



Thank you for your interest in volunteering with our hippotherapy program. Our volunteers play a vital role in helping children and youth participate safely and successfully in equine-assisted therapy sessions. There is a minimum age requirement of 16 years old with parental consent.

While horses are an important part of our program, our mission is centered on the individuals we serve. Volunteers provide encouragement, support, and assistance that help participants build confidence, develop skills, achieve therapeutic goals, and experience meaningful connections.

No prior horse experience is required for many volunteer roles. Compassion, reliability, patience, and a willingness to support children and families are the qualities we value most.

Please note: This volunteer application is intended for individuals interested in making an ongoing commitment to Dream Riders. We are seeking dedicated, long-term volunteers who are passionate about supporting our mission. This application is not intended for individuals seeking to fulfill community service requirements.

Applicant Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Volunteer Interests

What interests you most about volunteering with our program?

What do you hope to gain from this volunteer experience?

Why is working with children and individuals with disabilities meaningful to you?

Experience with Horses (Optional but Helpful)

Have you worked with horses before?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please describe your experience:

Volunteer Responsibilities

Volunteers may assist by:

- Supporting participants during therapy sessions.
- Walking alongside participants to provide physical and emotional support.
- Helping create a safe, welcoming, and encouraging environment.
- Assisting therapists and instructors with session preparation and cleanup.
- Helping participants feel confident, included, and successful.
- Assisting with horse handling when trained and assigned to do so.

Volunteers understand that participant safety, dignity, and well-being are the primary focus of all volunteer activities.

Availability – Two (2) hour minimum hour requirement.

Days Available:

☐ Monday

☐ Tuesday

☐ Wednesday

☐ Thursday

☐ Friday

Times Available:

Do you have health issues or physical limitations that we should be aware of?
(describe briefly) _____

Any programs or agencies that you have volunteered for in the past 5 years?
(describe) _____

How did you hear about our facility?

- ☐ School
- ☐ Website
- ☐ Friend
- ☐ PATH, Intl.
- ☐ Other _____

Have you ever been arrested for or convicted of a crime against a person or animal?

Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, explain

Have you ever been listed on a registry for child abuse? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, explain

*Please be aware that our facility cannot accept applicants into our program who have been arrested for or convicted of crimes against persons and/or animals. All volunteers are subject to a background check prior to volunteering.

References

Reference #1

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Reference #2

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Our Volunteer Coordinator will be in touch for further instructions and details about your application to volunteer at Dream Riders.

Applicant Statement

I understand that the primary purpose of volunteering with this program is to support participants in achieving therapeutic, developmental, and recreational goals through equine-assisted activities. I agree to follow all program policies, participate in required training, and contribute to a safe and respectful environment for participants, families, staff, and horses.

Signature: _____ Date: _____