



City to Saddle had another successful year! More than 100 youth participated in programs in Massachusetts. We were thrilled to open new pilot programs in Texas and New Mexico. Our collaboration with riding stables and partner groups, along with your support, help make this happen. The following letter and photo share an example of the impact of our programs with under-served youth. Thank you for helping make this happen and please give generously to our grass-roots, volunteer driven, life changing endeavor.

As the attending adult chaperone for a group of 7 children, I witnessed a transformation of our attendees during the 5 day program. Monday was filled with nervousness, fear of the animals, timidity, and significant apprehension of their own capabilities. Many had never seen a farm, farm animals, or gardens. Most were fearful of horses, due to their size. With the compassionate encouragement of the staff, these children were riding horseback untethered to an assistant, standing on horseback while trotting, holding chickens in their hands, and more. One example that stands out is a 9 year old girl who was terrified of dogs, horses, and held my hand in fear most of the day. She finally rode a horse in the ring that day, and on the way home, she announced to the group, "THAT was the scariest and BEST day of my life!"

~Kerry

