Strides Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

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Horse Adoption

Volunteer Horse Care "Adoption" at Strides offers a hands-on opportunity to assist with the daily care and well-being of the horses in our program. Volunteers in this role help with essential tasks such as grooming, cleaning pens, handwalking/grazing, turn out while on property and general enrichment between lessons. This position is perfect for individuals who are passionate about horse care and want to gain experience working closely with these animals. By providing consistent and compassionate care, volunteers play a vital role in ensuring the horses remain healthy, happy, and ready for their roles in Strides' programs.

Position: Horse Adoption
Organization: Strides
Location: On site

Commitment: 1-3 hrs on your assigned day

Position Overview:

As a **Volunteer Horse Care** team member at Strides, you will play a crucial role in maintaining the health, well-being, and enrichment of the horses in our program. This position requires a commitment to providing compassionate and attentive care to ensure the horses are happy, healthy, and prepared for their roles within Strides' programs.

Responsibilities:

- **Cleaning Pens:** Regularly clean paddocks, and feeding areas to ensure a safe, sanitary environment for the horses.
- **Grooming:** Brush, clean hooves, and check for any injuries or irregularities, helping maintain the horses' overall well-being.
- Hand Walking & Hand Grazing: Provide horses with supervised exercise and grazing time to promote physical health and relaxation.
- **Turnout While On-Site:** Assist in safely turning out and bringing in horses to and from pastures, ensuring they receive adequate movement and socialization.
- General Enrichment & Care: Engage horses in enrichment activities such as groundwork exercises, stretching, and social interaction to support their mental and emotional well-being.
- **Monitoring Health & Behavior:** Observe and report any changes in behavior, appetite, or physical condition to staff for early detection of potential health concerns.

• Exercise & Round Pen Training: Volunteers may have the opportunity to take a **test** and undergo training to qualify for round penning and exercising horses under staff supervision.

Qualifications & Skills:

- Prior experience working with horses is preferred but not required (training will be provided).
- Ability to work safely and confidently around horses of various temperaments.
- Comfortable performing physical tasks, including lifting, bending, and standing for extended periods.
- Willingness to work outdoors in varying weather conditions.
- Dependable, responsible, and committed to following Strides' horse care guidelines.

This **volunteer position** is ideal for individuals who are passionate about horse care and want to contribute to the well-being of these incredible animals. Volunteers will gain hands-on experience, develop valuable skills, and may have the opportunity to expand their responsibilities through additional training.