### **Our Vision**

Mounted Eagles purpose is to enhance the wellbeing of humankind by providing therapeutic horsemanship and educational equine-related services to individuals experiencing physical, mental, social and/or emotional challenges.

#### **Core Values**

As individuals associated with Mounted Eagles, we are guided in our daily decisions and actions by the following values:

Safe Environment

Teamwork

Passion

Community

Growth



### ADDRESS

10854 Greenwood Street Brainerd MN 56401

### CONTACT US

218-454-3228 info@mountedeagles.org

.....they shall mount up with wings as eagles..... Isaiah 40:31

www.mountedeagles.org

FB: Mounted Eagles

Mounted Eagles is a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International Premier Accredited Center



# **Pilot Program** Grooming To Read



A program focused on guiding students who struggle with reading skills.



### **GROOMING TO READ**

This curriculum offers participants the chance to:

- Improve Reading Skills Targeting literacy skills, such as fluency, phonics, and comprehension.
- Develop Social-Emotional Skills Interactions with animals can promote social awareness, empathy, and emotional regulation
- Build Confidence Reading to a minihorse can help build confidence and reduce anxiety

The program will use a curriculum that advances a student in their reading skills as they become more proficient in each level of the program. Students will have checklists for knowledge and horsemanship skills to show their accomplishments as well as their improvement in reading skills. Grooming to Read will provide a variety of learning types such as hearing, seeing, moving, feeling etc. Students who learn kinetically(feeling/touching), for example, can trace letters on the side of the mini. The hair and warmth of the horse can help the student learn and memorize the letter. Students might also be asked to lead the mini through a course of cones in the shape of letters to improve retention. These are just a few examples of how miniature horses can facilitate letter recognition, reading and spelling.

Time spent includes meaningful interaction with caring adults, wherein students, years from now will not remember what the tutor helped them resolve on a certain day, but how they made them feel. That they felt success, recognized and rewarded for small bits of progress. The student will also remember the time they spent with the miniature horse as a listening friend who helped them at a time when they were frustrated and unsure of how to find success.

# MEET YOUR READING PARTNERS



Leo is 7-years-old and has been with Mounted Eagles since summer of 2024.

Pony is 16-yearsold and joined Mounted Eagles in Spring of 2025.



Leo and Pony are best buddies and are anxious to become great friends with their reading partners.



## **PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

Grooming to Read is a weekly lesson over a period of 11 weeks (June 9<sup>th</sup> – August 18<sup>th</sup>). Each lesson will begin with a discussion of the topic for the day, followed by integrated classroom/arena work with students and equines learning the topic of the day and ending with group discussion about the day's experience.

Mondays June 9th – August 18th

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Helmets will be worn when students are leading Leo and Pony. Helmets will be provided. All lessons will be on the ground only.



## **Meet Your Leaders**

Nikki Grommesh

Lynn Fairbanks



