Date 16/03/2020

Press Release

**Local Charity call for help after Corona Virus closure**

\*Group name\* RDA in \*Location\* is a charity that provides therapy through horses to local disabled people – all supported by a team of dedicated volunteers.

In an effort to protect both participants and volunteers from Corona Virus \*Group name\* have decided to suspend all activities until further notice. Group Chair, \*Name\* says “We support and work with many people who are more vulnerable to infection so we have made the decision to close our doors until the situation with Corona Virus improves. This comes at a big price for us, as without riders we have not got an income. Our loyal horses will still need feed, hay, and to see a farrier - possibly even care from the vets which all adds up. With no clear idea of when we will be able to start activities again it is difficult to know if we will have enough money to support our horses until riding resumes.”

\*Group name\* currently has \*number of\* horses who support \*number of\* riders. Research shows horse riding with RDA is not only fun but delivers physical benefits, boosts confidence, improves communication skills and helps participants to build relationships.

\*Name\* adds, “The impact this will have on some of our riders, who gain so much from attending our sessions, is huge - both physically and mentally. It has never been so clear just how much the time they spend with our horses helps. In a bid to ensure these sessions can continue as quickly as possible we need to keep our horses well cared for, in work and fit.”

“At this difficult time, we plead with the local community to help support \*Group name\* by donating what you can to help keep the charity running. As little as £2 will feed a horse for the day, £5 will provide bedding for one horse for a week and £75 pays for a horse’s farrier fees”

If you can support \*Group name\* please make a donation to \*Link to donation page\*

\*ENDS\*

**About Riding for the Disabled Association**

Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities through horse riding, carriage driving and hippotherapy. \*Group name\* is part of a network of around 500 volunteer groups throughout the UK, RDA provides opportunities for therapy, achievement and enjoyment, improving health, wellbeing and self-confidence, and benefiting mobility and co-ordination.

* RDA brings together 500 volunteer groups throughout the UK
* \*Group name\* has just over \*number of\* participants
* At \*Group name\* nearly \*number of\* volunteer led sessions were provided last year

RDA is reliant on voluntary help, donations and legacies to deliver its services. Please donate now at \*link\*

\*Group name\* is a charity registered in England Charity number SC028681

For more information contact \*group details Beth Randles brandles@rda.org.uk 01926 405977\*