



Meet Noah. Noah is not one of our typical students in that he doesn't ride a horse in our program. What he does is much more important.

The horses here at SETC are considered our true therapists. They are the ones who carry our riders in the sun and the heat, multiple days a week, lesson after lesson. Our horses are the ones who patiently do what is asked of them and all they get in return is twice a day meals and a weekly bath. Without these incredible animals, we would not be able to do what we do.

And that is where Noah comes in. Since joining our program in 2013, Noah comes out to SETC once a week and helps us take care of our horses. While Noah has learned how to groom a horse and keep their hooves healthy, how to feed them and clean out their stalls, he has learned so much more than that.

Soon to turn 18 years old, Noah is on the look out for a job, a daunting task for many, but especially those who have a special need, like autism. And so through his weekly visits to our facility to help us take care of our horses, Noah has learned responsibility: the responsibility of taking care of another living being, a living being that depends on him, a living being that needs his help even in the sun and the heat, with flies and mosquitoes buzzing around. Through his weekly visits, Noah has learned what it takes to safely manage an animal that outweighs him by over 900 lbs. all the while showing respect and gentleness. Through his weekly visits, Noah has learned that it isn't always easy, nor is it always fun (have you ever cleaned out a stall full of manure?), but it is always needed. And we have learned that we can always count on Noah to come out and work hard.

It is because of our financial donors that Noah 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.