



Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in Orinda that provides therapeutic horseback riding, hippotherapy and related activities to children with mental and physical disabilities in a safe and secure environment. In a beautiful rural setting, we offer life-changing experiences for children with a wide range of disabilities. Focusing on enhancing each student's unique abilities and using the motion of the horse to improve specific skills, participants achieve goals that they never dreamed possible. With a horse as their guide, they gain self-esteem, confidence, mobility and balance. All of this takes place in a friendly, supportive atmosphere where students can make great strides, not only on horseback but also in the world outside the arena.

Xenophon's staff includes eight therapeutic riding instructors and one licensed physical therapist, all of whom are registered by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International. Along with a cadre of enthusiastic volunteers, they work with Xenophon's five horses—all trained to accept the adaptive equipment necessary for our children's success.

While there is no "typical" lesson—as all are tailored to the unique needs and abilities of each student—all lessons comprise a certified instructor, horse handler and two sidewalkers who assist with balance and ensure that the student is safe. Through a range of equine-assisted activities, we help students build core muscle strength, improve fine and gross motor skills, develop attention spans and cognition, and improve socialization skills.

In 2012, Xenophon gave a total of 1,600 lessons to 48 students—more than doubling the number of lessons offered in previous years, thanks to the construction of a new covered arena in 2011 and the transition to a year-round program. Over five sessions, with lessons offered five days a week, more than 120 volunteers logged in over 5,000 hours of service; other volunteers participate in fundraising, horse care and facility maintenance and improvement.

For additional information, visit www.xenophontrc.org or contact our Executive Director, Mari Parino, at mparino@xenophontrc.org or (925) 212-8788.



Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center

Fact Sheet

Mission Statement: To enrich the lives of disabled children through a high-quality program of therapeutic horseback riding, hippotherapy and related activities.

Disabilities served: Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis, Noonan Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome (similar to autism), Developmental Delay, and other disabilities.

Sessions: In 2012, the first year in which we transitioned to a year-round program thanks to the construction of a new covered arena, we ran four seven-week sessions and one six-week session from February through November. We expect to continue with such a schedule in coming years.

Lessons: Each weekly lesson is 30 minutes long; and each is tailored to the individual needs of the student, with instructors working with parents, teachers and medical professionals to develop custom lesson plans.

Fees: Although the cost to Xenophon for each lesson is \$145, the fee for students for each therapeutic riding lesson is \$45. Hippotherapy lessons are higher, but are often covered by health insurance. We offer a scholarship program for families needing financial assistance.

Students served: In 2011, Xenophon served 48 students per week; typically, we maintain a wait-list of additional students wanting to participate.

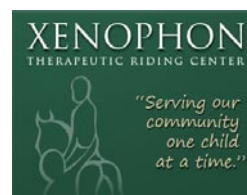
Volunteers: More than 120 volunteers generously give their time in various capacities, including sidewalker and horse handler. Others participate in horse care or facilities upkeep.

Accreditation: Xenophon is accredited by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International, a national governing body that regulates therapeutic riding programs in the United States. Xenophon is the only Premier Accredited Center of its kind in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and is considered one of the highest-quality therapeutic riding centers of its size in the country. In the accreditation process, centers are evaluated on more than 100 criteria to ensure a safe and meaningful program. In its most recent review in 2012, Xenophon earned a perfect score.

Instructors: Xenophon's nine part-time instructors are registered by PATH International. The registration process is lengthy and comprehensive to ensure knowledgeable and competent therapeutic riding instructors. Two of our instructors have masters degrees in counseling. Hippotherapy instructors are licensed physical therapists. All of Xenophon's instructors participate in industry conferences and continuing education.

Horses: We currently have five horses of various breeds. All our horses undergo extensive training that ensures their reliability and enables them to do the job required of a therapeutic riding horse.

Operations and Governance: Xenophon is run day-to-day by a paid part-time Executive Director, Program Director and Horse/Barn Manager. It is overseen by an active volunteer Board of Directors comprising parents, professionals, and community and philanthropic leaders.



Xenophon Therapeutic Riding Center
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Xenophon is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.
Tax ID: 94-3188164
Insured through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International, Xenophon is the only Premier PATH-accredited Center in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.