

## COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT HAPPY TRAILS CAMP



### **Where is Happy Trails Camp (HTC) held?**

HTC is held on the National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy's (NCEFT) grounds. We make use of our entire 12-acre property, including our covered arena, barn, sensory trail, horse stall and paddock areas at the top of the hill behind our main barn and Triple H Ranch facility (arts and crafts room and outdoor swing/play area located toward the back of the property).

### **Will typically-developing children and those with disabilities be all together or separated into different groups?**

All the children who participate in camp will participate together! The fundamental goal of HTC is to provide an outdoor camp experience, regardless of the ability – or disability – of the camper. For families that blend children with disabilities and typically developing children, rarely do opportunities arise for siblings to experience a camp program together. Because we work with children with such a wide range of abilities, we can create a camp experience that will be fun, exciting and engaging to all campers. By having children together, they will bond, learn from each other and grow together. Our goal is to make “ability” irrelevant, at least for one short week in the summer!

### **Who staffs HTC?**

NCEFT regular staff and volunteers will staff HTC. We partner each camper with a young adult (teenager or older) “Buddy” to help provide a rich camp experience with plenty of supervision, one-to-one focus and fun.

### **What if my child with disabilities has significant/specific needs?**

NCEFT staff (current therapists or instructors) will coordinate directly with families on a one-to-one basis prior to camp to determine specific needs of campers with disabilities. In some specific situations, families may need to provide a 1:1 aide if the child's needs exceed the abilities/qualifications of camp staff and volunteers. In addition, NCEFT staff and therapists will make the final determination if a camper is appropriate for camp and able to fully participate.

### **What should my child(ren) wear? Bring?**

Campers should wear comfortable play clothes that are OK to get dirty! As we will be outside around animals, long pants and sturdy shoes are important. No sandals or open-toed shoes! Slather on that sunblock in the morning, and hats are recommended. Bring a healthy sack lunch (we can refrigerate lunches) and a water bottle. And don't forget to pack that sense of humor!



### **Is lunch provided?**

Lunch is not provided—please pack a healthy sack lunch (we can refrigerate lunches) and don't forget a water bottle labeled with your camper's name. HTC will provide light snacks at snack time and refill water bottles throughout the day, especially if the weather is hot. Please be sure to note on the registration form any allergies or food issues.

### **Is this a horseback riding camp?**

HTC is not a formal horseback riding camp, focused specifically on learning to ride and riding every day. The week of HTC is technically NCEFT's break week when our horses are enjoying their mandatory vacations. While we will be around all our beautiful horses, donkeys and other critters every day (meeting, grooming, petting, learning about, etc.), we will only be riding horses on the final day of camp. (Parents note: the rides on the final day will be a great photo op, and parents are welcome – no, encouraged! – to come watch!)

### **Can anyone attend HTC, or just NCEFT patient families?**

We anticipate that current NCEFT patient families will fill the limited spaces available for HTC. Therefore, we will prioritize registration for our current patients. However, we will keep a waiting list for non-patient families and should space become available, we will open registration to the public after patient families have had ample opportunity to sign up.

### **Is before- or after-care available?**

Due to staffing constraints, before or after care will not be available. Camp hours are 9:30a-1:00p. Please do not drop off children before 9:30a and please be sure to pick up children promptly at 1:00p as there will not be ample supervision before or after camp hours.

### **What are the payment and refund/cancellation policies?**

- Regular Camp Fees (register May 1 or after): \$495 per child/week
- Early Bird discount (register by May 1): \$450 per child/week
- Siblings receive a 10% discount on their registration.

For example, if two siblings register for the Early Bird Discount, fees would be \$450 + \$405 = \$855

### **Cancellation policy:**

Cancellations must be made in writing to NCEFT. Cancellations prior to July 1 can be made at no charge. Cancellations made July 1 – July 15 are eligible for a 50% refund. Cancellations after July 15 are non-refundable.

### **Is financial assistance available for HTC?**

Financial Assistance is available for NCEFT patients who currently receive aid. Please email [admin@nceft.org](mailto:admin@nceft.org) or call 650-851-2271 ext. 1 for details.



NATIONAL CENTER FOR EQUINE FACILITATED THERAPY

880 Runnymede Road, Woodside, California, 94062 • 650-851-2271 • [info@nceft.org](mailto:info@nceft.org) • [www.NCEFT.org](http://www.NCEFT.org)

NCEFT is a 501(c)(3) California public benefit corporation. Tax ID# 94-2378104