

Strides Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

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Horse Exerciser - Riding

A **Horse Exerciser – Rider for Strides** focuses on developing therapy horses through structured riding exercises that enhance stride consistency, balance, and engagement. Therapy horses require a unique approach, as they must remain **calm, responsive, and adaptable** to different riders and environments. This role emphasizes **gentle, purposeful riding** that builds confidence, relaxation, and correct movement, ensuring each horse maintains the physical and mental well-being necessary for their therapeutic work. Following the **Strides Way**, the rider helps refine the horse's movement while reinforcing steady rhythm, soft responsiveness to aids, and overall adaptability.

Position: Horse Exerciser - Ground work

Organization: Strides

Location: On Site

Commitment: 1 hr 2-5X weekly per horse

Position Overview:

We are seeking a skilled and dedicated **Horse Exerciser** to join our team, specializing in **riding** to enhance stride development, balance, and overall movement and control. Our horses are **therapy horses**, which means they may require training that differs from privately owned horses. While we recognize and appreciate your experience and talent with horses, it is essential that all riding and training follow the **Strides Way**—a structured and proven method focused on rhythm, engagement, and consistency.

Key Responsibilities:

- Ride and exercise therapy horses to improve stride consistency, flexibility, and balance.
- Implement riding exercises that promote proper engagement and movement, following Strides training principles.
- Adapt riding techniques to meet the specific needs of therapy horses, ensuring their physical and mental well-being.
- Observe and assess each horse's progress, making adjustments while staying within Strides methodology.
- Maintain a safe and positive riding environment for both horse and handler.
- Communicate effectively with trainers, therapists, and team members regarding horse development.

Qualifications & Requirements:

- Prior experience riding and exercising horses with a focus on stride manners, safety and conditioning.
- A strong understanding of equine movement, balance, and engagement.
- Willingness to follow and execute the Strides Way, regardless of prior training methods.
- Experience working with therapy horses or an understanding of their unique needs is a plus.
- Ability to work independently while also collaborating within a team.
- Patience, consistency, and attention to detail in working with horses.
- Physical ability to ride and handle horses safely in a variety of environments.

If you are passionate about developing therapy horses through structured riding exercises and are eager to apply the **Strides Way**, we encourage you to apply. Join us in refining equine movement with precision and care!