

## Faculty

### **Ruth Dismuke-Blakely, MS/CCC-SLP, HPCS**

Ruth is a speech/language pathologist and professional horsewoman involved in using hippotherapy since 1978. She operates Skyline Therapy Services; an outpatient clinic specializing in the trans disciplinary applications of equine movement in PT, OT and ST. Ruth has published research and articles, presented at numerous conferences and workshops and has taught internationally. She served on the Board of Directors of the American Hippotherapy Association, was 2<sup>nd</sup> V-President of AHA, helped develop the AHA curriculum and currently serves as Chair of the Reimbursement Committee. She is a former AHCB Board member, is an AHCB Clinical Specialist and she is regarded as a leader in the field of hippotherapy as a treatment tool. Ruth is a former AHA Therapist of the Year. She lives in Edgewood, New Mexico.

## Course Location

Skyline Therapy Services  
1090 Mountain Valley Road  
Edgewood, New Mexico 87015



## Travel Information

Skyline Therapy Services is located at 1090 Mountain Valley Road in Edgewood, NM. Flights are in and out of Albuquerque International Airport in Albuquerque, NM. We are about 45 minutes from the airport. Maps to Skyline Therapy will be provided to each registrant.

## Lodging Information

Holiday Inn Express 10330 Hotel Circle NE  
Albuquerque, NM (505) 275-8900 (approx...  
20 minutes from Skyline)

Best Western Heritage Motel 111 B Anaya Ln,  
Moriarty, NM 87035 (505) 832-5000  
(approx... 20 minutes from Skyline)

## Registration Information

A certificate of attendance will be provided. Contact hours total 27. Courses are not pre-approved unless indicated otherwise.

All attendees will receive a hard copy of the AHA, Inc. Treatment Principles Manual - Level Part 1. The course fee also includes lunch. During the course you will be on and/or working directly with horses. Please have appropriate clothing/ footwear. Helmets will be provided. If your weight exceeds 170 lbs., you may be excused from the mounted portion of the course. Indicate any special needs on the registration form (i.e. food allergies) and by contacting the AHA, Inc. office prior to submitting your registration form.

**Cancellation Policies:** AHA, Inc. reserves the right to adjust course dates, times and faculty to accommodate unforeseen circumstances including cancellation of the course due to insufficient registration up to 3 weeks prior to the scheduled start date. Notification will only be made to advanced registrants. Neither AHA, Inc. nor the course location is responsible for any expenses incurred by registrants due to such adjustments.

Participant cancellation requests must be made in writing no less than 3 weeks prior to the course start date to receive a refund, minus a \$100 administrative fee. No refunds will be given for cancellations received within three weeks prior to the start of the course.



American Hippotherapy Association Inc.  
Presents

## Level I – Hippotherapy Treatment Principles

### Course Location & Dates:

### Skyline Therapy Services

**April 4-6, 2019**



*Please email or mail registration  
information to AHA Inc.*

[mwood@theahainc.org](mailto:mwood@theahainc.org)

2537 Research Blvd. Suite #203

Fort Collins, CO 80526

## Course Description

**Course prerequisite:** Successful completion of the on-line “Intro to Equine Skills” test reviewing equine care and management. Completion of the course prerequisite must be done at least 3 weeks prior to the start of the Level I course. AHA, Inc. staff will confirm with that the test has been completed and passed. The cost of the test is \$35.00. Visit the AHA, Inc. website under “Curriculum Overview,” to locate the link to purchase the on-line “Intro to Equine Skills” test.

**Course Overview:** This course is an overview of the principles of hippotherapy, designed for therapists (PT, OT, SLP, PTA, COTA, SLPA) interested in utilizing hippotherapy in their practice. The course is equivalent to 4 days total instruction: 1 day of on-line study prior to 3 days of in person instruction. The on-line study consists of foundational information required for an understanding of the principles of hippotherapy. In person, the first day emphasizes the horse, and the importance of the quality of the horse’s movement working in treatment.

A few of the course Learning Outcomes include: (for a full list of Learning Outcomes please visit the AHA, Inc. website).

- Learners will be able to describe the five primary relationships between the three-dimensional movement of the horse's pelvis and the human pelvis for application during a therapy treatment.
- Learners will be able to describe how the three-dimensional movement of the horse can be incorporated to facilitate the neuromotor systems that support functional motor and communication

- outcomes.
- Learners will be able to list and describe five key considerations in patient evaluation for determining if hippotherapy, skilled equine movement, should be included in a patient’s therapy POC.
- Learners will be able to list and describe six precautions and/or contraindications for inclusion of hippotherapy, skilled equine movement into a patient’s therapy POC.
- Learners will be able to list and describe the five primary parameters with respect to matching patient impairment, size and functional limitation and horse size, gait and temperament for optimal and safe incorporation of skilled equine movement into a therapy POC.
- Learners will be able to demonstrate three safe methods of transitioning the patient on/off the horse during a therapy treatment session.
- Learners will be able to identify and describe four biomechanical and two sensory effects of skilled equine movement on an individual during the mounted practicum relating those effects to functional outcomes in therapy.
- Learners will demonstrate the correct fit and describe the effects for a variety of equipment for the horse and patient when including skilled equine movement in a patient's therapy POC.
- Learners will be able to list three potential emergencies and describe appropriate safety procedures related to those emergencies when hippotherapy (skilled equine movement) is incorporated into the therapy.
- Learners will be able to describe the effect of skilled equine movement on three different patient diagnoses as related to

their systems impairment, participation restriction and functional outcomes through participation in a therapy treatment planning practicum.

- Learners will be able to explain how to purposefully manipulate equine movement by describing five different strategies that can be incorporated into treatment to rehabilitate the impairment in the patient's system and work on goals set in the therapy POC.
- Learners will demonstrate correct documentation in writing treatment and progress notes related to the current use of equine movement as a treatment tool/strategy incorporated into occupational therapy practice.
- Learners will be able to list three examples of how the therapist using skilled equine movement incorporates the AHA Best Practice Guidelines into the practice of occupational therapy.

## Registration Form April 4-6, 2019

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*AHA, Inc. Member #: \_\_\_\_\_

New memberships are accepted.

Join today at [www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org](http://www.americanhippotherapyassociation.org).

**Credentials to be listed on course certificate:**

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs, mobility restrictions, diet, etc. **Please notify the AHA, Inc. office prior to completing this registration of your special needs.**

### Registration is limited.

Early registration on or before March 21, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_ \$850.00 for AHA, Inc. Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$950.00 for Non-AHA, Inc. Member

After March 21, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_ \$925.00 for AHA, Inc. Member

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1,025 for Non-AHA, Inc. Member

\_\_\_ Check - payable to AHA Inc.

\_\_\_ Charge MC VISA AM EX

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing zip code \_\_\_\_\_