



Equine Team Volunteer

Position Title: Horse Assistant

Reports To: Equine Program Director

Availability Needed: Monday - Friday

Volunteering Summary: The Horse Assistant brings equines to the grooming area, follows the grooming protocol and tacks prior to therapeutic sessions and advocates for the horses' needs before/after the session. The Horse Assistant removes tack and returns equines to their assigned stall after sessions are done.

Volunteer Duties:

- Assist in setting up of the tack/grooming area as needed.
- Gather, groom & tack horses prior to sessions, and remove and return tack at end of sessions.
- Ensure horse safety during grooming & tacking before/after sessions.
- Maintain safety in the tack area.
- Collaborate with the Equine Program Director in between sessions to ensure accuracy in tack/grooming expectations.
- Comply with all Iron Horse volunteer policies.
- Work as a team with staff and fellow volunteers.
- Abide by HIPAA Confidentiality expectations while on/off property.

Volunteer Qualifications:

- Horse Assistant time commitment - we ask that Horse Assistants be able to commit at least half a session per week. Sessions are usually 3-4 hours long, held in both the mornings and afternoons.
 - If unable to commit to a weekly time, we ask that Horse Assistants provide available times to be called in if needed.
- Horse Assistants must be at least 17 years of age. (Some exceptions may apply).
- All Volunteers are expected to participate in Sidewalker training prior to their start date.
- Be able to halter, lead, groom and tack horses with minimal-no supervision once taught by the Equine Program Director.
- Be able to lift up to 50 pounds.
- Read the schedule board, communicate with the equine and therapy team for schedule updates and manage time independently.

This is not an exhaustive list of Horse Assistant duties, expectations or qualifications. This list is intended to demonstrate the general aspect of work being performed by volunteers in this position.