



## Sidewalker Job Description

**Reports to:** Volunteer Manager

**Position Summary:** Assist Instructors and Horse Leaders in creating a safe and fun learning environment for participants with special needs, by supporting participants before, during, and after sessions.

**Qualifications:**

- Complete the volunteer application and agree to a background check.
- All Sidewalkers must have participated in the Healing Reins Sidewalker Training.
- Minimum age of 14.
- Able to physically react quickly and calmly to maximize safety of the participant.
- Able to walk with intermittent jogging for an hour at a time over uneven surfaces.
- Able to frequently stand, walk, bend, and lift up to 25 pounds.
- Able to perform an emergency dismount if needed.

**Sidewalker Responsibilities:**

- Arrive 15 minutes before the lesson.
- Assist participant with grooming the horse, as directed by the Instructor.
- Stay next to the participant both on and off the horse to maximize safety and provide stability assistance and prompts as needed.
- Assist instructor with mounts and dismounts.
- Aid participant with lesson activities as directed by the instructor.
- Communicate with the Instructor and Horse Leader regarding the needs of the participant.
- Communicate with the participant regarding their needs and providing prompting or reminders as needed.
- Work as a team with staff and other volunteers.
- Follow directions from the Instructors.
- Ensure compliance with all Healing Reins policies.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed and are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties, and/or skills that may be required.