



Saebra Pipoly: Equine Manager: Horses Help Therapeutic Riding Center

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Dear Horse Owner,

Thank you for considering Horses Help as the next home for your horse. Horses Help has been improving the lives of people with disabilities by helping them experience the joys of riding for over 25 years. It is very important to us that each horse we bring into the program is going to be happy being a therapy horse. Being a therapy horse is not the best fit for every horse. Please let us get to know a little bit about your horse by filling out and returning the Potential Horse Evaluation Form. Please fill out the form and email it back to me at Saebra.P@horseshelp.org or you can mail, fax, or hand deliver the form to our office.

After I review the evaluation form I will let you know if your horse does or does not fit the criteria for our program or if I need more information. Most of the time we do an onsite evaluation with the horse so we can see how it acts in a setting it is used to. This evaluation usually requires one or two members of the Horses Help team and some of the equipment that the horse will encounter in class at Horses Help. I prefer to see the horses ridden by the owner or someone that is familiar with the horse with the horse's regular saddle and bridle then one of our representatives will ride the horse to further assess the horse's skills and movement.

If your horse is a potential match for our program then we will accept the horse on a 60-90 day Trial Period or put your horse on a waiting list. Before being brought to Horses Help, the horse needs a current (less than 30 day old) vet letter stating the horse is in acceptable health to be used in our program. Your horse also needs to be current on vaccines, worming, dental work, and trimming/shoeing. Sometimes we have room for the horse immediately and sometimes there is a short wait for space. Horses Help is a non-profit organization and exists primarily off of donations. As you know, keeping a horse for 60-90 days requires a significant amount of feed. During the Trial Period a feed fee of \$20 per week is required. The donor is also responsible for any shoeing and vet bills while the horse is on trial.

Once the horse has completed its trial period and has been accepted into our program Horses Help becomes the owner and the donor will receive a letter stating that the horse has been officially donated and ownership has officially transferred. All horse donations are tax deductible. In some cases special agreements can be made for the horse to return to the donor's property during the slow seasons at Horses Help, such as in the summer. Once a horse has come to the end of its time here at Horses Help we always offer the donor first right of refusal.

If you would like more information on donating your horse please check out the following site: <http://www.discoverhorses.com/donate-your-horse.html>. This site has tips on understanding what your horse may see at a therapeutic riding center, how to read donation agreements, writing off your horse as a donation on your taxes, and much more.

Please feel free to ask any questions you may have about Horses Help, our programs, or the donation process. If you would like to come see Horses Help, let me know and we can set a date to give you a tour of our wonderful facility. Thank you again for considering partnering with Horses Help to benefit our riders and for giving us the opportunity to determine if your horse will be a good candidate for our program.

Saebra Pipoly
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