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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**PONY POWER THERAPIES OF MAHWAH REINTRODUCES  
OPERATION PONY POWER**

*Children of Military Families Provided Unique Opportunity to Ride and Care for Horses  
During Weeklong Summer Program*

**Mahwah, NJ (May 22, 2014)** – Pony Power Therapies today announced that it will once again offer Operation Pony Power as part of its summer programming initiative. Made possible by a generous donation from The Bergen County Police Chiefs Foundation, the organization is providing 10 children of veterans living in Bergen County the opportunity to attend an innovative, weeklong program at its farm in Mahwah, during which they'll enjoy participating in both riding and non-riding activities with horses.

This unique program was first launched in the summer of 2010 for children of veterans and active duty servicemen and women living in Bergen County, NJ. Because of the inclusive nature of Pony Power programming, military children can enjoy riding and learning about horses in a setting that is accessible and safe for those with and without special needs.

“We introduced Operation Pony Power to help give back to those families who have given so much to our country,” said Dana Spett, Executive Director. “It continues to prove a success, and we're privileged to be able to provide therapeutic riding and other equine-assisted activities to the children of our nation's veterans for a fourth year.”

Operation Pony Power will run from August 4-7 from 9am – 12 noon at Pony Power Therapies' facility in Mahwah. Participants ride in a supported environment, learn what is involved in taking care of a horse, such as grooming and tacking, as well as take part in arts and crafts, fun games, and more. Plus, the organization has joined forces with Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization (MEVO) to help lead participants in fun farming activities, like gardening, composting and beekeeping.

There are currently still spots available. For more information or to sign up for Operation Pony Power, please call 201-934-1001.

**About Pony Power Therapies**

Founded in 2000, Pony Power Therapies gives special needs and at-risk children and adults a unique opportunity to ride, care for and interact with horses. Its riding and non-riding activities enhance individuals' physical, social and emotional well-being in a safe,

nurturing farm environment. Pony Power offers recreational activities that help riders gain greater flexibility, balance and muscle strength as well as explore and develop unique relationships with the horse which can lead to increased confidence, patience and self-esteem and foster feelings of independence and pride. Pony Power instructors are either certified or in training to be certified by Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International. Pony Power Therapies is recognized as a Premier Accredited Center (PAC) through PATH International. For more information, please visit [www.ponypowernj.org](http://www.ponypowernj.org)

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