

Children's Foundation for Equine Assisted Therapy

Children's F.E.A.T. was founded by the dedicated mother's of handicapped children along with a therapeutic riding instructor/ behavior therapist. It started out as a backyard charity and grew fast through word-of-mouth advertisement. Today the foundation serves 20 of Broward's and Palm Beaches disabled children. It specifically caters to children diagnosed with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome, and PDD. They are benefiting dramatically from the uniquely created equine assisted communication program which is conducted in one-on-one sessions. Children's F.E.A.T. is a not for profit 501 (c) (3) organization which has no regular income. At the moment it is supported by the donations of parents and the hard work of its founders an directors. To cover the costs of the necessary expansion, adding another 20 children the foundation, C.F.E.A.T is seeking outside funding. Anyone willing to help can call Children's F.E.A.T. at 561-350-7939

"I feel as though the children have a special,



Aleksander Danos.

indescribable bond with the horses, a bond that allows the children to reach new heights." - Anke Ebener, Instructor

Aleksander's story: Aleksander D. is a 11 year old boy diagnosed with autism. He does not talk, he doesn't like to play like other children, and he is unmotivated to learn new skills. Since beginning the equine assisted communication program his life changed dramatically. By using the picture-card system Aleksander has learned about 90



Anke Ebener.

new words. He has even accomplished an entire sentence: I want to go fast. This is meant in relation to the horse. By using the horse as reinforcement, Aleksander has learned new life skills. In addition, he is now willing to play with balls, does some physical exercises on horseback and has learned incredible riding skills. He is now able to post-trot- a very challenging activity. Lately Aleksander has even begun to hug, pet and feed his favorite horse- a 21 year-old standardbred mare named KaiserKrone.

Aleksander's mother, Dora, is thrilled. She is baffled by the program and states, "It is like having occupational, physical, speech and behavior therapy in just one session", all while experiencing the beneficial emotional and social aspect of equine therapy. Anke Ebener feels

as though, "The program not only benefits the children a great deal, but I also feel as though I benefit from the children. The smiles they bring to my sessions are worth a million words."

**Children's Foundation
For Equine Assisted Therapy, Inc.**

Children's F.E.A.T. is a non-profit organization offering equine oriented activities for children with varying developmental disabilities. Educational and equine-specialists together with health care professionals are continuing to create this unique communication program that combines the benefits of several forms of therapeutic disciplines.

Children's F.E.A.T. located on the border of Boca Raton and Delray Beach, is a not for profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

For information about attending the program, volunteering or making a donation, please call:

561-350-7939