We are looking for a trainer that is interested in: (1) using the core principles of PATH when working with people with emotional disorders and behavioral disabilities; (2) using the core principles of applied behavior analysis (ABA) when working with people with emotional disorders and behavioral disabilities (3) using the core principles of both PATH and ABA when working with performance horses of all ages and training levels which are being used in an un-mounted equine assisted therapy program.

We are using trained reining horses in our equine assisted therapy program in such a way that both horse and client get to make choices. Clients like this because they feel they have a choice, they feel in control, they are provided with clear information (clarity), they get lots of rewards. Horses like this because they feel they have a choice, they feel in control, they are provided with clear information (clarity), they get lots of rewards.

Most of the horses being used in the therapy program have been born here as have their mothers and grandmothers. Most have been sired by stallions that have produced performance horses that have won over a million dollars. One of the horses that was born here qualified for the 2016 FEI Reining World Championships. He and three other horses were chosen to represent the US in Switzerland in August 2016. Because of soundness issues, we had to withdrawn him from the competition.

The strategies implicit in both teaching the horse and teaching the human involve free choice within a frame work that is safe for both horse and human. There is no mounted work and all interaction between horse and human is done through ground work. Safety is of primary importance. interactions between horse and human are set up so that both horse and human have very little risk of being injured. Activities being used are designed to enhance communication between species as well as within species. The behavior to be taught is broken down into smaller and smaller tasks (as needed) so that the goal eventually becomes clear to the learner, i.e. task analysis. (Both horses and clients are taught in this manner)

We are looking for a trainer who is PATH certified (or almost certified). Though it would be plus if the trainer was also familiar with the core principles of applied behavior analysis it is not a requirement as we will teach the trainer those skills. The trainer should also be an excellent rider, want to work with horses of all ages; willing to get involved with an equine assisted therapy program; and interested in showing some of our horses in NRHA, AQHA, or SHOT events.

There is an aggressive incentive program to increase the base salary. The position includes housing. We are located in Alvin, Texas which is half way between Houston and Galveston.

Our website is in the process of being updated and does not yet include any information about the equine assisted therapy program.

If this position seems interesting to you, please contact martha@brigadoonfarm.com