

Therapy Horses: Our partners, our patients!

Bonnie DePue, OTR
CHUM Therapeutic Riding

Who are the therapy horses? Where do they come from? What sets them apart from any other horse? How are they our patients?

All of these are great questions and this presentation is designed to answer these and more. The ideas shared here come from 20+ years of teaching therapeutic riding, 10+ years working as part of the hippotherapy team, and 15+ years gathering valuable knowledge and techniques such as the Linda Tellington-Jones TTOUCH and TEAM methods of training, general massage techniques, and good common sense ideals that have seemed to work throughout many horse's extended careers in this field. We believe these ideas have played a large role in keeping the older horse strong, healthy, and happy for many years of service in the therapeutic industry. It has been our experience to have therapy horses with careers that have been as long as 26 years in the service of providing therapeutic/hippotherapy services, and still going strong.

Specific exercises and techniques will be shown for you to utilize at home as well as a list of references for more information. Handouts will be available during the presentation.