

**Horses and Human Research Foundation**  
**Research Strategy planning**  
**September 2 and 3, 2011; Lexington, KY**

Goal: To identify the best directions for developing research that will advance Equine Assisted Activities. Two separate components will be addressed – the two working groups will converge together for some segments of the 2 day workshop.

1. The scientific research team will evaluate the present state of EAA research and determine if specific focus or procedures would better advance EAA research
2. The EAA (equine assisted activity) team will assess the research needs and interests of the professional EEA field

**Scientific steering committee**

Julie Lipovsky, PhD- HHRF Scientific Committee, The Citadel- Professor, LEAP-Clinical Director  
Tess Schmalbach, MD, PhD- Vice President of HHRF, Independent physician consultant  
Molly Sweeney- Founder, Past President of HHRF  
Paul Haefner, PhD-HHRF Scientific Committee, Haefner & Assoc /Riding Far -Clinical Psychologist/ Owner  
Tim Shurtleff, OTD, OTR/L- HHRF Scientific Committee, Washington University School of Medicine- Instructor/Scientist  
Jane Case-Smith, OT- HHRF Scientific Committee, Ohio State University-Professor  
Beth Macauley, Associate Professor and Speech-Language Pathology Program Coordinator Grand Valley State University

1. Assess present state of EAA research
  - a. Researcher(s) contracted to investigate published research and create a report
2. Identify critical components of research that will advance EAA
3. Identify specifics that will be recommended to the HHRF board

**EAA Steering Committee**

Judy Lightfoot, Past President of PATH, past president of High Hopes, president of HHRF  
Molly Sweeney, Founder, Past President of HHRF  
Kitty Stalsburg, Executive Director of High Hopes, past PATH president  
Octavia Brown, EDM, DHL- HHRF Board, Associate Professor of Equine Studies at Centenary College, Director of Therapeutic Riding at Centenary  
Jim Smith, DVM- HHRF Board, Hagyard Equine Medical Institute, President of the Kentucky Equine Humane Center, On Executive Committee of the Equine Initiative at the University of Kentucky  
Patti Coyle, Executive Director of Pegasus Therapeutic Riding  
Sandy Webster, Program Director for Giant Steps Therapeutic Equestrian Center

Susan Harding, HHRF Board, Group Publishing Director of Source Interlink Media's Equine Network

1. The EAA Team will gather input from EAA professionals regarding:
  - A. Significance of research to EAA leaders/associations/members
  - B. Critical research needs for future
  - C. Potential collaborations

**Molly Sweeney** – Research strategy planning chair man (member on both teams)

**Judy Lightfoot** – EAA steering committee chairman

**Tess Schmalbach** – Scientific research steering committee chairman

**KC Henry** – Planning coordinator/administrator