

# Family Focus Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) Information

In order to get the maximum benefit from Equine Facilitated Learning provided by Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC, please be aware of the following:

- Typically 2 professionals (1 mental health and 1 equine specialist) participate with the client in the 1 hour group session doing ground work with horses. No riding is involved, and you don't even have to like horses. You can even be scared to death of horses. Just come as you are and prepare to learn about yourself to increase your personal growth. Receipts are issued and can be submitted for potential insurance reimbursement.
- Ensure that all consents and releases are completed and brought to the first session.
- Address of sessions is:  
9200 Confidence Street  
Denham Springs, LA  
\*\*\*BUT THIS WILL CHANGE SOON TO 21556 HOO SHOO TOO ROAD, BATON ROUGE – NOTICE WILL BE GIVEN\*\*\*
- Recommended Attire:
  - o Hat (not a lot of shade where we'll be working)
  - o Sunscreen
  - o Closed-toed shoes
  - o Rain gear (poncho and rain boots) if applicable – WE MEET RAIN OR SHINE
- Activities are on the ground (not mounted), so long pants are not necessary. Wear whatever's comfortable and weather-appropriate.
- Anyone arriving at the farm is subject to sign consents due to the inherent risk of being around farm animals and facilities. Parents bringing other siblings to the session will be asked to supervise the children and keep them in the designated waiting area, away from farm equipment, tools, pesticides, and animals. Please bring materials to keep them occupied to prevent roaming on the farm.
- Due to the nature of the outdoor learning, there is potential for portions of the session to be viewed by clients arriving early for sessions or neighbors who may be in their yard/field. Please note that confidentiality is of utmost importance to us, but that there are situations that cannot be avoided. Please guide us regarding your comfort level if situations arise that involve potential exposure to outside influences.
- By signing, you indicate that you have read and agree with the information and instructions provided above as a participant of EFL.

## Medical Release and Client Info Form

Client Name, Address, best phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Medical Doctor (Pediatrician/Internist) and phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact name and phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Age and Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

## Horse Related Safety Notice

The Nature and Physical Character of the Horse - Domesticated, well-trained horses are usually obedient, docile and affectionate. However, it is important to understand that their survival instincts are what have allowed the horse to survive from prehistoric times to the present day.

1. I am advised that horses are unpredictable by nature, with minds of their own, as are all animals both domestic and wild. The horse is often somewhat high strung or nervous by nature. Horses are extremely strong and physically powerful. Horses are extremely heavy weighing from 600 to 1300 pounds on the average. These characteristics deserve a human being's utmost respect.

2. I am advised that when a horse is frightened, angry, under stress or feels threatened, it is the horse's instinct to jump forward or sideways, to run away from danger at a trot or gallop of speeds up to 35 miles per hour.

3. I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from behind, the horse may kick straight back, sideways in either direction or even forward with either or both hind legs with tremendous force.

4. I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from above or from his/her back, he/she may hunch the back and buck in a way that could throw a rider to the ground with tremendous force. A fall from a horse will usually be from a height of 3 to 6 feet.

5. I am advised that if a horse is frightened or feels threatened from the front, the natural reaction may be to rear up with both front legs, strike with one or both front legs, bite with teeth, throw the head up or from side to side, or run directly over whatever he/she fears in front of him/her.

6. I am advised that a human must always approach a horse calmly and quietly with caution, preferably to the horse's shoulder or lower neck, talking soothingly to the horse.

7. I am advised that loud and/or sudden unexpected movements, dropping of objects near a horse, approaching vehicles or animals or people, ill-fitting equipment or physical pain can provoke a domesticated horse to react according to natural, protective instincts.

8. I am advised that the first signs of anger or fear in a horse are the sudden tensing of the muscles of the body, possibly laying the ears flat back against the head, or quickly tossing or raising the head, or sudden snorting through the nostrils accompanying at least one other warning sign

9. I am advised that a horse can see independently with each eye, actually looking in one direction with one eye and another direction with the other eye. The horse can also focus both eyes on one object

somewhere in front of him/her. Typically the direction the ear is pointing will tell an observer where the eye is looking on the same side.

10. I am advised that a horse has two blind areas around which he/she cannot see. Those areas are directly behind the horse and directly in front. When a horse has his/her head lowered to the ground, the spot directly at the end of the nostrils is a blind area. This is the reason it is best to approach a horse close to the shoulder, and never to surprise a horse from the rear, or to reach first for the horse's mouth.

11. I am advised that while a horse is very sure-footed by nature, horses may accidentally step on an object such as a human's foot when the horse is balancing or turning around. When a horse is worked on unstable ground or slippery grass or footing, the horse could fall down injuring the horse, rider and /or handler.

By signing below, I am indicating that I have read and understand the above warnings concerning protective attire and the nature and physical character of the horse.

## Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) Consent and Hold Harmless Agreement Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC

1. I, (client name), the undersigned have read and understand, and freely and voluntarily enter into this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement with Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC any and all associates/employees/volunteers understanding that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement is a waiver of any and all liability(ies).

2. I understand the potential dangers that I could incur in working horses; including, but not limited to, any interactions with horses. Understanding those risks I hereby release, acquit, and forever discharge Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC associates/employees/volunteers, and anyone else directly or indirectly connected with Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC from any liability whatsoever, including all manner of suits, actions, demands, and liabilities which may arise from this activity, in the event of injury or damage of any nature (or perhaps even death) to me or anyone else caused by or incidental to my electing to interact with, a horse owned or operated by Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC.

3. I understand, recognize and warrant that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement is being voluntarily and intentionally signed and agreed to, and that in signing this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement I know and understand that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement further limits the liability of all facilitators to include any activity, whatsoever, involving, or not involving an equine, including death, personal injury and/or damage to property, that occurs on the grounds of Green Acres Stables facility.

4. I voluntarily agree and warrant to Release and Hold Harmless this (these) equine professional(s) from any liability whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any incident caused by or related to said facilitator(s)' negligence, relating to injuries known, unknown, or otherwise not herein disclosed; including, but not limited to, injuries, death or property damage from: walking; grooming; feeding; use of horse barn, paddock, trails or horse ring, in any capacity; or my failure to understand any facilitator(s)' directions relating to my use and control, or lack thereof, of my horse or the horse(s) I have been assigned to.

5. I understand, recognize and warrant to Release and Hold Harmless Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC and any and all associates/employees/volunteers and shareholders from any liability whatsoever including, but not limited to, any and all injury that occurs while on the grounds of Green Acres Farm.

6. I understand, recognize and warrant, that anyone who accompanies me onto the grounds of Green Acres Farm is my responsibility to supervise. I understand, recognize and warrant that this Release and Hold Harmless Agreement releases Family Focus, LLC and Associates and Green Acres Stables, LLC from liability in any form regarding anyone who may accompany me onto the grounds of Green Acres Farm.

7. I understand that Louisiana law statute 773.01 - 773.05 states: An equine activity sponsor, an equine professional, or any other person shall not be liable for an injury to or the death of a participant resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities and, except as provided in s. 773.03, no participant nor any participant's representative shall have any claim against or recover from any equine activity sponsor, equine professional, or any other person for injury, loss, damage, or death of the participant resulting from any of the inherent risks of equine activities. "Inherent risks of equine activities" means those dangers or conditions, which are an integral part of equine activities, including, but not limited to:

- The propensity of equines to behave in ways that may result in injury, harm, or death to persons on or around them.
- The unpredictability of an equine's reaction to such things as sounds, sudden movement, and unfamiliar objects, persons, or other animals.
- Certain hazards such as surface and subsurface conditions.
- Collisions with other equines or objects.
- The potential of a participant to act in a negligent manner that may contribute to injury to the participant or others, such as failing to maintain control over the animal or not acting within his or her ability.

"Participant" means any person, whether amateur or professional, who engages in or any equine that participates in an equine activity, whether or not a fee is paid to participate in the equine activity.

I have read and agree with the information provided above.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of participant and date

Signature of parent/guardian and date (if required)

## Photo/Video Release (optional)

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorize Family Focus, LLC to publish photographs taken of me or my child \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable) participating in Equine Facilitated Learning class(es). My name and my likeness may be used in Family Focus, LLC's print, online, and video marketing materials as well as other company publications.

I hereby release and hold harmless Family Focus, LLC from any reasonable expectation of privacy or confidentiality associated with the images specified above.

I further acknowledge that my (and/or my child's) participation is voluntary and that I (and/or my child) will not receive financial compensation of any type associated with the taking or publication of these photographs or participation in company marketing materials or other company publications. I acknowledge and agree that publication of said photos/videos confers no rights of ownership or royalties whatsoever.

I hereby release Family Focus, LLC, its contractors, its employees, and any third parties involved in the creation or publication of marketing materials from liability or any claims by me or any third party in connection with my (and/or my child's) participation.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of participant and date

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Signature of parent/guardian and date (if required)