

Strides Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

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Horse Exerciser - Ground

A **horse exerciser - groundwork for strides** focuses on improving a horse's balance, coordination, and strength through controlled groundwork exercises. These exercises help the horse develop a steady, rhythmic stride by using techniques such as pole work, round penning, lunging, and in-hand work. The goal is to encourage proper engagement of the hindquarters, flexibility, and responsiveness to cues, ultimately enhancing performance and movement efficiency.

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 groundwork to enhance stride development and overall movement. 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 training follows the **Strides Way**—a structured and proven method focused on balance, rhythm, and proper engagement and manners.

Key Responsibilities:

- Conduct groundwork exercises to improve stride consistency, flexibility, and balance in therapy horses.
- Implement lunging, round penning, in-hand work, and pole exercises according to Strides training principles.
- Adapt training 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 training environment for both horse and handler.
- Communicate effectively with the ED and team members regarding horse development.

Qualifications & Requirements:

- Prior experience handling and exercising horses through groundwork techniques.
- A strong understanding of equine movement, stride mechanics, and conditioning.
- 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 handle horses safely in a variety of environments.

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