

## EAGLES' WINGS STABLE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Barn Buddies** — being a barn buddy is a very important job. Barn buddies clean our horses' stalls at least three times per week. They also get our horses ready for lessons. Barn buddies are our behind-the-scenes heroes!
- **Horse Leaders** — horse leaders lead our horses in the arena. It is the job of the Horse Leader to maintain the safety of the horse at all times. Horse leaders must not have a fear of horses and be willing to get up close and personal with the horse. Horse leaders must help the horse follow the instructor's direction. Being a horse leader is an 8-week commitment for 1-hour per week.
- **Side Walkers** — side walkers help ensure the safety of our participants. They walk beside our riders as they are on their horses in the arena. The job of the side walker is to help maintain the balance of the rider when he cannot do so for himself, to clarify instructions and directions when needed, and to provide reassurance and encouragement to the rider. The instructor helps the side walker learn how to best support the rider. Being a side walker is an 8-week commitment for 1-hour per week.
- **Photographer** — we need to document the stories of our riders as they are transformed through the multidimensional motion and personality of the horse as a therapist – both photos and videos are needed.
- **Journal Writers** – journal writers document our rider's stories. They interact with the riders' and/or their parents. It is important to let other potential riders know the experiences that someone who may have similar special needs is having and how they are benefiting from therapeutic riding. Providing hope is a big deal!
- **Social Media** — today, it's impossible to deny the prevalence of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and blogs. Social media has proven to be so powerful that many non-profit organizations have implemented it in their communications and marketing strategies. Having a strong online presence is especially important for non-profit organizations, whose causes rely heavily on their supporters. Effective social media requires constant time and effort, the attention that our cause can garner along with the connections we can make with our audience are worth the time and effort.