## Project R.I.D.E., Inc.

## Riding Instruction Designed for Education

May 10, 2021

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The Robert Nelson Foundation P.O. Box 761398 Los Angeles, CA 90076-1398

RE: Project R.I.D.E. - Gift Recipient

Dear Foundation Board Members -

My name is Tina Calanchini, with Project R.I.D.E., Inc. located in Elk Grove, CA. I have had the honor and the absolute pleasure of working with children and adults with special needs or disabilities for the last twenty years - in a setting where therapy horses are our tools. The R.I.D.E. acronym in our name stands for Riding Instruction Designed for Education and we are beyond excited that you chose our non-profit as a recipient of your grant monies.

Through a series of games and activities designed and modified for them by specially trained Instructors, the children learn their colors, shapes, the alphabet, number sequencing, memorization skills, left and right body side recognition and matching concepts. In addition to educational support, they work very hard on balance and coordination, core muscle strength, fine and gross motor skills, socialization skills and improvements in confidence. Something about controlling a 1300 pound animal really helps with self-esteem!

What you have done for our riders is INCREDIBLE and in a year of absolute uncertainty, you have made 286 lessons CERTAIN for them. In addition to that, the funds you have provided for arena supplies will be used to finish the much needed replacement of equipment for our outdoor riding arena and riding trails that were damaged this last year by high winds.

On their behalf, thank you from the bottom of 603 little hearts!

In service,

Tina Calanchini

**Executive Director** 

