

What is EAGALA?

Founded in July 1999, the **Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA)** is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization developed to address the need for resources, education, and professionalism in the field of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy.

EAGALA Europe was founded in August 2003 as an affiliate of **EAGALA** - to meet the need for development with a **European perspective**.

Creating a more professional field and promoting it to the general public is a large task. EAGALA strives to educate the public that EAP is more than horsemanship and riding classes.

EAGALA aims to get professionals in the clinical and human development fields to accept EAP as a valid and effective approach, and to actively use it with their clientele. This benefits those in the equine fields by opening up greater possibilities for doing what they love, namely working with horses. This benefits those in the clinical and human development fields by providing a powerful, effective, interesting, and fun therapeutic alternative. Most of all, this benefits the clients and participants, because, as those of us working in the field see all the time, it works! The growth and learning of all involved is intense and rewarding.

The mission of EAGALA is to promote, educate, and provide standards of practice, ethics, and safety in the field of EAP. This will be accomplished through the following objectives:

- Establishing set standards of practice, ethics, and safety for the field of EAP
- Providing trainings for certification in the field of EAP
- Conducting annual conferences for the purpose of education and networking
- Promoting the field of EAP as a legitimate and effective mode of therapy and treatment for at-risk populations
- Providing educational, training, and support resources, such as books, videos, tapes, and web sites
- Publishing a newsletter for associates
- Establishing EAP as a course of study in universities and colleges
- Supporting the establishment of EAP organizations for the purpose of working with at-risk youth and families around the world
- Conducting research on the effectiveness of EAP
- Providing affordable and adequate liability insurance

Please contact EAGALA Europe for more information about the association and how to join. Get actively involved in this exciting and rewarding field!