



GAIT Therapeutic Riding Center

Independent Study Task Description/ Human Services Practicum

Job Summary: The Sociology, Social Work, and Human Services intern's role is to apply his/her knowledge to help improve the quality of life for children and adults with special needs through equine assisted activities and therapies in a non-profit, Section 501 (c)(3) environment.

Location: GAIT TRC 314 Foster Hill Rd., Milford, PA 18337

Supervisor(s): Vera Remes, PATH Intl. Certified Instructor; Martha Dubensky, Executive Director

Qualifications:

- Working knowledge of human diversity, sociological theories and concepts, challenges facing individuals with special needs and interest in non-profit organizations
- Must be able to communicate clearly, honestly, and respectfully with staff, participants, parents, and volunteers
- Willingness to work outdoors
- Must attend required programs and training session
- Ability to give and receive feedback in a positive manner
- Adhere to all of GAIT's policies and procedures
- Be committed to a positive, fun, and team-orientated working environment

Responsibilities: Through observation and limited participation in Therapeutic Riding classes and working in a non-profit environment, interns will learn to:

- Work with individuals with special needs, parents and caregivers through direct interaction in therapeutic riding classes and in GAIT's developmental resource center;
- Become acquainted with various aspects of running a non-profit organization such a community outreach, governmental agencies, fundraising, grant writing and managing volunteers;
- Become familiar with equipment used for horses, riders, and how participant needs and behaviors influence appropriate horse/tack selection
- Participate in Safety and Orientation Volunteer Training to learn GAIT policies, safety procedures, and participation during Therapeutic Riding classes

Requirements:

- Participation with participants requires obtaining Child Abuse Clearance, PA Criminal History Background Check, and FBI Fingerprint Background Check
- Complete Internship Application and attend a Safety and Orientation training
- Required reading includes articles and magazines related to Equine Therapy available on site
- Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director, complete a special project associated within the intern's specific area of study. Project may include, but is not limited to, preparing an application for a grant, developing a plan for a fundraising event, or developing a behavioral assessment

Days and Hours: To be determined