Gallaster is a center for therapeutic horseback riding that is specialized in serving people with that have experienced abuse and neglect, as well as those with cognitive and emotional difficulties. The PATH International Registered Therapeutic riding instructor is also a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and has developed specific treatments for individuals with Autism. This center was one of the first in the nation to form collaboration between the mental health community and therapeutic riding to offer equine-assisted psychotherapy. The programs are held weekly throughout the year for children aged 6 through 18. They address hands-on mounted and unmounted skills at basic, intermediate, and advanced horsemanship levels. Children’s emotional needs are specifically addressed as they learn skills that facilitate confidence and responsibility.

The Center for Human-Animal Interaction is at VCU’s School of Medicine. The purpose of the Center is to promote interdisciplinary and interinstitutional research, service, and educational activities related to the human-animal relationships. One program offered is Dogs on Call, which enhances the well-being of patients through in-hospital therapy dog visitations at the VCU Medical Center.
Camp Still Meadows offers three 8-week therapeutic horseback riding sessions for campers during the summer. Therapeutic horseback riding can benefit individuals with almost any disability. Some of these benefits include: increased self-esteem from accomplishing riding a horse, interpersonal relationships with horses, and muscle control and strength. Camp Still Meadows has a wheelchair accessible tree-house to allow children with certain disabilities to be able to enjoy a treehouse. There are fundraising events throughout the year which include: Longaberger Basket Bingo, Horseback Ride-A-Thon, visits with Santa, and various auctions.

Paws for a Cause at the Center for Animal Human Relationships
Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine
205 Duck Pond Drive
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Website: http://www.vetmed.vt.edu/centaur/service.asp
Phone: (540) 231-7666
E-mail: centaur@vt.edu

The Center for Animal Human Relationships is an academic center conducting research, instruction, and outreach programs designed to foster a greater understanding of the mutual benefits associated with human-animal interaction. Paws for a Cause incorporates animal-assisted activities into two programs: VT Helping Paws and PAWS to Read. VT Helping Paws is a certification program for students, staff and faculty of the VMCVM so that they can serve with their pet in the surrounding community at schools, libraries and nursing homes. PAWS to Read utilizes trained dogs to sit by a child for support while the child is learning how to read. The dog’s inability to judge the child’s reading level can make the child feel more comfortable.
The Carilion Clinic Children’s Hospital uses animal-assisted therapy in their hospitals to improve the mental health of patients. Volunteers are screened and trained and if selected, can come into the hospital with their animal through the Pet Partners Program. Once a month, the Mill Mountain Zoo brings animals into the hospital. Animal visits promote peer interaction, normalization, and distraction from the ordinary hospital experience.

The mission of the Summit Therapy Animal Service (Summit TAS) is to help people achieve their rehabilitation and therapy goals through the use of animals. Staff are professionals who work with people of all ages and specialize in helping children affected by intellectual, emotional, or physical challenges. Services offered include: pet therapy; canine kids club; animal-assisted therapy and intervention; reading education assistance dogs; animal-assisted play therapy; and customized services. The Summit TAS visit facilities such as churches, schools, rehabilitation centers, assisted living facilities, libraries, and private homes. Dogs are the primary animal used, but cats, rabbits, and miniature ponies are also available.
**Ride with Pride**  
P.O. Box 1203  
Staunton, VA 24402

Website: http://www.ridewithprideva.org/

Phone: (540) 225-2210  
Fax: (540) 886-6379  
Email: volunteer4rwp@gmail.com

*Ride with Pride* is a therapeutic horsemanship program offering assistance in the treatment of individuals with mental, physical and emotionally challenges. *Ride with Pride* offers programs that can be tailored to a wide range of needs, such as *Anger Awareness with Horses*, *Character Building with Horses*, and the *Veteran’s Program*.

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**Loudoun Therapeutic Riding**  
41793 Tutt Lane  
Leesburg, Virginia 20176

Website: http://ltrf.org/

Phone: (703) 771-2689  
E-mail: ltrfinfo@ltrf.org

*Loudoun Therapeutic Riding* in Leesburg, VA is a premier accredited center through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH Intl.). *Therapeutic Riding, Hippotherapy* and *Carriage Driving* are the main programs offered and serve individuals with cognitive, physical, and psychological disabilities. Equine Assisted activities and therapies in a safe and supportive environment provide a motivating experience that promotes therapeutic benefits to improve daily functional skills and an overall quality of life.
Breaking Free at the Saddle Doctor
15150 Strooptown Road
Timberville, VA 22853

Website: http://www.breakingfreesaddledoctor.com/

Phone: (540) 896-8505
E-mail: jennyfoltz@breakingfreesaddledoctor.com or ajmorey@breakingfreesaddledoctor.com

**Breaking Free** is a non-profit service that uses *Equine Assisted Learning* (EAL) and *Equine Assisted Psychotherapy* (EAP) to help clients reach personal goals and overcome challenges. EAL or EAP for individuals, families or groups first begins with working with horses on the ground. If requested or necessary, services will continue through riding and facilitating discussion and reflection. Other specialized programs offered include: *Horses Healing Heroes; Hold Your Horses*; and the *Winner’s Circle*. *Horses Healing Heroes* works in assisting veteran’s needs. *Hold Your Horses* is offered for at-risk or court-ordered youth of any age. *The Winner’s Circle* is an 8-week EAL program designed for teenagers aged 13-18.