Equest Center has been my second home and family since 1999!

