

# PATH International / Equine Welfare Committee Charter

## Committee Purpose

The Equine Welfare Committee (EWC) works to educate PATH International's membership (the "Membership") in topics pertinent to equine welfare, with a focus on promoting the welfare of equines participating in equine-assisted service (EAS) programs at PATH Intl. Member Centers and with PATH Intl. Certified Professionals.

- To appeal to the Membership through education to evaluate and implement humane standards of care for the equines participating in EAS programs.
- To actively identify, develop, and share resources to educate and assist the Membership in equine care, wellness and longevity based on updated scientific research.
- To work with the PATH Intl. staff liaison to complete specific education goals to be accomplished annually.

## Committee Regulations

At the beginning of each calendar year, the EWC chair and staff liaison discuss the annual objectives for the EWC and agree on those assignments and projects that best meet the PATH Intl.'s needs, given its strategic priorities.

Recommendations for decisions should be made in a democratic manner on the basis of full information and free discussion. The PATH Intl. staff liaison holds veto power over EWC consensus when regarding certain circumstances; this can be applied when it comes to financial matters and matters that do not align with the current PATH Intl. Strategic Plan. The EWC chair takes part in the discussion but their primary job is facilitating open discussion leading to a conclusion or decision. The chair will collaborate with the PATH Intl. liaison regarding all agendas and assist in maintaining project timelines for EWC members.

## Committee Makeup & Roles

- The EWC will be made up of diverse professionals from a variety of areas of expertise related to equine welfare including but not limited to education, research, programs, etc.
- The EWC chair or an EWC representative will represent the EWC, subcommittee, advisory group or task force on the appropriate oversight committee.
- EWC chair duties and responsibilities may be split between a chair and a co-chair, so long as there is a clear chair indicated to act as responsible party for communications with PATH Intl. and to act as the EWC representative.
- An EWC member may volunteer to serve as the EWC secretary in one-year terms.

Members must:

- Be a current individual member of PATH Intl.
- Have access to email on a daily basis.
- Be able to attend meetings/conference calls on a regular basis.
- Demonstrate the ability to work effectively as a team member.
- Show professional integrity.
- Show active involvement in their field.
- Be willing to be contacted by PATH Intl. employees for issues relevant to equine welfare.
- Be able to complete tasks assigned in a timely manner.

Committee activity will include:

- Active moderation and contribution to the Equine Welfare Community in Member Connection for at least one month per year.
- Group or individual participation in one or more of the following additional activities:
  - Represent EWC at the PATH Intl. Conference and Annual Meeting.
  - Work on a sub-committee or work group.
  - Contribute one article/column per issue of PATH Intl. Strides Magazine.
  - Contribute/present equine welfare topics in monthly online education platforms, such as the Education E-News or E-tips. Location of publication will be decided upon by EWC chair(s) and PATH Intl. staff liaison at the beginning of every year.
- Conduct an annual review of the EWC Charter to reflect updated mission and developments in the field of equine welfare.

#### **Term Limits**

- The EWC chair will be selected by PATH Intl. staff and approved by the PATH Intl. Board of Trustees. The chair serves a one-year term and may be invited by the PATH Intl. staff liaison to serve an additional one-year term. Chairs may serve four one-year terms on the EWC as a member and then can serve an additional one - two years as chair.
- EWC members are selected by the EWC chair and the PATH Intl. staff liaison and serve one-year terms. EWC members may be asked by the PATH Intl. staff liaison and EWC chair to serve up to four one-year terms.
- Total service on a committee (combining committee membership and chair responsibilities) shall not exceed six years on any one committee.

#### **Staff Liaison:**

PATH Intl. Education Supervisor