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**RELEASE BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN**

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY – THIS LIMITS OUR LIABILITY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby grant him/her permission to participate as a volunteer in therapeutic horseback riding and related activities conducted by Southcentral Therapeutic Riding, Inc. (STRIDE) at the Ridge. As used in this release the term the Ridge refers to Kristin Vernola, David Vernola, Russell Roetman and the property/premises where the activities take place. "STRIDE" refers to the directors and officers of Southcentral Therapeutic Riding, Inc., as well as the corporation itself and any person providing services on behalf of the corporation, with or without compensation. As used in this Release, any reference to "my child" refers to my son, daughter, or ward, as appropriate. I sign this Release in consideration of STRIDE accepting my child as a rider in therapeutic riding and related activities. In addition to riding, such activities may include active participation in the grooming or tacking of horses, maintaining equipment, and contributing to the general care and welfare of the horses and facilities. I have freely and voluntarily chosen to allow my child to participate in STRIDE activities as a rider and understand that execution of this Release is a condition for such participation.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials indicate I have read the foregoing paragraph)

I understand that the activities described above all involve the risk that my child will sustain injuries of sufficient seriousness to cause death, brain or neurological damage, paralysis, injury to internal organs, broken bones, lacerations, or other injuries to bones, joints, ligaments, muscles or other aspects of the musculoskeletal system. Such injuries can result from occurrences, which include, but are not limited to, falls from horseback, horses kicking or biting, or one or more horses stepping on or colliding with my child. I also recognize that STRIDE and the Ridge lack the resources to assure that its riding arena or other areas on the premises of the Ridge are free from rocks, sticks, or similar hazards, and that this situation also creates a risk of injury to my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials indicate I have read the foregoing paragraph)

I am also aware of the fact that there are numerous dogs, horses, cows and a mule that are kept on the premises of the Ridge, and that my child may inevitably come in contact with these creatures when engaged in activities on the Ridge premises. I understand that, as a result, he/she faces a risk of injury such as bites and scratches, which could take the form of lacerations or puncture wounds or, in unusual situations, injuries of sufficient severity to cause permanent incapacitation, chronic pain, or death.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials indicate I have read the foregoing paragraph)

I grant my child permission to participate in the horse and pony related activities described in the first paragraph of this release with full knowledge of the risks of death or injury described above. I agree that, in the event my child suffers an injury arising out of, or connected with, the activities described in the first paragraph of this release, I will not sue or otherwise make any claim or demand for compensatory or punitive damages against STRIDE or the Ridge; and will hold STRIDE and the Ridge harmless from any such suit, demand, or claim.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials indicate I have read the foregoing paragraph)

I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless STRIDE and the Ridge from any suit, demand, or claim asserted by or on behalf of a third person arising out of, or connected with, my conduct or the conduct of my son/daughter/ward on the premises of the Ridge.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Initials indicate I have read the foregoing paragraph)

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND IT IS A BINDING LEGAL DOCUMENT. IT IS MY INTENTION THAT THIS DOCUMENT BE BINDING AND ACT AS A RELEASE ON BEHALF OF ME, AND ANY SUCCESSORS, HEIRS, ASSIGNS, AND PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES.**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship to rider:** \_\_\_\_\_