



# HOPE

## Horses Offering People Enrichment

Chinese NGO & US 501(c)3  
Beijing Civil Affairs Bureau  
#52110000MJ1063431N

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### **Mission:**

Enriching lives in partnership with the horse

Creating awareness of the healing properties of the horse

### **Vision:**

To be an exemplary service provider, educator, and leader of therapeutic horsemanship,

encouraging service to individuals with special needs

### **Core Values:**

**Respect:** Showing respect for the individuals who participate, their families or caregivers and all involved in the program (orphans, children, volunteers, staff members, and horses).

**Service:** Providing assistance to children with special needs and their families.

**Compassion:** Demonstrating a desire to understand and help individuals with special needs.

**Education:** Providing training to professionals and caregivers, and for orphanages, hospitals and universities.

**Integrity:** Following and implementing ethical business and equine care practices.

**Quality:** Promoting best practices for serving special needs community and for the care of horses.

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## HOPE: Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapy

HOPE, founded in 2009, is a not-for-profit organization offering participants the opportunity to connect with horses through Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT). The relationship between a horse and a human can be powerful – and healing. At HOPE, in addition to riding, participants learn to brush, groom, lead, and care for a horse. These activities can facilitate growth in a variety of areas - often much faster than in a clinical or academic setting. Skills that may be enhanced include: gross and fine motor skills, listening, following directions, waiting, and communicating with others.



### The benefits of Therapeutic Horsemanship may include:

- Enhanced motor skills
- Increased balance by developing core body strength
- Reduced anxiety through rhythmic, frequent, & consistent gait of the horse

### Therapeutic Riding as part of TH:

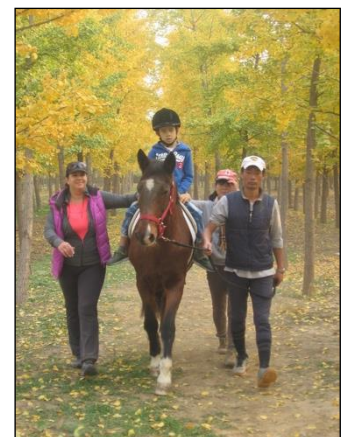
- Provides rich sensory experience
- Promotes social-emotional skills through special bond between horse & human

### HOPE serves children and adults with special needs from:

- Bethel Foster Home (爱百福) – home for orphans that are blind or visually impaired children
- Shepherd's Field Children's Village (牧羊地儿童村) - orphanage for children with special needs
- Migrant Children's Foundation (MCF) (中国打工子弟慈善基金会) - serves disadvantaged children
- Ren Yu Yuan (仁育苑) – education center for orphans and migrant children with special needs
- Local Chinese Community
- Child from Xi'An who travels to Beijing to participate in HOPE Summer Camps
- Individuals from the Expatriate community

### Diagnoses served in the past year:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Cerebral Palsy
- Blind & Visually Impaired
- Down Syndrome
- Global Developmental Delay
- Spina Bifida
- Low Muscle Tone



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### Staff:

- Four Chinese
  - Business Operations Manager
  - Assistant Program Director (PATH Int'l Instructor-in-training)
  - Stable Assistant
  - Development Manager
- One Expatriate
  - Certified Advanced PATH Int'l Instructor (U.S.)
  - Master's Degree in Kinesiology



### Sessions include:

- Therapeutic Horsemanship & Riding sessions
- Includes orphans, MCF, participants from local community
- Summer camps: annually in July
- Introduction to EAAT 2017 & 2019 courses
- PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) International 6-week CTRI Introduction Course (fall 2019)



### Volunteers:

- Positions include
  - Side Walker - ensure safety while participants are mounted
  - Horse Handler – prepare horse for lessons and lead during sessions
  - Classroom - facilitate unmounted activities with children while others ride horses
  - Cooks - HOPE offers lunch for orphans and summer camp participants
  - English tutor – provides one-on-one lessons to disadvantaged children
  - Outreach – assist in social media and attend outreach events to support HOPE
- Provide special training for volunteers
- Weekly
  - Range from 10 – 30

### Volunteers from:

- Local community (Shunyi and Beijing) including:
  - Qiandao Financial Lease Company gives staff time to volunteer
  - Botong Investment Company 上海泊通投资公司 (also financially supports HOPE)
  - US for Summer Camp
- International schools in Shunyi and eastern Beijing area
- Provinces & countries outside of Beijing who have had heard of HOPE (summer volunteers)
  - Zhang Jian province
  - Da Lian city
  - United States

### Horses:

- Mu'er - a Chinese draft mare
- Heishan - Chinese horse
- Li - Gotland pony from Sweden, now 25 years old, ground lessons only



- Tank - a sturdy Chinese pony, joined the team fall 2019

HOPE Governance:

- Chinese Board of Directors
- Chinese Advisory Board
  - Comprised of individuals, including teachers, familiar with individuals with special needs
- US Board of Directors (2012; HOPE recognized as a non-profit by US federal government)
  - Founder/CEO - Dr. Priscilla Lightsey who is:
    - PATH International Certified Instructor (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship)
    - Hippotherapy Clinical Specialist
    - Adjunct Professor at Texas A&M University

Location - HOPE works out of a stable that offers us:

- Reduced fee for board
- Classroom/office space
- Tack room
- Use of their arenas
- Professional equestrian environment based on the French Federation
- Our own private kitchen, enabling HOPE to serve orphans & camp participants lunch

