



Gully's Learning Ranch



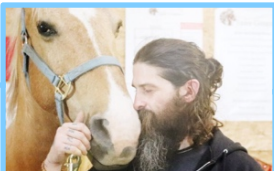
Equine Assisted Learning Life Skills Development Experiential Learning Programs

What is Experiential Learning?

Experiential training ensures that the skills development is both fun and memorable. Experiential learning is “**learning by doing**” – and is the oldest form of learning. We all have different learning styles, but we can all learn from our experiences. What you learn is important, but what you remember is priceless. By creating memories that last, our **unique program** allows for you to fully engage themselves in your own learning and be able to retain the lessons learned from their horses. Experiential learning allows participants to **learn their way**, and as a team at the same time. **A win-win!**

What is Equine Assisted Learning?

Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) is an experiential learning program, where your teacher is 1,000 pounds. A **Certified Equine Facilitator** guides your experience, but the horses do all the teaching! The facilitator parallels the lessons you have learned from your horse teacher, back to everyday life, to ensure that what you have learned can be utilized at **home, school, or work**. Horses are amazing teachers. Working in teams with the horses, participants are encouraged and challenged to make their way through an **objectively-driven exercise**. Each objective is a life skill – something we may think we have mastered, but until a horse tells us so, there is always room for development. We work at **eye level** with our horse teachers to ensure that they are in their most natural state to communicate with us. There is **no riding** during our life skills development programs and **no horse experience necessary**. Your teachers are **non-judgemental, completely forgiving, honest and authentic**. Close interaction with horses is an incredibly **safe, engaging, and rewarding learning environment**.



Life Skills Development with Horses

Life skills, at their most basic level, are **interpersonal communication skills** (social or “soft” skills). During each session, teams work together with their horse teacher, to make their way through an objectively-driven obstacle course. Each objective is a life skill that will be developed and built upon as the program progresses. Horses and humans have many life skills in common, such as **effective teamwork**, fair **leadership**, clear intention, creative problem solving, integrity, confidence, boundaries, trust, and more! **Herds** to horses are like **teams** to humans. Each member of the herd as a job to do towards a common goal – for a horse, the common goal is safety. With human teams, we work together to achieve a common goal – whether that goal be a school project, a work assignment, or making the championship, everyone has a task to do to achieve that common goal. Another similarity between herds and teams, is the requirement of **fair, true leadership**. Fair leadership does NOT come by dominance; something that has been studied in both human and herd life. Fair leadership comes from appreciating each team members strengths and understanding their weaknesses. Horses seek leadership in order to feel safe. When they do not receive that type of leadership, they will take the leader role. But being a true leader does not mean having to be the CEO of a company or the Principle of a school. Being a true leader means being able to answer the questions, “**Where do I want to go?**” and “**How am I going to get there?**” That is the type of leadership a horse is looking for and they will respect, trust and admire you when you give that to them. In a horse’s world, teamwork is respected and expected.

Our Unique Programs

Women’s Programs: Authentic You Workshops, Curriculum Empowerment Programs, Retreats

Corporate Programs: Team Building Events, Leadership Development Workshops, Corporate Retreats– Customizable

Youth Programs: Curriculum Programs, Workshops, Youth Team Building / Field Trip Event, Birthday Parties (‘No Youth Gets Turned Away’ policy)

Adult Programs: Couple’s Programs, Seniors’ Program, Reclaim Your Life Program – Workshops & Curriculum Programs Available

Family Programs: Workshops, Curriculum Programs, Grandparent Program, Experience Chatham-Kent Tourist Workshops & Retreats

Michelle Mulholland

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Why Horses?

There are **3 main reasons** why we work with horses in our programs:

- 1. Researched:** Horses have been researched in many scientific studies – in both their domestic and wild state. Having that scientific knowledge of the horse helps us understand how they communicate and how they interact with their environment.
- 2. Prey Animals:** When working with a prey animal, there are 3 points of consideration:
 - a)** Nature has given the horse instincts and senses that are highly astute.
 - b)** For survival alone, horses must be constantly aware of their surroundings and be quick to react. They are aware of the slightest changes in their environment / energy around them.
 - c)** With the ability to sense small changes in the beings around them (including human beings), they are always aware of the changes in our heart rate. If we are nervous, happy, excited, anxious, etc. while working with horses, they will hear and feel the changes within you.
- 3. Flight Animals:** Horses are flight animals – which not all prey animals are. They are able to flee quickly at a moment’s notice. However, they have the ability to naturally desensitize themselves. They can tell the difference between a bird flying out of the bush or a coyote jumping out. When we work with horses, we work with their natural desensitization ability. Working with a flight animal is extremely rewarding – they choose to stay with us!

Single Workshops: 90-minutes; includes 1 objectively-driven exercise

Double Workshops: 3 hours; includes 2 objectively-driven exercises

Double Workshop (with lunch): 3.5 hours; includes 2 objectively-driven exercises & country lunch

4- 6-, 8-, or 12-Week Curriculum Programs: 60-75-minutes each consecutive week; includes 1 objectively-driven exercise weekly

Authentic You: 1-day Women’s Workshop or 2-Day Women’s “Retreat”; includes full-day(s) of programs, 2-4 objectively-driven, communication assessment, and more, plus refreshments & country lunch(es)

Corporate Events: Full- and half-day corporate team building events and leadership workshops - completely customizable program & country lunch.

We run both scheduled (see **Events Calendar** online) programs and private programs. Private programs are run at **no extra cost** and are customizable to the time and date. **1-6 participants**. Due to the nature of our programs, participants must be **8+**.

On a budget or lacking funds? No problem! We work with YOUR budget.