Equine Caretaker

Pay Scale: Pay commensurate with experience, includes housing, benefits and horse boarding.

Reports To: Farm Manager

Date: May, 2023

Apply to: Cory Mowrer
Farm Manager
Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines
Cory.Mowrer@RyerssFarm.org
610-427-0021

JOB DESCRIPTION

Summary/Objective:
Resident Equine Caretaker is responsible for 80+ rescued and retired equines for their full care and safety. This is a fulltime, 40 plus hour a week position and may include holidays. Additionally, individual is responsible for monitoring a small volunteer crew, overseeing employees, promoting the mission of the farm and offering educational opportunities to the public. Seasoned Equine Veterinarians looking for a centralized practice with a slower pace welcome to apply.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Ensure all equines are receiving best possible care.
2. Promoting and educating the general public on the mission statement of the farm through events and activities as well as with daily visitors.
3. Developing and executing a feeding plan specific to each equine’s diet.
4. Feeding the herd all meals (this may include weekends and holidays).
5. Responsible for clean and plentiful water supply.
6. Responsible for checking, treating and monitoring equines for injury/illness or other health issues, dispensing medications, and implementing all veterinary care.
7. Coordinate routine care with farrier and horse dentist.
8. Performing routine night checks
9. Reporting all facility concerns to Farm Manager
10. Monitoring and scheduling volunteer pool to assist with basic equine care
11. Navigate appropriate times to euthanize equines and other farm animals and assist with removal process.
12. Training and supervising weekend assistant equine caretaker.

Other Duties
1. Work together with other staff members and volunteers.
2. Perform other duties as requested by the Farm Manager.
3. Maintain and care for provided housing and inform Farm Manager of any and all known issues.
4. Occasionally may be asked to attend and promote the Farm and its mission at Equine related events.

**Required Education and Experience**

1. Applicants must have current Pennsylvania Veterinary License.
2. Minimum 3 years related experience or more as Large Animal Vet.
3. Current DEA License
4. Prior horse experience in barn management and equine care preferred.
5. Ideal candidate would have supervisory experience with past employees or volunteers.
7. Ability to follow directions and established protocol and procedures.
8. Must be able to safely move and handle up to 50lbs.
9. **The successful candidate will have clear PA State Background Check and PA Child Abuse Clearance documents prior to beginning employment and residing in farm housing. Additionally, any person residing in the farm residence over the age of 18 will be required to have aforementioned clearances as well.**

**Work Environment**

While performing the duties of this job, the Equine Caretaker may be exposed to airborne particles, moving mechanical parts and unpredictable equine behaviors. The Equine Caretaker is also frequently exposed to a variety of extreme weather conditions on facility grounds to include wind, rain, hail, snow and high heat index.

**Physical Demands**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the functions of this job. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk and hear. The position is also very physically active and requires the following: Standing (holding horses for farrier and vet, etc.), walking, jogging, bending/kneeling/stooping, crouching, pushing, pulling, lifting, climbing and balancing. Specific vision and use of both hands is also required.

**Additional Information**

It is always within the employer’s right to add to, delete from, or further modify this job description at any time. This position is subject to quarterly reviews with Farm Manager.

**EEO Statement**
Ryerss provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics.