



Meet Lacy. Lacy has been a rider in our program since 2011. As you can see from her big grin in the pictures above, this girl loves to ride!

Although Lacy has Cerebral Palsy, a neurological disorder that affects her body movement and muscular coordination, she hasn't let that slow her down as far as riding. Although her muscles may be tense and make it difficult to get on and off her horse, each week she perseveres and once she is on, the movement of her horse helps relax those same muscles.

In the 4 years Lacy has been with us, she has mastered a number of riding skills, including steering, stopping, backing up, trotting, and even riding independently (with nobody leading her horse). One more key skill that Lacy has mastered has been the control of her faithful riding buddy, Little Molly (Molly), who she is seen riding in both pictures above. Molly can sometimes be a handful-she likes to walk fast, thinks she knows the best direction to go, and has a bouncy trot. Not just anyone can ride her, especially off-lead like Lacy often does. But Lacy has found Molly's sweet spot and together they make a great team. With Lacy, Molly slows her gait down, waits for lacy to tell her where to go and smooths her trot out so Lacy has no problem sitting in her saddle without bouncing. It is truly a joy to watch the two of them join together each week.

It is because of our financial donors that Lacy is able to be a part of our program, being a recipient of one of our scholarships. Most of our students can not afford lessons, whether they ride a horse or learn how to care for them. That's why we need YOUR help in raising more money for this much needed service. For more info on how to donate to our scholarship fund, please visit www.special-equestrians.org or call 772-562-7603.