#### The Mission

The mission of Cassidy's Cause Therapeutic Riding Academy (CCTRA) is to provide individuals with disabilities the opportunity to grow and develop through therapeutic, educational and recreational activities, while on a horse.

# **The Program**

CCTRA offers weekly therapeutic riding lessons for children and adults with special needs. Each lesson is typically 1 hour in duration. Weekly riding lessons include grooming, tacking, exercises and games on horseback, tailored to riders individual needs and designed to help them advance their abilities. CCTRA offers summer horse camp opportunities in an inclusion model for children with and without disabilities.

### **Riders**

CCTRA served more than 75 participants in 2022 ranging in ages 4—51 years old. The special needs of our weekly riders typically include autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, cerebral palsy, developmental delay, Down's Syndrome, and traumatic brain injury. As of October 2022, 54 special equestrians ride with us weekly.

### **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 riders!

## **Operating Costs & Budget**

CCTRA subsidizes most of the cost of riding and other equine related activities. We charge group therapeutic riders a nominal fee of \$25 per 1 hour riding lesson and private lessons \$50 per hour. Cassidy's Cause Therapeutic Riding Academy's operating budget for FY 10/31/21 is \$310,000. This budget reflects continued program growth. The operating budget does not include capital expenses (major repairs & purchases). Over 125 active volunteers and the generosity of the local business community helps CCTRA stretch our operating budget dollars further with 'in kind' donations of goods and services.

## **Outreach and Collaboration**

CCTRA collaborates with many other local non-profit organizations to conduct outreach and ongoing programming, including but not limited to: Families on the Spectrum, New Pathways for Children.

### **Contact Information**

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