



HORSEPOWER Volunteer Opportunities



HorsePower provides equestrian lessons and therapies to individuals of all ages with physical, emotional or physical challenges. There are three different programs, including therapeutic riding, hippotherapy, and ground work. Volunteers are required for all of the HorsePower programs and consist of two types – Leaders and Sidewalkers. All lessons are held Monday through Thursday between 8:30 am – 5:30 pm, and active volunteers must commit to at least one hour per week for an eight week session. Volunteers do not ride. Rather, they ensure hundreds of great rides for our very special participants!

Leaders: Volunteers lead the horses while the participants ride during their lessons. Leaders must be at least 14 years old and have knowledge and experience with horses. The leader may be asked to halter the horses, lead and tie, help with tacking, and pick out the horses' feet. During the lesson, they maintain control of the horse to help with the rider's lesson and ensure their safety.

Sidewalker: Volunteers walk alongside the horses while the participants ride during their lessons and offer support to the rider from the ground. Sidewalkers must be at least 14 years old and experience with horses is not necessary. The sidewalker helps the rider with grooming and tacking, and may be asked to help with mounting. During the lesson, they help the riders understand the tasks they are doing and offer encouragement, stimulation, and support.

Chore Help: HorsePower relies on volunteers to help with cleanup and maintenance around the barn. Typically this is done after the last lesson of the day, concluding at 5:30 pm Monday through Thursday. Chore helpers clean stalls, fill water buckets, wipe down surfaces and sweep after the lessons have concluded. Horse experience and knowledge is not required.

Weekend Chore Help: Volunteers are utilized for weekend horse care duties on Saturdays and Sundays. Weekend chore helpers feed horses, ensure waterers are functioning correctly, and alert staff to any inconsistencies and injuries. They may also bring horses in during inclement weather. Weekend chore helpers must have horse experience and knowledge.

Special Event/Project Help: Volunteers may assist HorsePower with special events and special projects on an as needed basis. Needs are communicated through the HorsePower website, the HorsePower Facebook site and through text messages.

We can't do what we do without you!

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