



Dear We Can Ride Volunteer,

On behalf of We Can Ride, thank you for volunteering in our classes during 2011!! We hope you will sign up for another year of smiles, laughter and helping our wonderful horses and clients achieve their goals.

Required volunteer forms for 2012 are enclosed: Please note....

- **Therapeutic riding classes begin Session I the week of January 9th for the U of M and Delano, and March 26th at all sites.** Once again, we have added a week for class-specific training and orientation and we strongly encourage all volunteers, new and returning, to attend. This will be noted on your class confirmation so you know the exact date.
- **Hippotherapy continues at the U of M and Delano for Session I (beginning of January) and starts back up in Mtka on March 28th**
- On the Class Sign-up form we ask you to **highlight any changes in contact information** (address, telephone or email) so that we can more easily update our database.
- Return forms as soon as possible, noting first and second choices, as well as any classes in which you would be able to sub—with reasonable likelihood that you would be available. We continue to ask our volunteers to be available for a three-hour class period each week and to be available for a full 8 week session.
- As we recruit new volunteers we are stressing the **importance of attendance**. We would like a minimum of 24 hours' cancellation notice in order to have adequate time to find replacement volunteers. **Our clients can not ride without your help!**
- If you are interested in becoming a Barn Aid for a class or to help with barn duties, please talk with your instructor or call the office for more information. Very frequently instructors would like to have assistance before class with horse preparation, even if there is already a Barn Aide in place.
- If you are interested in learning more about becoming an instructor, either call the office or talk with your class instructor. We are very happy to share information and provide guidance throughout the process.
- If you are interested in helping new volunteers become more comfortable in class and would like to serve as a mentor during the first two weeks of the session, call or email the office and talk with the Volunteer Coordinator.

Once again, thank you for all your past contributions to We Can Ride! We look forward to seeing you again this year. Always feel free to contact the office with any questions, or email volunteers@wecanride.org

Sincerely,

Jenna Sissi

Volunteer Coordinator