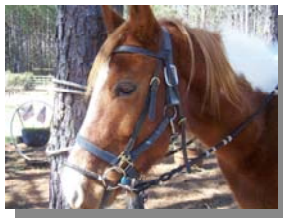




About the Program

The Footprints of Hope Cross T Ranch is located in a serene and rustic environment in Ohatchee, Alabama. This natural setting allows clients to connect with horses and experience a special bond that facilitates the healing process for those who have suffered from emotional difficulties and those who have a behavioral or mental disability.



Our horses, facilities and equipment are carefully selected to provide a safe environment and to accommodate for a wide range of disabilities.

There are several horses on the ranch, some of which have been abused. Clients in the program can easily identify with these horses and feel more encouraged to overcome their own struggles and past experiences.

Program Benefits

This program is available to children, adolescents, and adults. Some of the ways clients will benefit from this program include:

- **Promotes Mental/Emotional Well Being**- This program will help clients better deal with the emotional processing of unfortunate life events. It will also help to minimize anxiety and build self esteem.
- **Improves Physical Abilities**- Through interactions with the horses and other activities in the program, clients gain improved motor skills, balance, and hand-eye coordination.
- **Enhances Social Skills** - Through positive interactions with other group members, the clients' social skills, communication skills, and decision making skills are increased.
- **Provides Educational Training** - Clients will gain knowledge of concepts related to horses, the care taking of these animals, and problem solving strategies.
- **Encourages Motivation**- Through establishing a bond with the horse and the interactions with other group members, clients are encouraged to participate in group activities.

For more information or questions about this program, please contact the Footprints of Hope Cross T Ranch at:

(256) 490-2645 or (256) 892-9267

Visit our website at:

www.footprintsofhope.com

Program Staff

Reverend John and Mary Kay Tortoriello are the Founders and the Executive Directors at the Footprints of Hope Cross T Ranch.



Both John and Mary Kay have obtained their Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Counseling. Mary Kay is certified as an Equine Specialist Professional and is a Certified Addictions Therapist. She currently works as a Therapist and a Chaplain with Mountain View Hospital. John is the Director of the Celebrate Recovery Program at Bellevue Methodist Church. Both have years of experience and a great passion for helping individuals recover from emotional, behavioral, and/or mental issues.



Karen Herndon is a volunteer therapist at Footprints of Hope and is also a Recreational Therapist with Mountain View Hospital. Her education and professional experience in Therapeutic Recreation enables her to effectively work with clients to provide them with a fun and stimulating environment.

Footprints of Hope Board of Directors

John Tortoriello- Executive Director
Mary Kay Tortoriello- Executive Director
Karen Herndon
Joy Ballenger
Tony Zook
Eero Salomaa
