

Strides Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

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Non Profit 501(c)(3) #20-8371068



Instructors Assistant - Volunteer

An **Instructor Assistant for Strides** plays a vital role in supporting lessons and training sessions, ensuring a safe, structured, and positive experience for both riders and therapy horses. This position involves assisting instructors with lesson preparation, handling horses, and providing guidance to students as they develop their skills. Since Strides focuses on therapy horses, the assistant must help maintain a **calm, supportive environment** while reinforcing proper riding techniques and horse care. Following the **Strides Way**, the Instructor Assistant helps ensure that all interactions with the horses and students promote confidence, balance, and adaptability.

Position: Instructors Assistant

Organization: Strides

Location: On Site

Commitment: 5 to 25 hours weekly, 4 week sessions min, same days and times.

Position Overview:

We are seeking a dedicated **Volunteer Instructors Assistant** to join our team, assisting in the development of therapy horses and riders through the **Strides Way**. The role requires a passion for working with horses, and people with disabilities, a calm and supportive demeanor, and a strong commitment to maintaining a positive, structured learning environment. The Instructor Assistant will support instructors in lesson preparation, horse handling, and guiding students, ensuring that therapy horses and riders progress in a safe, effective, and adaptive manner.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist instructors with the setup and preparation of lessons, ensuring horses are ready and safe for lessons.
- Provide hands-on support during lessons, helping students with riding techniques, mounting, dismounting, and horse care.
- Handle and prepare therapy horses for classes, ensuring they are calm, responsive, and adaptable to students' needs.
- Reinforce the **Strides Way** by promoting proper technique, balance, and rhythm for both horses and riders.
- Support instructors with the observation of students and horses, providing feedback as necessary to improve progress.

- Maintain a safe environment for both riders and horses, ensuring safety protocols are followed.
- Communicate effectively with instructors, students, and other team members to ensure smooth operations during lessons and training sessions.
- Assist with the general care and grooming of therapy horses as needed.

Qualifications & Requirements:

- Experience with horses, equine handling, and riders with disabilities, ideally in a therapeutic or riding lesson setting.
- Familiarity with equine movement, behavior, and training techniques, with a willingness to learn the Strides Way.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work effectively as part of a team.
- Ability to stay calm, patient, and adaptable when working with both horses and students.
- Willingness to assist in a variety of tasks, from lesson preparation to general horse care.
- A positive attitude and a passion for promoting the physical and mental well-being of therapy horses and riders.

If you are eager to support the growth of therapy horses and riders through structured, calm, and effective training, we invite you to apply for the **Instructor Assistant for Strides** position. Join us in creating a positive, adaptive learning environment for both horses and students.