

The Mission

The mission of Naples Therapeutic Riding Center (NTRC) is to improve the lives of children and adults with special needs through therapeutic riding and other equine-related programs.

The Programs

NTRC offers weekly therapeutic riding lessons for children and adults with special needs. Each lesson is typically 30 to 45 minutes in duration. Weekly riding lessons include exercises and games on horseback, tailored to students' individual needs and designed to help them advance their abilities. NTRC also offers summer horse camp opportunities in an inclusion model for children with and without disabilities.

Equine-facilitated learning and psychotherapy also are provided at NTRC. In January 2013, NTRC launched *Operation Strides*, an equine-facilitated therapeutic horsemanship program for Military veterans suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury and amputation.

Riders

NTRC served more than 660 participants in 2016 ranging in age from 4 – 80 years old. The special needs of our weekly riders typically include ADHD, aphasia, autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, developmental delay, Down's syndrome, Parkinson's, multiple sclerosis, shaken baby syndrome, stroke survivors and traumatic brain injury. Approximately 179 special equestrians ride with us weekly and another 440 individuals participate in our equine-facilitated learning and psychotherapy programs.

Benefits

Equine therapy offers excellent benefits ... it relaxes muscles, increases joint mobility, strengthens and improves posture, balance and coordination. It also develops self-confidence, concentration, trust and self-discipline ... and horses provide a unique source of love and reassurance for our special students!

Operating Costs & Budget

NTRC subsidizes most of the cost of riding and other equine-related activities. We charge therapeutic riders a nominal fee of \$10 per 30-minute riding lesson.

Naples Equestrian Challenge's operating budget for FY 2017 is \$750,000. This budget reflects continued program growth. The operating budget does not include capital expenses (major repairs & purchases). Over 350 active volunteers and the generosity of the local business community helps NTRC stretch our operating budget dollars further with 'in kind' donations of goods and services.

United Way Member Agency

NTRC became a Member Agency of United Way of Collier County in January 2001. This year's grant helped with administrative staff salaries, allowing us to continue the program's expansion.

Outreach and Collaboration

NTRC collaborates with many other local non-profit organizations to conduct outreach and ongoing programming, including but not limited to: David Lawrence Center, Youth Haven, Lighthouse of Collier County, PACE Center for Girls, Shelter for Abused Women and Children, Parkinson's Association of SWFL, Alzheimer's Support Network, MS Center of SWFL, ABLE Academy, Friends of Foster Children, National Alliance for Mental Health and with New Beginnings of Collier County Public Schools.

Contact Information

Naples Therapeutic Riding Center
206 Ridge Drive, Naples, FL 34108
Tel: 239-596-2988 / Fax: 239-514-2908
www.NaplesTherapeuticRidingCenter.org
Email: info@NTRC.org

