



# Regional Conference



**August 4-6, 2023**

**Produced by PATH Intl. Region 8 in Partnership With and  
Sponsored By Lone Star Therapeutic Equestrian Network**

**Hosted by:  
Turning Point Ranch  
Stillwater, Oklahoma**

**PATH Intl. Region 8 and LSTEN welcome you to an educational and fun weekend with your friends and colleagues in Oklahoma. Your registration fee includes Friday lunch and dinner, and Saturday lunch.**

## **CONFERENCE LOCATIONS**

See map on last page.

**Turning Point Ranch**  
385 S Country Club Rd.  
Stillwater, OK 74074

**Equestrian Center**  
2720 W McElroy  
Stillwater, OK 74074  
(Behind Totusek Arena)

**Vet School Classroom**  
Corner of W. Farm Road and Hall of Fame/Western  
Stillwater, OK 74078

## **LODGING OPTIONS**

All provide breakfast.

**Hampton Inn Stillwater West**  
615 S. Country Club Rd  
Stillwater, OK 74074  
Rate: \$119.00 - \$129.00  
Call: 405-332-5575  
Online Link: [HERE](#)  
Code: PATH Region 8

**Springhill Suites**  
315 S C-star Blvd  
Stillwater, OK 74074  
Rate: \$119.00 - \$129.00  
Call: 405-564-7173  
Online Link: [HERE](#)  
Code: PATH Region Annual

**Holiday Inn Express University West**  
715 S Country Club Rd  
Stillwater, OK 74074  
Rate: \$100  
Call: 405-372-2445  
Online Link: [HERE](#)  
Code: PATH Region 8

# PATH INTL. CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be available May 26, 2023, through July 21, 2023. After July 21, 2023, registration will need to be completed on-site.

**IF YOU ARE A PRESENTER OR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBER, DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER WITH YOUR CODE!**

## **Registration May 26, 2023 through July 21, 2023:**

Full Conference      \$140 members      \$190 non-members  
\$120 PATH Intl. Higher Ed Faculty/Students

## **Registration on-site after July 21, 2023:**

Full Conference      \$170 members      \$220 non-members  
\$150 PATH Intl. Higher Ed Faculty/Students

**PATH Intl. Standards Course\***      \$50 members      \$65 non-members

*\*Registration limited to 55 attendees. Register by July 7, 2023. If less than 15 are registered by this date, this course will be canceled, and refunds automatically issued. Registration on-site is **not** available.*

## **Refund Policy:**

**No refunds due to weather unless the conference is canceled.**

**Written cancellation request is required for refund. Email [manderson@pathintl.org](mailto:manderson@pathintl.org)**

**Deadline for Full Refund** – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **July 21, 2023.**

**Deadline for 50% Refund** – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **August 6, 2023.**

**Individuals who do not submit a written request to PATH Intl. by August 6, 2023 will not receive a refund.**

**\*Deadline for Standards Course Refund** – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **July 7, 2023. No refunds after this date.**

## **Education:**

This conference satisfies up to 15 hours of continuing education requirements. The PATH Intl. Standards Course is an additional 6 hours.

### **COVID-19 Information:**

Turning Point Ranch follows all CDC and State of Oklahoma guidelines regarding COVID-19 virus protocols. If you are ill or have been exposed to the virus at the time of the conference, we ask that you not attend. Please see the refund policy.

## **AGENDA**

All times are central standard time.

### **Thursday, August 3, 2023**

**Teams Building at the Equestrian Center**

8:30 – 9am      **Check in for PATH Intl. Standards Course**

9am – 12pm      **\*PATH Intl. Standards Course - Part 1 CE**

12 – 1pm      **Lunch on your own**

1 – 4pm      **\*PATH Standards Course - Part 2 CE**

3 – 5pm      **Conference Registration**  
For early arrivals and standards course attendees.

**Friday, August 4, 2023**

**Morning sessions at the Vet School Classroom**

7 – 8am

**Registration**

## **Session A**

8 – 9am

### **A1, Autism Behind the Behavior Part 1 DE**

Attendees will have a better understanding of the neurology that drives sensory-based behaviors, and how to effectively deal with those behaviors when they are demonstrated by riders in the arena.

**Keith O'Connor, Speech Pathologist M.A., CCC-SLP** is a Speech Pathologist/Language Pathologist (SLP) with 22 years' experience. He had an early background in medical training at the VA Hospital and TIRR Hospital for traumatic brain injury in Houston, Texas. The subsequent bulk of his career has been in public schools working as a speech therapist and clinical supervisor for graduating clinicians in their final clinical year toward achieving full licensure. He currently provides speech services for riders with motor and/or developmental delays as a contractor/consultant at Inspiration Ranch in Magnolia, Texas in the presence of PATH Intl. certified instructors. He has participated in the evaluation and diagnosis of individuals as a diagnostic team member and provided direct therapy for those individuals in a variety of self-contained settings. Keith has gained experience in the equine industry by being a year-round volunteer side-walker since 2011. He has provided multiple in-services for volunteers and equine staff members on the topics of disability awareness and autism spectrum disorder for various local equine facilities.

### **A2, Using the Power of Video CE**

Video is the most powerful marketing tool you can use. It creates emotional connections like nothing else. Whether your goal is to increase donations, develop a customer base, or share your brand, video marketing provides the tools to accomplish it.

**Dan Bewley** has been helping nonprofits and businesses, reach their audience through video marketing for nearly a decade. His videos have helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for nonprofit organizations in Tulsa. He's passionate about helping brands share their mission and develop connections with the power of video.

### **A3, Cultivating Donors to Bigger Gifts CE**

Whether the donor is an individual, family, business or grantor your efforts between gifts make a big difference. Learn some tried and true methods for cultivating larger gifts and some new ideas to stay fresh. We will discuss donor motivation, cultivation strategies, making the ask and donor appreciation events.

**Joe Wappelhorst** brings extensive experience and knowledge in nonprofit leadership, working with people with disabilities, program management, organizational development, strategic planning and fundraising. With 30 years of experience in nonprofit and church management, Joe has put his passion toward providing vision and programs for underserved people throughout Houston.

9 – 9:15am

**BREAK**

## **Session B**

9:15 – 10:15am

### **B1, Autism Behind the Behavior Part 2 DE**

Continuation of session A1.

### **B2, KPIs: Keeping People Interested, Informed, Involved, & Inspired CE**

When some people hear "strategic planning" they grab their coffee and run to the conference room while others are lacing up their shoes to run the other way. Terms like "Key Performance Indicators," "Strategic Areas of Focus" and "Data Analysis" can cause some individuals to cringe and some to get excited. Strategic planning can be a daunting process that takes time, extra energy and a whole lot of effort. It can also be a process that transforms the way organizations do business and the way they go about their days to reach their overall goals. A strategic plan is a way they define, align and move forward in achieving their missions for good together, instead of running in different directions. In this interactive session, individuals will learn how strategic plans can be exciting instead of scary, how data analysis can use the facts to tell a story, and how KPI's can actually stand for: Keeping People Interested, Informed, Involved and Inspired.

**Amie Haar** is the founder of Emerge, Consulting based in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Amie is passionate about many things, including her faith, her family, the power of a good belly laugh, and the way in which the world can thrive by means of education (especially when it comes to us!). She believes strongly in helping others find their true purpose, be it through individual coaching, team facilitation or large group training, specializing in the areas of communication, relationship building and core business strategy & alignment. As a nationally certified Clifton Strengths Coach, and with her several years of combined experience in the areas of donor relations, human resources, speaking, facilitating, training and coaching, Amie comes alongside and teaches others how to best show up for themselves and those around them. Outside of owning her own business, Amie loves being with her husband Josh, their three beautiful children Ava, Miles, and Warren, cracking open a new book, drinking a good cup of coffee, exploring the outdoors, and spending an evening at the theater.

### **B3, The Five Dysfunctions Among A Team CE**

Using the principles created by Patrick Lencioni in "The Five Dysfunctions of a Team," we will identify the common situations that lead to dysfunction and what leadership can do to decrease a team collapse.

**Julie Jones** has a background in bookkeeping, teaching and nonprofit management. She moved to Shamrock, OK, in 2019 when God promised her a blessing if she came. This rural area in the center of the triangle made by Tulsa, OKC, and Stillwater is a far cry from the city and suburban life she loved. However, she has found peace and joy in obedience and rural living. Her passion is helping people discover all they can and offering the tools and support needed. In addition to raising and launching five successful adults, Julie has lived out this passion through leadership in Women and Children's Ministry at the Boise Rescue Mission and developing the life enrichment program in a new Assisted Living/Memory Support community in Colorado Springs. Additionally, she has taught in charter schools and early childhood education centers. Julie recently earned her BS in nonprofit management at City Vision University. She serves as the Administrative Director for The Right Path, a therapeutic horsemanship program in Drumright.

10:15 – 10:30am      **BREAK**

### **Session C**

10:30 – 11:30am

### **C1, Wildland Fire Safety for Equines CE**

How to prepare your pastures, barns and use areas for an oncoming wildland Fire. Tips and ideas for evacuation of equines and other domestic animals during a wildland fire.

**Paddy T. Metcalf** is the Fire Program Manager at Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training. He has 30 years on the job as a fire fighter at a Rural Combination Department.

### **C2, Concussion Protocols DE**

Attendees will learn the definition of concussions, signs of a concussion and what to do if a concussion is suspected. Recovery from a concussion, post-concussive syndrome and secondary injury will also be covered. The importance of equestrian helmets and how to properly fit a helmet will also be reviewed.

**Shannon Middleton** is a Speech Language Pathologist, HPCS, CTRI and ESMHL. She has been incorporating equine movement into speech therapy sessions for 17 years.

### **C3, Tour of the Vet School**

### **C4, Clinical Equine Behavior: The Veterinarian's Perspective CR All**

Horses are social animals with complex behaviors and a great capacity for learning. Understanding how horses think and their social "language" can improve the human-horse bond and help us recognize problems early. After this lecture attendees should be able to recognize and interpret common clinically relevant behaviors, understand the capacities and limits of equine learning and have a deeper understanding of the point-of-view of the horse.

**Evan Crisman, VMD, MMP** is an equine veterinarian with a special place in his heart for the working horse. He completed his veterinary degree and master's in medical physics at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by a rotating equine internship and then residency in equine internal medicine at Oklahoma State University.

11:30 – 12pm      **Travel to the Equestrian Center for lunch and afternoon sessions**

12 – 1:30pm      **Lunch and Networking, LSTEN Meeting, PATH Intl. Region 8 Update**

1:30 – 1:45pm

**BREAK**

## **Session D**

1:45 – 2:45pm

### **D1, Recession Proofing Your Center CE**

Learn the importance of relationships in securing your nonprofit's financial future and how technology can make building and maintaining those relationships easier. Explore how faith can provide a powerful foundation and enable you to navigate challenging times with resilience and hope. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Athena Captain** brings her extremely engaging and humble style to the speaking arena, captivating audiences ranging from professional single moms to families raising kids with special needs, to entrepreneurs and sales professionals looking to create a growing sales machine. Athena's heart drives her to serve those who know, deep down, that they have a gift, a knack, that hasn't fully developed, and who hunger for that spark of inspiration and knowledge that will finally help them turn that corner. Her proven results building a referral-based prospecting and sales machine for a custom homebuilding company, after building a hugely successful sales team for one of the nation's largest mortgage firms, give her credibility to inspire and teach an audience of professionals from any size organization. Her life spent raising a child with special needs, while juggling the load that comes with being a world-class sales and marketing professional, all while overcoming the challenges of someone who scores 10 / 10 on the ACE scale, gives her credibility to speak into the lives of an audience facing similar challenges, but who also share the belief and vision that they can do, and become, more than anyone ever thought possible. Athena brings a unique combination of grit, empathy and no-excuses inspiration that speaks to a range of audiences, leaving them with not only the motivation, but also the tools to go back into the world with a renewed sense of purpose and an understanding of how to carry it out.

### **D2, Horse Tales Literacy CE**

Horse Tales Literacy Project allows your center to connect with local schools and families that might not otherwise hear about therapeutic horsemanship. For ten years, The Right Path has taken our horses to schools for a first-touch event and then invited the students to the ranch for a field day. Teachers receive a curriculum to promote literacy skills developed by educators with attention to current educational standards. Each student receives two books and the field trip of their dreams to learn horsemanship and read the book they have been practicing with to the horses. Come experience a mini version of the field day and see how you can incorporate literacy and horsemanship to increase awareness of your center in your community.

**Joshalyn Ocker** is a current Board member at The Right Path in Drumright, OK. She has been active in education for more than 30 years, in both public and private sectors. Her love for learning led her to start literacy camps at The Right Path in 2012 and she officially began the Horse Tales Literacy Project in 2013. Joshalyn and her husband, Mike, live on a farm in Drumright where they are parents to 15 wonderful children and co-leaders for the Creek County homeschool group, Abide in Me. Joshalyn is also an advocate for Constitutional Home Educator's Alliance and can often be found at the State Capitol during legislative session.

**Natalea Watkins** has been involved with Turning Point since it was founded in 2000. She is currently a Board Member, serving many years as Treasurer and Secretary. She helped start the Literacy Program in 2010, has served as Center Rep for Turning Point's Premier Accreditation, served as the Oklahoma State Rep and on the LSTEN Board for many years. Today she does newsletters, t-shirts and the website at Turning Point as well as helping Baxter write the book "Hay you guys!" being used in this year's Literacy Program. Natalea uses a wheelchair for mobility.

### **D3, Skill Progression Formulas: Short- and Long-Term CR Riding**

We will discuss lesson plans that allow for the achievement and documentation of skill progression from the beginning of a riding lesson until its end. We will also explore methods to establish a long-term riding skill progression for individual students depending on their seat discipline and overall goals.

**Anthony Busacca, PATH Intl. Master Instructor, CTRI, ESMHL** over 35 years of experience in the EAS profession. He has conducted riding instructor workshops and training throughout the United States and in several foreign countries.

2:45 – 3pm

**BREAK**

## Session E

3 – 4pm

### E1, Get Creative in Canva **CE**

Step into the world of Canva and find out how this invaluable graphic design tool can be used to improve marketing your nonprofit. Whether you want to design social media posts, brochures, reports, invoices, presentations, calendars etc. The options and abilities are endless with Canva! Have zero experience with graphic design? No problem, Canva has thousands of templates that can be customized to fit your needs. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Brooke Gamble** has a background in elementary education and has been passionate about therapeutic riding since she was a teenager. She is a marketing assistant for Savannah Station TRP and loves volunteering at the center. She is married to Tyler Gamble, and they have 3 boys Gunner, Weston and Bryler.

### E2, Hoof Care Management Demonstration **CR All**

This session will include information on finding a hoof care professional, the farrier/client relationship, preventative care, and an anatomy overview.

**Scott & Sydney Wilkinson** own and operate Wilkinson Farrier Service, a full-service farrier facility located in Harrison, Arkansas that combines tradition with innovation. They offer a whole horse approach to achieve soundness and longevity. Scott Wilkinson is an American Farriers Association Certified Journeyman, graduate of Oklahoma Horseshoeing School, and has 31 years of experience.

### E3, Horse Conditioning Exercises Anyone Can Do **CR All**

Exercises to condition horses and how you can incorporate volunteers into your horse conditioning program.

**Gage Fisher** grew up in a rodeo and ranch environment with mentors who instilled in him a skill set for training and teaching not only the horse but also people. After getting out of the Air Force he competed in multiple rodeo associations in calf roping from 2012-2015. In 2017 Gage started his venture with the Bureau of Land Management training Mustangs. In 2019, Gage became a TIP trainer with the Mustang Heritage Foundation, later competing in multiple TIP training competitions with the Mustangs, including the 2022 Extreme Mustang Makeover in Fort Worth, TX. After a short stint in a teaching and coaching career, God led Gage to an opportunity to work with horses on a fulltime basis, which has led him to The Right Path as herd manager and future instructor.

4 – 4:15pm

**BREAK**

## Session F

4:15 – 5:15pm

### F1, AmeriCorps Service and Member Acquisition **CE**

AmeriCorps is the only federal agency dedicated to national service and volunteerism. Each year, we disperse funding and connect AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to organizations across the country. During this presentation we will discuss the federal program AmeriCorps, the benefits and requirements of being an AmeriCorps Host Site, how to apply for AmeriCorps grants, members and training, and how to connect with your state's programs and commissions. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Austin Stark** is the Red River Community Corps Program Coordinator who is working towards alleviating poverty for people living in Oklahoma. As an AmeriCorps NCCC Alumni, Congressional Award recipient, and nonprofit management professional with over a decade of experience, Austin has served Oklahoma and Americans nationwide through disaster response during Hurricane Sandy, the 2013 Moore Tornado relief effort and through volunteerism with a focus on food instability, housing and disaster preparedness. Specializing in the AmeriCorps VISTA program, Austin works with a myriad of nonprofits and universities to expand the capabilities of organizations that support Oklahomans in need.

### F2, Horse Care: Choke and Eye Care **CR All**

This hour will be divided between 30 minutes of how to recognize and care for a horse that is choked and 30 minutes of how to recognize disorders of the equine eye, what signs constitute an eye emergency, and tips and tricks for treating horse eyes. Learning objectives include: recognizing a choking horse, making a detailed plan on stabilizing the choking horse and getting veterinary care, describing the dietary needs of a post-choke horse, listing the most common equine eye disorders, listing signs seen in horses with eye disorders that make them an emergency, and listing 4 tips/tricks for successfully treating/managing equine eye disorders.

**Lyndi Gilliam DVM, ACVIM, & PhD** is a veterinarian and professor at the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She is board certified in equine internal medicine and has been practicing veterinary medicine for 22 years. Her research interests are snake envenomation and pharmacology. She is originally from Cheyenne, Wyoming and grew up riding working cow horses. In her free time, she enjoys supporting her children in their various activities.

### **F3, Combining Riders and Nonriders CE**

Attendees will learn how to incorporate nonriders into riding classes. Due to scheduling issues, The Right Path had to pair riders with nonriders and adapt to the situation. Find out a way for both riders and nonriders to get a productive class with the help of a strong leader to assist the walkers through the activities.

**Codi Wilkinson** comes from a rodeo background. She grew up training horses and giving riding lessons then attended Connor's State College on a rodeo scholarship. God brought her to The Right Path in 2021 via her college roommate where she dived headfirst into pursuing her CTRI. She successfully passed in September of 2022 and has since accumulated enough hours to become a mentor.

5:15 – 5:45pm

**Travel to Turning Point Ranch**

5:45 – 8pm

**Dinner & the PATH Intl. Update, Field Test Standards Update and Region 8 Awards Ceremony**

## **Saturday, August 5, 2023**

**Morning sessions at the Vet School Classroom**

7:30 – 8am

**Registration & Welcome**

### **Session G**

8 – 9am

#### **G1, On a Journey? Use a Map! CE**

Taking a successful journey requires vision, resources, and planning. The growth and health of your center requires nothing less. This session will help you create a working Strategic Plan to guide you, your staff, board, clients, volunteers, and donors toward a shared vision. You will learn a strategic planning process that ends in a one-page plan to meet your organizational goals.

**Joe Wappelhorst** See bio in session A3.

#### **G2, Routine Care Advice Your Farrier Wishes You Knew CR All**

What your farrier wants you to know: what constitutes a successful appointment, beneficial care between farrier visits, and building an efficient team.

**Scott & Sydney Wilkinson** See bio in session E2.

#### **G3, The Dollars and Sense of Service Agreements with Schools CE**

This presentation will provide information on attracting and working with public school systems through service agreements to provide equine assisted service opportunities for their students. Three main objectives will be covered: attracting schools and decision makers; what to include in the written agreement; and preparations for a class.

**Andi Holland** was born and raised in Oklahoma, married an Air Force Officer in 1986, and spent the next 23 years following his assignments, moving nine times from state to state, earning a degree in Communication along the way. Andi has worked in nonprofit management for over 34 years for such organizations as The American Red Cross, Salvation Army and the Oklahoma Historical Society. Andi loves horses and has three of her own, one of whom serves on the Savannah Station Healing Team. She became a Therapeutic Riding Instructor in 2015 and became the Executive Director of Savannah Station Therapeutic Riding Program in the Fall of 2017. Her nonprofit background helps guide Savannah Station through an exciting time of advancement as they fulfill their mission of "Offering hope and healing to people with special needs through the amazing power of the horse." Andi believes it is a privilege to lead an organization that utilizes the amazing gifts of the horse to impact the lives of all who encounter them.

9 – 9:15am

**BREAK**

## Session H

9:15 – 10:15am

### H1, Epilepsy & Seizure Disorder and Implication for EAS DE

This presentation will define epilepsy and seizures, describe the different types of seizures, and review what to do if someone has a seizure. PATH Intl. Precautions and Contraindications for seizures will be reviewed, and considerations for mounted activities will be discussed.

**Shannon Middleton** See bio in session C2.

### H2, Equine Strategic Planning CE

Strategic planning is an important part of all businesses that is often overlooked, undervalued, misunderstood and overwhelming. But it doesn't have to be! This session will share a step-by-step approach to developing an equine strategic plan that is easily understood and implemented for centers of all sizes! We'll take a critical look at current equine herds and evaluate the herd for long term, functional, and financial sustainability. Learn to assess programs to develop a targeted approach for equine intake based on specific needs, and, as much as we all dread it, start looking at ethical systems for retiring Steady Eddie in a timely manner.

**Shelby Schult** grew up riding and showing American Quarter Horses in a barn where Adaptive Riding and Therapy Services were being offered every day. Upon graduating with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science, she took a fulltime position at Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy (HETRA) as the Equine Operations Manager and has most recently moved into the role of Program Manager. Shelby is a PATH Intl. CTRI, ESMHL and Mentor. She was also selected as the 2023 PATH Intl. Region 7 Equine Caretaker of the Year. Shelby loves working hands on with participants and volunteers, but her passion lies with the horses. She is driven by building and maintaining an EAS herd that is "healthy, happy, sane and sound" and strives every day to learn from the horses and to share that knowledge with others in the EAS industry.

### H3, Resiliency and Center Sustainability Part 1 CE

Join Kathy Alm, CEO of PATH Intl., to explore how to navigate the ongoing sustainability of your center through the external changes and internal demands. Learn how to utilize emotional intelligence to address difficult circumstances and challenging times. Understand what you need to build resilience while sustaining your center and your people. Determine where you need to focus your energy for the best sustainable outcome for your center. Connect with other center leaders for future ongoing support. Take away ideas and tools to build resiliency and center sustainability.

**Kathy Alm** began her service as chief executive officer of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) in August 2014. For the previous 16 years she served as executive director of Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Center in Woodinville, WA. She grew the previously grassroots organization from a \$280,000 annual operating budget to a professional \$2.1 million organization. Kathy served as the PATH Intl. board president in the 2010-2012 term, first joining the board of trustees in 2005. She has facilitated numerous workshops and presentations on board, staff, fundraising and strategic planning and enjoys the opportunity to share her experience as well as learn from others. Her dedication to the field of equine-assisted services spans over 19 years with a passion that was ignited the moment she walked through the door at her first therapeutic riding center.

10:15 – 10:30am

**BREAK**

## Session I

10:30 – 11:30am

### I1, The Smallest Gifts CE

Gifts come in all sizes and in many forms. When interacting with or training people with disabilities, it is easy to miss the gifts that are all around. After working with people with disabilities for over 30 years, plus having two children with disabilities, this presenter has discovered many gifts are often overlooked. Through this presentation, you will find ways to recognize and celebrate the gifts in your life and in the lives of others. This recognition will help you work with others more effectively.

**Lori Wieder** is the parent of two children with a genetic disability that causes intellectual disabilities and presents like autism in many ways. She earned her BA in Psychology at Oklahoma State, MEd in Community Counseling from the University of Central Oklahoma, and an MS in Teaching English as a Second Language and an MS in Special Education both from Oklahoma State University. To learn more about the legal issues



related to special education access she attended the William and Mary School of Law's Institute of Special Education Advocacy. Lori began her work with people with disabilities in 1990. She has worked as a case manager for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (many with a dual diagnosis of Intellectual Disability/Mental Illness). She has also worked as a special education teacher and as a special education compliance specialist. Lori is also a board member at Turning Point Ranch where her children have been participants for over 10 years.

## **I2, On the Path to Data-Informed Decisions CE**

Nonprofits live off the generosity of others whether they be individuals, communities, businesses or government agencies. Dealing with many funders requires an overwhelming amount of information, from the application process to the annual report. The for profit and government answer to these data requirements is often "Put a data system in place." However, when your goal is to serve people with unmet needs, it is often hard to justify spending money on complex data systems and the training or staff needed to help your nonprofit organization operate in that manner. Moving from the "gut feeling" to data-informed decision making is a process but it can be made a little easier with someone to guide you down the right path. Find out why data-informed decision making is important for nonprofits, how you can make it work for you and how to do it without breaking the bank. This session will help nonprofits of all sizes assess their environment and find out where they are on the path to making data-informed decisions. Learners will be able to compare, and contrast data-informed and data-driven decision making, assess their nonprofit data culture, and learn to develop a plan to implement a data-informed process. Please bring samples of organization/learning goals and objectives, reporting requirements and/or strategic plans for this session.

**Miriam McGaugh, PhD** is an Assistant Professor of Professional Practice in the School of Marketing and International Business at Oklahoma State University's Spears School of Business. She teaches in the Business Analytics and Data Science program.

## **I3, Resiliency and Center Sustainability Part 2 CE**

Continuation of session H3.

11:30am – 12pm

**Travel to the Equestrian Center**

12 – 1:45pm

**Lunch & Keynote with Becky Endicott "Storytelling to Raise Funds" CE**

1:45 – 2:00pm

**BREAK**

## **Session J**

2 – 3pm

### **J1, A Slice of the APIE/D Process CE**

Come get your slice of the Assessment, Planning, Implementation, Evaluation and Documentation process! The process that is typically only used in the Therapeutic Recreation (TR) setting is coming to the equine-assisted services world where it will be presented in a way where the process becomes useful for more than just the instructor. Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to outline the utilization of the APIE/APIE-D process, create and describe best practices in program implementation/autonomy, as well as identify new strategic plans and partnerships to better their program and/or organization. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Corinna Fleming** is a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist that works full-time at River Crest Hospital and is contracted with MHMR of the Concho Valley Youth Empowerment Services, specializing in mental and behavioral health. Corinna is a PATH Intl. CTRI where she has taught riders of all ages and offers equine-assisted services as a treatment modality for clients when appropriate. Throughout her career she has worked in adaptive recreation, leadership recreation and year-round camp programming.

### **J2, Driving the Non-Driver DE, CR Driving**

We know that driving is an excellent fallback for participants that are too unbalanced, too heavy, too gravitationally insecure or any other "toos" for riding. Have you ever considered driving a primary discipline for participants who may never hold a set of reins and learn to stop, start and steer the cart or carriage? What about participants who seek movement and can't get enough on the horse; every time the horse transitions from trot to walk, the rider continues to rock back and forth asking for more. Come hear how cart-driving at the trot impacts the three foundational sensory systems, setting the stage for more optimal arousal, hence, higher learning to occur.

**Leslie Kirkland** founded The Right Path Riding Academy, located in Drumright, OK in 1996. She remains the executive director and continues to serve participants. She is a retired physical therapist with 18 years of experience in that field. Her driving experience beyond the therapeutic arena includes competing in pleasure shows and CDEs. Kirkland navigates life with MS and can no longer ride horses but finds that driving improves her core stability and posture. When not serving at The Right Path, Kirkland can be found enjoying life with her own horses, her husband, and her six grandboys.

### **J3, Creating Effective Equine-Assisted Services for Veterans: USU/SLC VA Collaboration CE**

Utah State University is in their fourth year of a strong collaboration with the Salt Lake City VA in providing effective equine-assisted services through the Department of Veteran Affairs Adaptive Sport Grant. This partnership has resulted in four published journal articles and critical pilot data collection for future research of two intervention models. This presentation will cover the key strategies used for development, management and future research in their science-based equine-assisted services program.

**Judy Smith** has served as the Director of Equine & Human Science at Utah State University for the past five years. She completed her Master's Degree in Leisure Studies with an emphasis in Equine Recreational and Therapeutic Programming at Oklahoma State University. Her love for horses began early in life and she grew up in the 4-H horse program in Washington. For the past 20 years, Judy has been involved in equine-assisted services and is a PATH Intl. CTRI and ESMHL.

**William (Bill) Marchand, MD** is the Director of Research and Equine-assisted Services for the Whole Health Flagship site at the VA Salt Lake Health Care System, located in Salt Lake City, Utah. Bill is certified as a PATH Intl. ESMHL and by EAGALA to provide equine-assisted psychotherapy. He is a Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Utah School of Medicine and an Adjunct Professor of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences at Utah State University. Bill is a long-term horse person and spends much of his free time hanging out with his Quarter Horse, Goldie.

3 – 3:15pm

**BREAK**

### **Session K**

3:15 – 4:15pm

### **K1, Equine-Assisted Services, The Grunt's Perspective CE**

Brian Paul is a veteran of the 45th Infantry, former Firefighter/EMT, who delivers hope and inspiration by sharing his story of service, struggles with post-traumatic stress and alcoholism as well as his remarkable recovery.

**Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Brian Paul** grew up in Mustang, Oklahoma. He enlisted in the OK National Guard and was activated with his unit to the Murrah Federal Building in April 1995 soon after it was bombed. Brian later became a Firefighter/EMT in the Kansas City area for eight years where he began self-medicating due to the stresses of emergency work. Brian's life spiraled out of control, and he found himself homeless, divorced, suicidal and fighting both addiction and PTS. After 90 days of in-house treatment, Brian began helping other Veterans and First Responders with similar experiences and in May 2017, founded Veterans for Life USA. He has been sober since November 2015 and has placed over 60 others into lifesaving treatment.

### **K2, Mini Teams Gallop to Greatness Part 1 CR ESMHL**

Team up with equines to improve team building, leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills! Using equine assisted learning, teams and groups will use natural horse and herd behaviors to accomplish their own goals to improve the individuals and the group. Teams will benefit from improved comradery, leadership and communication skills, kindness and overall confidence.

**Kelly King** is the Executive Director and founder of Flames to Hope Equine Assisted Services and is an equine-assisted learning instructor. She is a PATH Intl. ESMHL and O.K. Corral Series certified. She has a BA in Business Administration and an MA in Organizational Dynamics. She is also Lean Six Sigma Certified.

**Melissa Blakenship** is the Associate Director of Flames to Hope Equine Assisted Services. She is an equine-assisted learning instructor. She has a BA and MA in Social Work and is Lean Six Sigma Certified.

### **K3, The Ups and Downs of Posting Trot CR Riding**

What is the posting trot? Why do we teach this skill? How do you teach this skill? How can you help clients embody the movements they need to develop their balance and coordination for posting? We will discuss the history of the posting trot and consider the facts and fiction on how posting impacts equine partners. Attendees

will learn unmounted and mounted strategies beyond saying “up, down” to support riders in learning the what, the why, and the how of the movement.

**Betsy Kahl, LCSW** is a PATH Intl. Advanced Instructor and CTRI. Betsy has taught lessons in New Hampshire, Ohio, and Texas. Betsy is the founder and director of the nonprofit Wonder Horse Ranch, a PATH Intl. member center in Elgin, TX that serves veterans and first responders through balanced, authentic and collaborative horsemanship. She also works as an instructor in the veteran's program at ROCK, a PATH Intl. Premier Accredited Center, in Georgetown, TX. Betsy is happy to offer lessons, clinics, and workshops in classical dressage training and Franklin Method Equestrian techniques to equine-assisted services professionals and programs. Betsy completed her undergraduate work at the University of Notre Dame and earned her Master of Social Work at Cleveland State University. A Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Betsy has studied and practiced animal-assisted therapy, and has been able to partner with horses, dogs, turtles, snakes, and skunks to connect with others and facilitate change.

4:15 – 4:30pm

**BREAK**

## **Session L**

4:30 – 5:30pm

### **L1, Sensory and Behavior: Regulation in EAS DE**

This session will help instructors understand sensory system dysfunction that can impact our participants with Autism, ADHD, ADD and more. Session participants will learn effective adaptations and strategies to help their participants achieve their goals with their equine partners. The session objectives are to introduce the sensory system; explore behaviors associated with Sensory Dysfunction; learn how to help with meltdowns and stimming; when to refer to a therapist; and case studies and examples of modifications to achieve regulation. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Dr. Kaiti Otte** is a licensed occupational therapist and CTRI at HETRA in Gretna, NE. She has a background in pediatric clinical therapy, focusing primarily on sensory dysfunction and behavior modification.

### **L2, Mini Teams Gallop to Greatness Part 2 CR ESMHL**

Continuation of session K2.

### **L3, Ground Class With Life Skills CE**

Learn about this groundwork class designed to introduce students to horsemanship skills and learn life skills, and how to implement it. Horsemanship includes grooming, leading, horse nature and characteristics, and horse care. Life skills includes safety procedures, barn chores, putting halters and grooming tools away, following instructions, etc.

**Blu Phillips & Lesley Shedeck** wrote the curriculum and work together to offer this class to their students.

5:30pm

**Dinner and Networking On Your Own**

## **Sunday, August 6, 2022**

**All sessions at the Equestrian Center**

8:30 – 9am

**Cowboy Church**

9 – 9:15am

**BREAK**

## **Session M**

9:15 – 10:15am

### **M1, Getting It Done Right: How to Reduce Challenging Behavior and Stay Positive Part 1 DE**

When it comes to managing challenging behaviors, instructors often feel like they have tried everything, and nothing works. Maybe the necessary changes are simpler than they seem. Instructors are often told to “use reinforcement.” Reinforcement is not just rewarding good behaviors. Session participants will learn the basics of behavior and behavior change, the functions of behavior, the ABC's of behavior (antecedent, behavior, consequence) and how it applies to the challenging behavior being demonstrated by the client, reinforcement vs. punishment, replacement behavior, and positive behavior management systems to further support positive behavior change. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

**Brenda Grafton-McCall, Ph.D., BCBA, LBA, PATH Intl. CTRI** has been involved in the EAS industry for over 30 years. She is an avid equestrian and judges both classical and western dressage. She is the founder and executive director of Dream a Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship in Leander, Texas, an all-volunteer program dedicated to helping change the lives of others. Brenda works as a BCBA for Positive Behavior Supports Corporation and provides in-home and school support to individuals with special needs ages two years old to adult. Her Ph.D. is in Special Education and Applied Behavior Analysis from TTU. She lives with her husband of 32 years and a slew of fur babies on their farm in Leander, TX.

## **M2, Equine Facilitated Approach to Relationship Building CE**

Within equine-assisted services, due to the experiential nature of The SPUR Model games, challenges are created that will encourage development of the body, mind and spirit of an individual. The exercises are designed so that both horse and human are mutually benefited by rapport and fellowship. Session attendees will be introduced to a new approach to relationship building, provided an understanding of the horse and human relationship as it contributes to improving social intelligence, and participate in a demonstration of a game.

**Johnny & Karen Clark** are parents to three biological children. They are known as mom and dad to many more kids they have served and loved over the years. They are Cowpa and Nana to ten grandchildren and they make their home in Glencoe, Oklahoma on their farm.

## **M3, Kinesiology Taping For Horse Health, Fitness and Performance CR All**

This presentation will take you through the veterinary perspective of what a horse owner should know about the advances of using kinesiology tape for the physical health and fitness of the horse. We will also look at how freeing their body from pain and soreness allows not only their body to relax, but their mind too.

**Alison Carroll, RVT** has been a Registered Veterinary Technician for 24 years. She and her husband, Dr. Justen Carroll, own Cedar Ridge Veterinary Hospital in Carney, OK. They have several horses at their ranch, where they are used daily to check and work cattle. Alison competes in both team roping and breakaway roping.

10:15 – 10:30am      **BREAK**

## **Session N**

10:30 – 11:30am

## **N1, Getting It Done Right: How to Reduce Challenging Behavior and Stay Positive Part 2 DE**

Continuation of session M1. **Limited to 55 attendees.**

## **N2, Rotations for Special Education Classes CE**

Have you wondered what to do with the rest of a special education class while just a few are participating in EAS? The Right Path faced that challenge and created rotations. We took it even further this summer and created a summer program called "Show Me Some Summer Fun" where participants will learn all about horse shows. We use horsemanship activities enhanced with education, working outside, ground skills and literacy. Come listen to staff and volunteers and see how this might enrich your programs.

**Julie Jones** See bio in session B3.

**Codi Wilkinson** See bio in session F3.

## **N3, Teaching in the Moment - Volunteer Training Never Ends CE**

Volunteer orientation and training is vital for every new volunteer. But it doesn't end there - volunteer training happens every day in the arena. With a combined 20 years in the EAS industry, and a program that requires 100+ volunteers a week, we have had challenges, failures and successes that have taught us how to be strong and compassionate when training volunteers. The changes we have implemented have drastically improved our volunteer retention. We will discuss teaching tools, so instructors can provide useful feedback and instruction, in the moment, to volunteers without compromising the lesson or creating hurt feelings. We will share how to keep a working dialogue going between instructors and volunteer coordinators to help those volunteers that might be struggling to find their best place in your program.

**Julia Stephan** is the volunteer coordinator at SIRE-Spring Site.

**Stephanie Twellman, PATH Intl. CTRI, ESMHL** is the head instructor and equine manager at SIRE-Spring Site.

**Shayna Bolton, PATH Intl. CTRI, ESMHL** is the program director and site manager at SIRE-Spring Site.

We look forward to seeing you soon in Stillwater, Oklahoma!

