

40
YEARS



WE CAN RIDE 4-H CLUB



4-H GROWS HERE



WHAT IS THE “WE CAN RIDE 4-H CLUB?”

We Can Ride 4-H Club was organized in 1979 to offer therapeutic/recreational horseback riding lessons for the disabled.

It was the first 4-H program in Michigan to win accreditation from the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH), formerly KNOWN as North American Riding for the Handicapped Association, Inc.(NARHA). It is a part of the Michigan State University Proud Equestrian Program. Instructors are both 4-H and PATH Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International; formerly NARHA) certified to ensure their capabilities. This program is also unique because it provides stable management and showmanship in addition to horseback riding.

Stable Management is the anatomy, care and grooming of the horse while showmanship teaches the art of safely leading and showing a horse from the ground. Both contribute vital knowledge and understanding of our equine counterparts. We Can Ride 4-H Club is primarily a volunteer-run program and the majority of the horses used are volunteered by their owners.



WHAT IS THERAPEUTIC HORSEBACK RIDING?

Therapeutic horseback riding was first started in England in 1954. Today, both the United States and Canada are pursuing this excellent type of therapy. For individuals with physical, emotional, and cognitive disabilities, therapeutic horseback riding provides physical and emotional therapy as well as education and recreation through riding and working with horses.

MISSION STATEMENT:

We Can Ride 4-H Club provides horseback riding for the disabled youth of Berrien County to enhance their lives with educational activities related to horses.

VISION STATEMENT:

The vision of **We Can Ride 4-H Club** is to best meet the needs of the disabled youth of Berrien County and enhance the knowledge and understanding between persons with and without disabilities.



WHAT IS 4-H?

4-H is a nationally recognized organization that promotes positive, hands-on educational opportunities for its youth and volunteers. It has been in existence for more than 100 years. 4-H is governed by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered through the Land Grant University in each state.

Involvement in 4-H can help kids **EXPLORE** new ideas, **EXPERIENCE** a variety of new opportunities and friendships, and build skills designed to help them **ACHIEVE**.

Our commitment to the young people and parents who seek community-based learning opportunities and to the volunteers and organizations that become our partners in positive youth development is that 4-H:

- Helps young people **EXPLORE** their interests through fun, engaging, hands-on learning experiences led by committed adults in their local communities.
- Gives youth and adults opportunities to **EXPERIENCE** the benefits of working together to reach common goals.
- Helps young people **ACHIEVE** through knowledge, success and friendships that last a lifetime!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Though riding takes place in the summer, there are many opportunities to help with We Can Ride throughout the year. For more information about **We Can Ride 4-H Club**, contact:

Club Coordinator: **Patti Dynes**
Phone: **269-362-0485**
Email: **patti.dynes@gmail.com**
Web: **wecandride4h.org**

OR

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