



BUNKER PARK STABLE, INC.

Entrance at 550 Bunker Lake Blvd. NW Andover, MN 55304
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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED in 2011

In 2009, Stable Pathways at Bunker Park Stable began special needs programming, designing adapted programs so people living with disabilities can experience the benefits of horses. Horseback riding is a therapeutic and challenging activity with a variety of benefits - it can improve balance, stability, muscle tone, flexibility, core strength, focus, coordination, and confidence...and so much more.

Depending on the riders' abilities, they may require anywhere from one to three volunteers each. Students may ride in a saddle or on a bareback pad; there may be exercises and activities to challenge their motor planning - and it's the volunteers who encourage their rider to reach that much farther ... interact with fellow students ... and cheer the riders on, challenging them to accomplish (or at least try!) even more.

But we can't offer therapeutic horseback riding without volunteer support. You don't have to know anything about horses or people living with physical or cognitive challenges - we will train you.

HOWEVER, we ask that if you volunteer, you make the commitment and attend each week, because the Riders depend on you! If you are in high school, *please think carefully* about any potential upcoming school activities and commitments you may have, BEFORE you sign up to volunteer.

Volunteers must complete an application and authorization for emergency medical treatment, and be willing to undergo a background check.

If you are interested, please review our website for class dates and times - and give us a call if you have questions or are interested in coming out. You will find it to be a very rewarding experience, for every one involved (riders, volunteers, *and* the horses!)

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Patti Franz, Coordinator

Stable Pathways is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit private operating foundation that was organized in 2010 by Bunker Park Stable to bring horses and people together in a guided and safe environment; to benefit the mind, body and soul through the quiet strength and gentle presence of horses.