



FAQ



Do I have to have any prior experience riding or working with horses?

All experience levels are welcome. Our team will work with you to create achievable goals and build on skill development through the participation in weekly riding lessons.

What is the cost to participate?

There is no cost directly to the Veteran to participate in BraveHearts' service offerings.

Do I have to have a service connected disability or VA disability rating to participate?

No, this is not a requirement for Veteran participation. A Veteran may participate without a formal diagnosis.

Are there service era requirements to join?

No, Veterans from all service eras are welcome to participate.

I'm not sure I want to ride, but want to work with the horses, are there activities for me?

Yes! Veterans are able to participate in groundwork lessons, Operation Mustang, attend a variety of special events, or join our volunteer team.

Can I bring someone to participate with me?

Veterans are welcome to have one immediate family member/caregiver participate alongside them in lessons at no additional cost. This accompanied individual are required to be compliant with annual paperwork. Veteran must be present and actively participating for a family member/caregiver to participate. Family member is not able to participate in the Veteran program without the Veteran present.

Who will be at my lesson?

Majority of the lessons are setup as a group with 2-4 other Veteran participants being taught by one instructor. Additional volunteer support may be scheduled pending on lesson dynamic and rider needs.

What do I need to wear or bring on my first day?

Wear long pants, closed-toed shoes with a hard sole and dress appropriately for the climate. An ASTM-SEI certified helmet is provided by BraveHearts for those that do not have one.

What is my commitment?

Veterans are asked to commit to a session block of riding lessons (typically run 7 weeks) and follow established attendance policy. Programming runs year round and there is no limit to length of participation.

I am not local to BraveHearts, how can I find a center near me?

BraveHearts has assisted hundreds of Veterans get connected to PATH International centers across the country utilizing our internal referral database. Please contact us for support in finding a center.