



Dream Catcher Therapy Center, Inc.

End of The Trail Horse Rescue/Sanctuary

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www.dctc.org

**We are looking for Committed Volunteers
who are reliable, take initiative, and don't mind getting dirty!**

Do you want to Volunteer?

Helping horses in need can be very rewarding, but before you sign up consider what it will take to do the job right and ask yourself the following questions:

How much time do I have to volunteer? This is an important question. We rely on volunteers and schedule our work and care of the horses taking into account the schedules of our volunteers. Even though you will not be paid for your time and expertise, not completing or following through on a task will have a significant impact on the horses and the organization. If you commit to a time and day, stick to it, otherwise, you might need to reconsider.

How long a period can I make this commitment? Our volunteer positions are ongoing and have no end date, however, training new people takes time and adds to our work load. Therefore, we prefer people who can commit for longer than a 2 month period, so our work load will actually decrease with added help. Think about the length of time you can and want to commit to and make sure you follow through.

Do I have the skills or expertise to do the job? Stall cleaning and watering does not require any experience and we will train you. Grooming horses, interacting with horses, etc does require experience; however we have training available to volunteers to learn these skills.

What is my volunteer budget? If commuting, consider your travel costs, which add up over time (gas is not cheap right now). We are a 501(c)3 public charity, so your time is not tax-deductible, however your mileage, expenses and donations are, to the full extent of the law.

What's in it for me? Be realistic about the rewards you expect. Be sure you are volunteering because you sincerely want to help horses, no strings attached, not because you feel it will benefit you in some way. Most of the help we need is grunt work that involves cleaning horse poop, sweeping, raking up old hay, leaves, and pine needles, washing buckets, fixing fence, hauling hay, etc. If this isn't something you can or want to do, don't volunteer with us.

Where will I fit in best? Give serious thought to the type of volunteer work you prefer to do. Not everyone will be able to work with the horses... we need lots of serious sweat labor work which benefits the horses greatly, but not necessarily the person doing it unless their heart is in the right place.

Am I really committed, or do I suffer from "great intention syndrome"?

The urging of a good friend or a compelling speech by a non-profit group can stir our emotions and cause us to sign up to volunteer. Getting caught up in the emotion of the moment can make you commit to something that you will not necessarily be excited about later on. A volunteer who resigns shortly after training is very costly to an organization. Think about it before you sign up.

There are a million good reasons to volunteer and there are nearly as many opportunities to volunteer and make a difference. Careful consideration will increase your chances of having an extraordinarily rewarding and enriching volunteer experience. If you are ready to commit, we welcome you to join us.