



Grayson is a ten-year-old boy who has a dual diagnosis of Down Syndrome and Autism. He is also blind in one eye, has low vision in the other eye, and is also non-verbal. Because of his diagnosis, Grayson has a lot of sensory issues and needs.

Things have started to improve in Grayson's life since joining the equine-assisted therapeutic riding program at Inspiration Ranch. He is much more focused and able to respond to more directions. His speech has started to take off—by trying to use more words and making more verbal sounds. He has also been increasingly interested in using his communication device to express his needs.

It is easier for Grayson to go to public places without getting overwhelmed, and he has gained much more confidence in his mobility. He walks further distances at a time, goes up and down stairs, and climbs around on playscapes. All of these activities would cause him anxiety and stress in the past, but since being at Inspiration Ranch, his stress level has decreased tremendously.

Most importantly, Grayson LOVES going to Inspiration Ranch and riding the horses—especially his pony Chief! As soon as we pull in, he gets very excited and chatty. He loves it so much that he sometimes cries when he has to get off.

We love Inspiration Ranch and the therapeutic opportunities it provides. The program is invaluable to Grayson and to our family.