



Region 2 Conference



July 11-13, 2025

**Produced by PATH Intl. Region 2 in Partnership with and
Sponsored by Maryland Council of Equestrian Therapies (MCET)**

**Hosted by:
Therapeutic and Recreational Riding Center (TRRC)
Glenwood, Maryland**

PATH Intl. Region 2 and MCET welcome you to an educational and fun weekend with your friends and colleagues in Maryland. Your registration fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Therapeutic and Recreational Riding Center (TRRC)
3750 Shady Lane
Glenwood, MD 21738

LODGING OPTION

Sonesta Select Columbia
8910 Stanford Blvd., Columbia, MD 21045
Deluxe-King \$103, Deluxe-Two Queens \$138
Group Code: 2507PATHIN
410-290-0002 [Sonesta Select Columbia - Book Direct for Best Rates](#)

The Maryland Council of Equestrian Therapies was established to connect instructors and centers to exchange ideas, provide education and competition opportunities. MCET will be holding a silent auction to aid in these efforts. Please consider bringing something for the silent auction!

PATH INTL. REGION 2 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Online registration will be available May 7, 2025, through June 21, 2025. After June 21, 2025, registration will need to be completed on-site.

IF YOU ARE A PRESENTER OR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBER, REMEMBER TO REGISTER WITH YOUR CODE!

Registration May 7, 2025, through June 21, 2025:

Full Conference \$200 members \$260 non-members

Registration on-site after June 21, 2025:

Full Conference \$250 members \$310 non-members

Refund Policy:

No refunds due to weather unless the conference is canceled.

Written cancellation request is required for refund. Email manderson@pathintl.org

Deadline for Full Refund – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **June 21, 2025.**

Deadline for 50% Refund – Request received in PATH Intl. office by **July 13, 2025.**

Individuals who do not submit a written request to PATH Intl. by July 13, 2025, will not receive a refund.

Education:

This conference satisfies up to 13 hours of continuing education requirements.

AGENDA

All times are Eastern

Friday, July 11, 2025

11 – 5 p.m.

Registration & Welcome

Drop off your Silent Auction items!

Session A

12 – 2 p.m.

A1, Ground Driving **CR All**

Learn about ground driving and the many benefits for humans and horses. Attendees will have the opportunity to observe harnessing and basic ground skills then have the option for a hands-on opportunity to ground drive with supervision. The session culminates with a demonstration showing how ground driving promotes the human/horse connection while increasing mental, physical and emotional wellbeing.

Elizabeth “Dawn” Chambers-Leung and her husband, Lester, founded Wellspring of Life Farm, Inc (WLF) in 2017 following a legacy of service begun by their parents. A nonprofit dedicated to improving wellness through agriculture therapeutic programs that include equine, canine and caprine, WLF is completely supported by volunteers and honors military and first responders with complimentary programs. Dawn is a PATH Intl. CTRI®, ESMHL and Level 1 TDI and a huge enthusiast of the benefits of driving for both equines and humans.

Elizabeth “Beth” Skrainar developed her riding and horsemanship skills and passion for horses as a Pony Clubber. She is a retired human resources executive, certified leadership coach, has a BS in management and a MA in industrial relations. Beth has been an active dressage student for the past ten years and is currently schooling at third level. She began as an EAS volunteer seven years ago and after relocating to Maryland became a volunteer at Wellspring of Life Farm. Beth is a PATH Intl. CTRI® and is working to develop her driving skills. Beth loves the opportunity to empower participants on their wellness journey through the amazing partnership with horses.

A2, Select the Tech that Supports Your Mission **CE**

Understanding or clarifying your business processes is the first step to a solid technology plan. The tools you use should support your business processes, not dictate them. Whether looking for new tools or wanting to understand how to better use current ones, this session is for you! In this session, attendees will evaluate examples of common software for fundraising, accounting, program management, volunteer management and outreach and understand what business processes each tool can support. A rubric will be provided to help score and compare software in categories including ease-of-use, ability to adapt as the organization grows and changes, working well with other tools and cost. Leave this session with a planning sheet and the understanding to continue developing a robust technology plan.

Teri Walker is the founder and CEO of CommonTeri Services. In 2014, Teri combined her experience in technology with her experience in nonprofit management to found CommonTeri Services to help nonprofits who use Salesforce. She and her team care for people by using systems and data, with a passion for serving

nonprofits who deliver direct services like equine-assisted services. Teri has 17 years of experience in designing Salesforce solutions for nonprofits and has multiple certifications in Salesforce and Agile project management.

2 – 2:15 p.m. **Break**

Choose Session B OR Sessions C & D

Session B

2:15 – 4:15 p.m.

B, Rider Biomechanic Techniques for All Riders CR Riding

Learn about the Franklin Method®/Train Your Seat methodologies and how it applies to many rider challenges. Using Franklin Method® imagery, balls, bands and other tools, riders can decrease nervousness and anxiety, and improve their body awareness, self-regulation, self-embodiment and more.

***Kendra Clarke** is a horse and rider biomechanics specialist. She is one of two people in the US with the 4* Train Your Seat (formerly Franklin Method Equestrian) certification, as well as being certified through Centered Riding (Level 2) and Racewood Simulators. Kendra has built her career around helping riders overcome challenges within their bodies, understanding what is happening, and finding solutions through self-embodiment of the ideas presented to them. Kendra is also passionate about how the horses move as a result of what the rider is doing and will showcase how the horses improve as the riders improve themselves. Kendra has many years' experience rehabbing horses and focuses heavily on the long-term soundness of both the horses and riders so that riding can be enjoyable for both for many years to come.*

Session C

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

C, From Classroom to Barn: A Complete Guide to EAL in a Group Setting CE

This presentation will describe the unique school/group model that is utilized at Hearts TRC. This program provides groups with a comprehensive equine-assisted learning experience that starts in the classroom, moves to the barn, and then to the arena. This model allows servicing an entire class with a smaller herd and volunteer base and has been used successfully with both traditional classes and classes of students with special needs, in addition to scout groups. The session will cover all aspects of this program including administration concerns, lesson planning, logistics, volunteer needs, education topics and teaching. Leave this session with the ideas and tools to develop similar programs at your facility.

***Stefanie Green** is the executive director of Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center Inc. She has a bachelor's degree in equine science and management from Morrisville State College with a specialization in breaking and training. Stefanie is a PATH Intl. CTRI®, ESMHL and mentor. Stefanie has been teaching traditional lessons for over 20 years and therapeutic riding lessons since 2013. Stefanie has mentored several other instructors through the PATH Intl. certification process.*

***Sue Adams** has a BS in elementary education and has been a PATH Intl. Advanced TRI since 1993. Sue is also a PATH Intl. mentor, lead site visitor, former chair of the certification sub-committee and former member of the accreditation committee. She is a member of HRH of NJ, was the founder and ED of ARCH 1989-2010, and founder of Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center Inc. in 2011. Sue has presented at multiple PATH Intl. region and international conferences.*

Session D

3:20 – 4:20 p.m.

D, From the Ground Up: Unmounted Horsemanship Lessons CR All

This session covers different teaching methods and topics for when mounted lessons are not an option. The objective is to give instructors the ability to teach effective ground lessons. Learn about Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center Inc.'s extensive curriculum for ground lessons that includes topics that can be taught in the arena, barn or classroom. Learn how to tailor the lessons for different abilities and skill levels. Come prepared to participate in the discussion and activities.

***Stefanie Green and Sue Adams** see bios in session C.*

4:20 – 4:30 p.m.

Break

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Facilitated Networking

5:30 p.m.

Dinner on your own

7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Socializing and icebreaker games in the hotel courtyard!

Saturday, July 12, 2025

Silent Auction, Poster Presentation and Horse Rescue Ambulance open all day!

7 – 9 a.m. **Registration & Welcome**

8 – 9 a.m. **Flag Raising Ceremony and Continental Breakfast**

Session E

9 – 11 a.m.

E1, Equestrian Vaulting CR Vaulting

Equestrian vaulting, a combination of gymnastics and dance movements on horseback, is a growing sport that is safe, fun, and beneficial for people of all ages and ability levels. This presentation will showcase equestrian vaulting in action on a moving horse and a stationary barrel. Exploring the physical, emotional, and social benefits of the sport, attendees will learn the fundamentals of vaulting instruction as well as basic steps to start a vaulting program at their barn.

Elizabeth Phelps is the director of vaulting program development for Equestrian Vaulting USA, the governing body for equestrian vaulting in the United States. A lifelong vaulter, she has competed up to the international level and is currently the head coach of Capitol City Vaulters in Boyds, Maryland, and an assistant coach at Great Falls Vaulters in Fulton, Maryland. She is passionate about outreach and growing the vaulting community, served three years as an EVUSA youth ambassador and two years as president of the youth ambassador team.

Sarah Phelps is the founder and executive director of Great and Small Therapeutic Riding, a PATH Intl. PAC located in Boyds, Maryland. A rider since childhood, Sarah has a background in eventing and was a working student for Juliet Graham (Bishop) of the Canadian Olympic team. Sarah's introduction to vaulting came through her daughter's involvement as a child and Sarah was captivated by the sport's emphasis on strength, balance, artistic expression, and harmony with the horse. She learned about coaching and lunging for vaulting and was elected EVUSA's Region IX Supervisor. She has served on the national championships committee and started two vaulting programs in the Maryland-DC area.

E2, Exploring (dis)Abilities 9.0: What Does It Mean to "Turn Left" DE

"Turning Left" is a euphemism for "going against the grain." For some it can be quite a difficult yet transformative experience allowing them to expand their horizons. For others, it's a regular part of their daily life and they do it with ease and fluidity. This presentation will provide an understanding of the physical, sensory, emotional and practical implications of "turning left" and provide adaptive riding instructors with valuable tools to enhance their teaching strategies.

Susie Rehr, PT, MS, HPCS is the executive director of *Special Strides*, co-founder of *Dynamic Foundations in Practice (DFIP)* an educational company and has been a physical therapist for 38 years. She has provided physical therapy services to the pediatric population integrating hippotherapy treatment principles for the past 25 years. Quality care, clinical education, educational presentations, published writing and national involvement are hallmarks of her career. Susie sits on the PATH Intl. health and education committee and the AHA ethics, advocacy and reimbursement committee, and has an MS in organizational leadership. She has presented multiple topics at PATH Intl. conferences.

C. Jane Burrows, PT, DPT, HPCS, PATH Intl. ESMHL is the director of operations at *Special Strides*, co-founder of *DFIP*, and an accomplished physical therapist with over 50 years of experience in all fields of physical therapy. She is a lifelong learner and sits on the PATH Intl. equine welfare committee and the AHA professional practice committee. Jane is a PATH Intl. ESMHL, CHA instructor and created the *Weight Carrying Capacity Assessment Protocol (WtCAP)* along with Ellen Rankins, PhD. Jane has presented multiple topics at PATH Intl. conferences.

E3, Masterson Method CR All

Learn the Masterson Method of touch using search, response, stay, release (SRSR) of the bladder meridian, and the benefits of this for both the horse and the participant. This session will introduce the different levels of touch for the horse, human body language while working with a horse, the responses created and the releases for the horse and human. This method can also be taught to volunteers to help horses before and after lessons, which can empower volunteers to be more interactive with the horses. The Masterson Method of working with the bladder meridian can be taught to participants and volunteers or be incorporated into an EAL session. It is a great way to give back to the horse.

Kim Longo is a PATH Intl. CTRI® and Masterson Method equine specialist. While volunteering at a program in New York, Kim witnessed the overwhelming amount of stress that equines were experiencing prior, during and after lessons. She began to search for a way to help them and found the Masterson Method of equine bodywork. Kim has not stopped learning new and wonderful Masterson Method ways to help horses and is delighted to combine the Masterson Method in lessons and with volunteers.

11 – 11:15 p.m.

Break

Session F

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

F1, Occupational Therapy Incorporating Equines CE

Oftentimes, the term “therapy” is thrown around loosely, but there is a reason it needs to be distinct and used accurately. Hippotherapy is a therapeutic treatment that utilizes the three-dimensional movement of the horse to improve physical, emotional, and cognitive functioning in individuals with various conditions. Hippotherapy focuses on the movement of the horse to provide sensory input, enhance motor skills, and promote balance and coordination. What sets hippotherapy apart is its unique combination of the horse’s movement, the therapeutic techniques employed only by trained professionals, and the client’s active participation and response to the input that is continuously evaluated and modified to optimize client’s response. The farm offers a dynamic environment for habilitation and recovery through interactions with equine partners.

***April R. Odendahl, OT/L** is a dedicated occupational therapist specializing in pediatrics and equine-assisted therapies. A graduate of Towson University, April has accumulated diverse experience in hospitals, schools, clinics, communities, homes and equine facilities. In 2019, she founded her own private practice, which has allowed her to combine her passion for serving children and families with her expertise in fostering independence, function and overall wellness. With 28+ years of practice, April continually learns from her clients, finding new insights to enrich her therapeutic approach. In 2024, April launched Free Rein Therapeutic Riding, Inc. Free Rein is dedicated to providing therapy services through equine partnerships with children and their families, regardless of their ability to pay. Set to officially open in 2025, the nonprofit aims to expand its reach and begin serving even more families in need, continuing April’s commitment to making therapeutic services accessible to all, regardless of their ability to pay.*

***Katie Roe** is a certified occupational therapist, hippotherapy clinical specialist, business mentor and transformational coach. She currently owns and manages her business, Flourishing Company, located in western Howard County with her husband, Lucas. Katie has a background in building and running a private practice for six years, consulting with therapeutic riding centers and mentoring therapists for program development and expansion of service offerings. Katie is currently working in early intervention, nature-based OT and personal coaching. Katie has incorporated hippotherapy as a treatment tool in her OT practice for 10+ years and has over 20 years of horse experience and training including background as a PATH Intl. therapeutic riding instructor initially, followed by more recent board certification through the American Hippotherapy Certification Board as a hippotherapy clinical specialist (HPCS).*

F2, Volunteer Training to Improve Equine Welfare & Performance CR All

This presentation explores both an underlying philosophy and practical application for setting program horses and their handlers up for success, focusing particularly on mounted programs but applicable across all equine-assisted services. Learn species-centered stewardship, the goal of self-carriage in the program equine, how to develop an individualized training plan for each equine, and the matching of horse and handler for program work. Learn how to implement horse leader levels in a way that fosters a positive, proactive and protective stance towards the horses at work and a motivating learning climate for volunteer horse handlers.

***Karen Brittle, MA** is a PATH Intl. Master TRI and ESMHL. She is the director of Therapeutic Riding At Centenary (TRAC) and an assistant professor of equine studies at Centenary University.*

***Emily King** is a PATH Intl. CTRI® and ESMHL. She is an instructor and program assistant at TRAC, a role which includes managing TRAC’s volunteer team. Emily holds a BS in animal health and is pursuing an MA in organizational leadership.*

***Sophia Wayner** holds a BS in animal health, is a Masterson Method equine specialist, and a USDF Bronze Medalist. She is in the final stages of her PATH Intl. CTRI® certification and has been a TRAC volunteer and program intern for the past four years.*

12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Lunch with Keynote Speaker and the PATH Intl. Update 1 CE, Field Test Standards Update, Region 2 Meeting and Region 2 Awards Ceremony

This will also be live streamed for free via Zoom!

Session G

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

G1, Minis on the Move CE

Learn the therapeutic effects of miniature horses interacting with residents of assisted living and nursing facilities. This session will discuss program logistics and allow observation of how the horses interact with the facility residents and how to adapt to their needs.

CJ Reuter is a senior at Stevenson University with a major in business administration. He has helped raise farm animals from a very young age and continues to support small business initiatives in his family and broader community. Specializing in miniature horses, he and his minis have participated in Independence Day parades and nursing home visits. He has volunteered for Horseland at the Maryland State Fair since 2018 and became the assistant marketing and logistics coordinator.

G2, 0 to 25: A Two-Year Journey of Veterans Programming CE

There are many options when it comes to creating a Veterans program. Over the past two years, the TRAC Veterans program has grown exponentially due to a wonderful partnership with a local Veterans organization. Learn about starting and growing a program for Veterans from a Veteran that found healing through such a program. This session will offer information on ways to find Veterans, types of Veterans programs, partnering with other veterans' organizations, ways to grow the program, and what TRAC learned along their journey.

Corey Briggs is a Veteran that spent seven years in the United States Marine Corps and was medically retired after many failed procedures to correct a medical issue. After being retired from the military, which he hoped to make a 20-year career, he was left to figure out a life outside of the Marines. He found healing from a Veterans program, and along with it, a new passion and direction for his life. He decided to learn more about horses and EAS which led him to Centenary University. Corey has a bachelor's degree in equine business management and EAS and is a PATH Intl. CTRI® and ESMHL. As the Veteran's program instructor at Therapeutic Riding at Centenary, he has dedicated the past two years to rebuilding the Veterans program from zero to twenty-five Veterans.

G3, Hay Quality Matters: Feeding Smarter for Optimal Equine Health CR All

Unlock the secrets to feeding your horse the best forage for their needs. In this engaging and interactive talk, you'll learn why hay is the foundation of equine nutrition, what determines hay quality, and how to match different types of hay to your horse's unique needs. We'll wrap up with a hands-on session where you'll test your skills by evaluating real hay samples. Whether you're feeding a high-performance athlete or a retired pasture pony, this talk will help you make smarter choices to support your horse's health and performance.

Dr. Amy Burk is an equine nutritionist and professor at the University of Maryland with over 20 years of experience helping horse owners make smarter feeding decisions. Known for her practical, science-based approach to equine nutrition, Dr. Burk is passionate about educating horse owners on how forage quality impacts horse health and performance.

4:45 – 5 p.m.

Break – Silent Auction Closes!

Session H

5 – 6 p.m.

H1, Creative Arena Design Workshop CE

Whether a center has private lessons or multiple group lessons happening simultaneously, the arena is the main hub for activity. This hands-on approach to creative arena design will focus on preparing an arena for a center's lesson schedule, no matter their participant's ability levels. Attendees will participate in set-ups for different scenarios and with the materials that are on hand to offer out-of-the-box approaches to their own arenas.

Claire Oestreich was introduced to PATH Intl. and the EAS industry at Lake Erie College, from which she graduated with a degree in equine studies. Claire is a PATH Intl. Advanced TRI, CTRI and ESMHL. She has taught at several therapeutic riding centers over the past 10+ years, and is currently an instructor at Thorncroft Equestrian Center in Malvern, PA.

Sarah Hofgesang became a PATH Intl. CTRI® in 2022 after volunteering in adaptive horseback riding programs since 2015. She was lucky to start horseback riding lessons as a child in a non-equestrian family and returned to horseback riding after earning her BA from American University in 2013. Sarah is currently in law school while volunteering and substitute teaching at Thorncroft Equestrian Center in Malvern, PA.

H2, Driving Instructors Wanted: Experience Needed CR Driving

Driving requires knowledge and experience in many areas both on and off the carriage, including horsemanship. Gaining the knowledge and experience for therapeutic driving certification is not insurmountable. Learn from the PATH Intl. driving subcommittee chair what you can do to meet the requirements to become a driving instructor. Participants will discover that PATH Intl. driving instructors come from all driving disciplines, evaluate their current level of carriage driving and horsemanship skills, design a plan to practice and train for the driving workshop and certification, and recognize that having a driving program is possible and profitable.

Major George W. Paffendorf, KCA, U.S. Army, Retired has more than 23 years of military service. After the Army he worked with youth at-risk for the state of New Jersey and retired as the state director for youth programs and special initiatives. George is a PATH Intl. CTRI®, level 1 driving instructor, ESMHL, mentor, and CTRI supervisor. He is chair of the PATH Intl. driving subcommittee, a member of the PATH Intl. oversight committee and served two terms as the PATH Intl. region 2 representative. George completed the PATH Intl. advanced Veterans training and is certified through EAGALA as an equine specialist. He is also certified by Irwin Insights in equine assisted personal development (EAPD), is a Special Olympics equestrian coach and is a licensed New York City carriage driver. George served many years with Therapeutic Riding at Centenary (TRAC) and was the founder and director of Operation Centaur, Centenary University's program for Veterans. Recognized for his selfless service he was selected for Knighthood in the Order of Saint George and has been awarded Centenary University's highest honor, The Gold Dome Award. George is the executive director of special initiatives at Centenary University and has an MS in social science and an honorary DHL.

H3, Cowboy Roping and Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress CE

Learn about the benefits of cowboy roping as a therapeutic intervention or adjunct to other therapies for Veterans with post-traumatic stress. Examine how roping activities may promote emotional regulation, trust and resilience while addressing logistical, ethical and practical considerations for implementation. Understand the therapeutic rationale behind cowboy roping, identify key challenges and solutions in program design, explore methods for data collection and evaluation, and apply insights to future therapeutic practices. This session aims to equip attendees with knowledge to assess and support innovative equine-assisted interventions for Veterans.

Vera Ann Remes is a PATH Intl. faculty member in Fundamentals of Equine-Assisted Learning and the ESMHL workshop/certification. A mentor and therapeutic riding instructor, she also serves on the ESMHL certification subcommittee. With a Juris Doctor (JD), she is a learning disabilities specialist teacher/consultant and teacher of the handicapped in NJ. Vera is a Reiki Master/teacher, as well as an Experiential and Horse Powered Reading® & Math Facilitator, blending her expertise to create innovative, impactful equine-assisted programs for diverse populations.

Nancy Van Wyk has a background in law enforcement and holds a master's degree in clinical mental health counseling. She is pursuing a doctorate in marriage and family therapy with a specialization in military family culture. A licensed professional counselor in Pennsylvania, Nancy is also a PATH Intl. CTRI®, mentor, faculty for the ESMHL workshop/certification, and chair of the ESMHL certification subcommittee. She is the program specialist for Veterans at Fair Hill Therapeutic Riding Center in Waymart, PA, where she supports equine-assisted programs for healing and growth.

6 p.m.

Pick up silent auction items. Dinner on your own.

Sunday, July 13, 2025

8 – 9:15 a.m.

Devotions followed by Breakfast and State Meetings

Session I

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

I1, Coaching Riders with Cognitive Impairments in Dressage Tests CR Riding

Join this session to learn how to teach the elements in a walk trot dressage test to riders with cognitive impairments. The session will include a lesson of a mounted rider.

Renee Dixon has been working with people with disabilities for over 45 years. She owns Rolling Hills Ranch "riding lessons for everyone" and is the executive director for the Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program. She is an upper-level dressage rider who loves sharing her knowledge with participants.

I2, Investigating Unmounted Horsemanship Part 1 CR All

As awareness of equine welfare and weight-carrying capacity grows, there has been an increasing shift toward unmounted horsemanship. While weight limitations are a key factor, other benefits of unmounted work include improved communication and bonding with the horse, accessibility for individuals who may not be appropriate for riding and expanded opportunities for meaningful horse-human interactions. Unmounted work can serve as a standalone learning approach or as an essential foundation before mounted lessons. Starting new students with unmounted work provides valuable insights for both instructors and riders. It allows instructors to assess a rider's ability to engage with the horse and develop foundational skills without the added complexity or anxiety of riding. Additionally, it broadens the selection of suitable equines, as size and weight restrictions are no longer primary considerations. Unmounted experiences offer riders a new perspective—both figuratively and literally—

on horsemanship. This session will explore the key benefits of unmounted work, including its role in weight-carrying considerations, its value as an entry point to mounted horsemanship, and its impact on reducing anxiety. Attendees will also gain insight into a variety of lesson options to enhance participant experiences in equine-assisted services.

Susie Rehr and C. Jane Burrows see bios in session E2.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. **Break**

Session J

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

J1, Veterans Drill Team CE

The Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding military drill team has been performing in Maryland for the past eight years. This session will discuss drill team pattern design in addition to offering a live drill team performance. Drill teamwork uses dressage movements and requires eye contact, use of peripheral vision, spatial awareness and awareness of where others are. Being a part of the drill team is very beneficial for Veterans to spend time together, practice teamwork and overall morale building.

Renee Dixon see bio in session I1.

J2, The Power of Choice in Lessons CR All

Lives are filled with choice, however that isn't always the case for EAS participants. This presentation will focus on how and why instructors can offer choices in lessons. There are plenty of opportunities to include choices that follow the instructor's lesson plan while engaging participants on a deeper level. Including choice will also open a door to a deeper understanding of participants and allow for growth in a variety of life skills. The last portion of the presentation will include a "choose your own adventure."

Claire Oestreich see bio in session H1.

J3, Investigating Unmounted Horsemanship Part 2 CR All

Continuation of J2 in the small arena.

11:45 a.m. – 12 p.m. **Break**

Session K

12 – 1 p.m.

K1, Teaching Dressage to a Rider Who is Blind CR Riding

Join this session to learn how to relate to someone who happens to be blind, while coaching them to compete in able-bodied dressage shows. Learn the importance of the student grooming and tacking the horse, natural horsemanship and learning to ride a test. This session will include a lesson of a mounted rider.

Renee Dixon see bio in session I1.

Faith Waybright has been riding with Freedom Hills Therapeutic Riding Program since 2018. Despite the challenges of blindness, Faith has tried new things and is currently excelling at para dressage thanks to Freedom Hills and Faith's beloved equine partner Nina.

K2, Comparison of EAS Riding and Driving CE

This presentation provides a comparison of the benefits to individuals with disabilities participating in a therapeutic riding program versus a therapeutic driving program. The information presented is anecdotal based on many years of experience in teaching both riding and driving.

Mary Jo Beckman is a PATH Intl. Master Instructor and level 1 driving instructor. In 2008, she started a therapeutic driving program at the Loudoun Therapeutic Riding Program. Through the years, she has partnered with seven driving equines and driven a variety of carts and carriages, including a wheelchair accessible carriage.

We look forward to seeing you soon in Maryland!