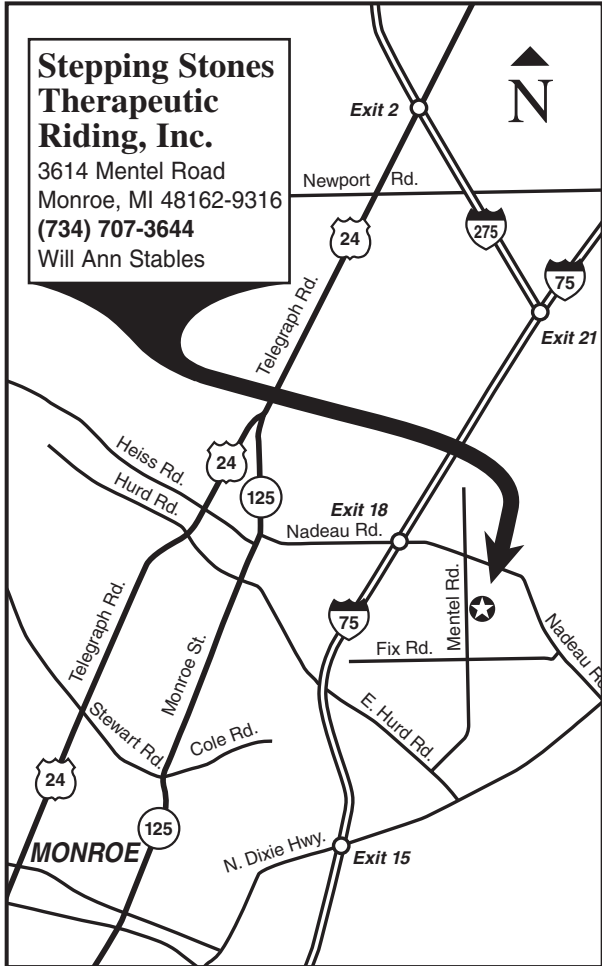


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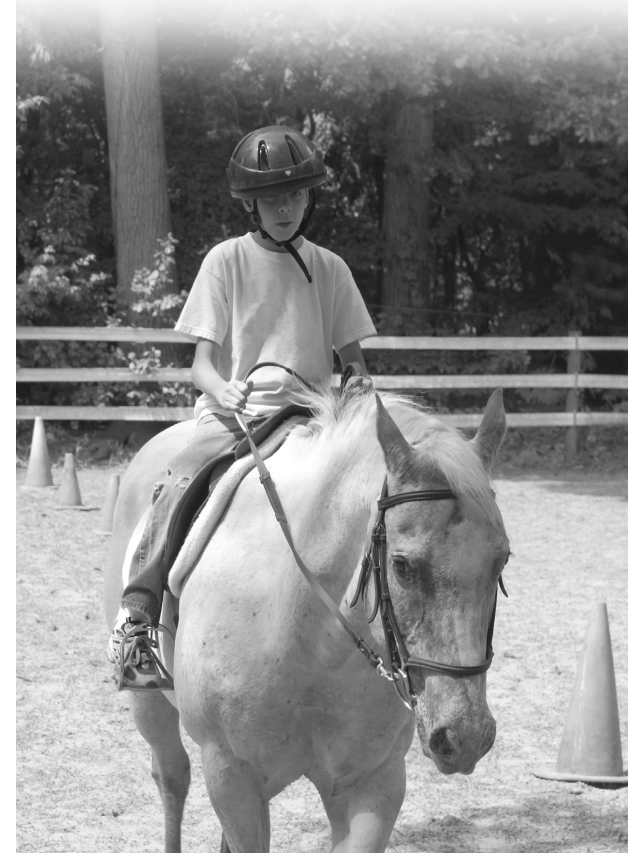
Brochure Revised 04/01/2017

**Stepping Stones
Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**
3614 Mentel Road
Monroe, MI 48162-9316



Stepping Stones Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

*Providing therapeutic horseback riding
and related activities to challenged
riders of all ages in Monroe County
and the Downriver area.*



Therapeutic Riding Program

We are continuously seeking ways to improve and expand our therapeutic program. The success of the Stepping Stones horseback riding program is measured in many different ways:

- In the broad smiles of riders and their families.
- In the demonstrated therapeutic benefits of aerobic exercise and improved balance, coordination and muscle tone.
- In the positive feelings volunteers experience when assisting the riders and their families.
- In the satisfaction that individuals, companies and community service organizations feel after donating funds or services to support the day-to-day operations of the program.

Stepping Stones involves many volunteers who assist riders with physical, mental or emotional disabilities. The program teaches horsemanship and riding skills adapted to fit the individual needs of each rider.

Riding sessions are provided in the spring, summer and fall. Each session is six weeks in length, for one hour each week. In addition, riders may participate in the Monroe County Fair through the Michigan 4-H Proud Equestrians Program (PEP).

Riders range in age from 4 to 60+. Their experience and riding abilities also vary from those needing substantial assistance to independent riders.

Certified Instructors

To ensure the safety of riders and maximize the physical and developmental benefits of the program, Stepping Stones lessons are taught by instructors certified through PATH Intl. (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International).



Participant in the Michigan 4-H
Proud Equestrians Program (PEP)

Volunteers

Volunteers are extremely important to Stepping Stones. They are trained to lead horses during riding lessons to help the riders guide and control the horses when necessary. Volunteers are also side-walkers who help riders maintain balance in the saddle and follow the instructor's directions. As riders gain their skills and confidence, the volunteers provide less and less assistance. The goal of the program is to have the riders learn to ride as independently as possible.

Equipment

Standard all-purpose English saddles and bridles are the basic equipment for the program. All riders are required to wear protective helmets. Mounting blocks and a ramp are used when necessary to assist with mounting the horse.

Horses

The horses that work with the program must be quiet, reliable and patient. They are usually donated or loaned to the program. Individuals and businesses may sponsor program horses in order to assist with boarding costs and medical care. Horses are also available to lease to individuals or families when not scheduled for program activities.

Facility

The Stepping Stones facility at Will Ann Stables has a large indoor arena. There is a wheelchair accessible restroom.

Funding

If a family is unable to afford the cost of lessons, sponsors or other arrangements can be made. Operating costs include the care and feed for the horses, maintenance of equipment, insurance and various other expenses. These costs are covered by the rider fees, horse sponsorships, horse leasing, and generous donations from individuals, businesses and community service organizations. Each fall the holiday auction provides substantial support to our program.

Getting Involved

There are many ways you can support or become involved with Stepping Stones. We are always in need of:

- Program Volunteers
- Fund Raising Volunteers
- Monetary Donations
- Service Donations
- Healthy and Reliable Horse Donations
- Horse-related Equipment Donations
- Auction Item Donations
- Individuals/Businesses to Sponsor Participant Riders
- Individuals/Businesses to Sponsor Program Horses
- Individuals to Lease Program Horses

To learn more about the program, register a rider, or wish to donate a healthy and reliable horse please contact us and leave a message so we can return your call. We can also be reached through our website.



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Therapeutic Riding, Inc.**
3614 Mentel Road
Monroe, MI 48162-9316
(734) 707-3644

The Barn: Will Ann Stables
(Barn Owner – Kelly Cashen)

Please visit us at our website:
www.steppingstonesmonroe.org

Stepping Stones Therapeutic Riding, Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible. (CFC# 3690)