

Volunteer Application and Policy



HorsePower for Kids Inc.

8005 South Racetrack Road

Tampa, FL 33635

Main Line: (813) 855-8992

Volunteers: (727) 742-7736

volunteers@horsepowerforkids.com

www.horsepowerforkids.com

HorsePower for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a farm and petting zoo for people who would benefit from interaction with horses and other animals that reside on our farm.

HorsePower for Kids, Inc. is home of approximately 200 animals including: horses, ponies, farm animals, petting zoo animals, birds, wildlife animals, exotic animals, and reptiles.

HorsePower for Kids, Inc. is home of many animals rescued from local animal hospitals, wildlife rehab organizations, and farms. Our animals are protected under law and standards of the National Wildlife Rehab Association.

HorsePower for Kids, Inc. is licensed and animals are under protection of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

HorsePower for Kids Inc. invites individuals to connect and interact with animals. Our founder, Armando Gort, believes that "individuals, exposed to horseback riding, interaction with animals, and the fundamentals of caring for such species, develop a relationship that aids in all forms of social behavior."

HorsePower for Kids Inc. offers fun and educational opportunities for children and adults to interact and care for vulnerable animals. Such programs are introduced during Horse Camp Summer Programs, Field Trips, Birthday Parties, Farm Visits, Special Events, and more.

HorsePower for Kids Inc. needs YOU! Volunteer support is essential to our organization and animals. Volunteers help with the extra care and attention to all our animals. Volunteers may introduce the animals to the public or offer additional help when needed. It is a rewarding experience.

I have read and fully understand the above statements:

X

Signature

Date

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THIS APPLICATION IS FOR VOLUNTEERS 16 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER. IF UNDER THE AGE OF 18, APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN. CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12-15 CAN BE LISTED AS THE "ACCOMPANIED VOLUNTEER" JOINING THE PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN WHO WILL BE LISTED AS THE APPLICANT.

Before completing this application, please read below:

Looking to volunteer or to learn more about volunteering at HorsePower for Kids? Donate your time and talent to help animals and individuals in the Tampa Bay Community by working while discovering the outdoors! HP4K is looking for people with various backgrounds, talents, and skill levels. Our needs are often specifically based on current events and levels of ground support to help the daily operations of the farm, but we'll try to best accommodate your desire to get involved. Thank you in advance for your interest!

- Volunteering is a rewarding community service.
- Volunteering means you want to help make a difference.
- Volunteering is a commitment.
- As a volunteer you serve others by supporting a cause without expecting anything in return.
- Volunteers are dedicated individuals who believe in the mission of this organization.
- Volunteers come from all economic, educational, and social backgrounds.
- Volunteers serve in areas where they have experience or where they are mostly needed.
- Volunteers are flexible with change and will help where asked.
- As a volunteer, you are a representative of this organization.
- Volunteers must be reliable, take initiative, and maintain a professional manner at all times.
- Volunteers are scheduled when needed. If absent, you must communicate with the Volunteer Coordinator.
- Volunteering also means that you will learn new things, make new friends, and have fun at the same time.
- YOU are what makes HP4K a great place to be!

I have read and fully understand these statements:

X _____
Signature Date

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THE FOLLOWING IS MANDATORY. BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPLY BY OUR RULES AND POLICIES.

Characteristics of Volunteering:

*Commitment*Respect*Loyalty*Professionalism*Safety *Positive Attitude *Caring
*Kindness and Compassion to animals and each other!

Volunteer Expectations: *Dress Code: Always wear your HP4K T-Shirt. Pants must be kneelength

*Always wear closed shoes (No flip flops/sandals/open-toed shoes)

*NO Drugs/Alcohol

*No Smoking (designated areas upon request)

*Orientation and Training required

*As a volunteer you will commit to being honest and report to managements with concerns and questions

*Committed to attending seasonal meetings and special fundraising events

*Must be 16 years old to volunteer. Children between 12 -15 are invited to volunteering accompanied by parent or legal guardian.

*HP4K needs your help, and you will be part of a team that relies on you to be there when you say you will be: "rain or shine!"

*Must attach a release form (can be printed from our website)

*Must submit a copy of your State ID or Driver's License along with application (because we serve children this is required for safety, and information will be kept confidential)

*As a volunteer you will commit to being honest and report to management with concerns and questions.

*As a volunteer you will commit to report any incident to management regarding the animals.

I have read and understand the policy of HorsePower for Kids.

X _____
Signature Date

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Volunteer Applicant Contact Information: **Today's Date:** _____

First and Last Name: _____

Day of Birth: _____ Male or Female: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

St: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone#: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Employment information:

Current/Most Recent Employer: _____

Address: _____

Phone#: _____

Position: _____

How long have you been or were employed? _____

Previous/Current Volunteer

Experience: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Volunteered in what areas: _____

How long have you volunteered? _____

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Language/s Spoken: _____

Physical Limitations Y____N____: If answered yes, please describe:

Why would you like to volunteer at HorsePower for Kids?

Are you volunteering for specific Community Service Hours for school or for gaining other credit?: Y____ N_____

If, Yes, please explain: _____

Name of school: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Reference. Please, list 2 reference contacts other than those living with you.

1. First and Last Name:

Phone#: _____

Relationship: _____

2. First and Last Name:

Phone#: _____

Emergency Contact:

First & Last Name: _____ Phone#: _____

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Have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty, or no contest to a crime of any kind? Y____N____ If yes, please explain:

Availability:

Please, indicate below which hours you are available to volunteer.

Sun ____ to ____

Monday ____ to ____

Friday ____ to ____

Tuesday ____ to ____

Saturday ____ to ____

Wednesday ____ to ____

Sunday ____ to ____

Thursday ____ to ____

Interest:

Please, tell us in which area you would like to volunteer:

ticket office ____

pony parties ____

walking ponies ____

fundraising ____

cleaning stalls ____

horse trail guide (adults only) ____

grant writing ____

feeding animals ____

special events ____

gardening ____

field trips ____

wildlife rehab ____

TheraPlate (experience with horses needed) ____

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Please list (if any) experience working with children and/or animals. Include the amount of time worked with and/or type of animals you may have worked with:

Special skills or qualifications skills and qualifications can be acquired through employment, previous volunteer work, or other activities such as hobbies or sports. What skills or qualifications do you have as a volunteer?

What are you hoping to gain out of the experience of volunteering at HorsePower for Kids?

Accompanied Volunteers:

Please, ONLY two children per adult at a time – children must be between the ages of 12-15.

*Full Name: _____ DOB: _____

Relationship (circle): Parent/Mother Parent/Father Guardian

*Full Name: _____ DOB: _____

Relationship (circle): Parent/Mother Parent/Father Guardian

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Applications MUST have a release form attached (one per individual including accompanied child volunteer), which can be printed from our website or requested from our front office. Copy of driver license/ID must be attached as well. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. Please allow 1 week for processing (although we try to process as soon as possible). You will be notified via telephone or email with results of application approval/decision.

Please drop off (during business hours) or mail your completed application to:

**Horsepower for kids
8005 Race Track Rd
Tampa, Florida 33635
Atten: Volunteer Dept.**

We do not Accept emailed applications as we have limited printing capabilities.

IF YOU ARE A MINOR MAKE SURE YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNS ALL DOCUMENTS, ESPECIALLY RELEASE FORM.

It is the Policy of this organization to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age or disability. Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in volunteering with us.

I have read and fully understand that the information I have provided on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false or misleading statements made on this application may result in refusal or subsequent termination of my volunteer service. I authorize Horsepower for kids to verify any information in the application and to contact my references. I acknowledge that any service I would perform for Horsepower for kids would be on a strictly volunteer basis. I further recognize that I have no expectation of remuneration of any sort for such volunteer service.

Signing this agreement signifies that you have read and agree to the listed rules, policies and guidelines.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____
(Parent signature if applicant is under 18 years old)

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

WARNING

Under Florida law, an equine activity sponsor or equine professional is not liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant in equine activities resulting from the inherent risks of equine activities.

In consideration of the services of Armando Gort, D.B.A., Horse Power for Kids, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "HPK"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge HPK, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that my participation Horseback riding activities entail known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks may include, but is not limited to: being struck by rock fall or other objects dislodged or thrown from above; the forces of nature, including lightning, and weather changes; slips and falls or falling off the horse; exposure to temperature and weather extremes which could cause cold shock, hypothermia, hyperthermia (heat related illnesses), heat exhaustion, sunburn, dehydration; exposure to and travel in rugged terrain, exposure to potentially dangerous wild animals, insect bites, and hazardous plant life; accidents or illness can occur in remote places without medical facilities and emergency treatment or other services rendered; consumption of food or drink; improper lifting or carrying; my own physical condition, and the physical exertion associated with this activity.

A horse, regardless of its training and usual past behavior, may act unpredictably at times based upon instinct or fright which may cause you to be thrown from your horse or injured by the horse. Horses may do such things as bite, kick, buck, lie down, or stumble. Saddles may slip and other tack or saddle problems may develop as a result of normal use and wear. Your horse may collide with obstacles or encounter variations in terrain such as creeks, water, bridges, traveled roads, wild animals, birds, stump, forest growth, debris, rocks and cliffs and other obstacles whether obvious or not and whether man made or natural. Each of those obstacles or variations in terrain could cause you to lose control of you horse and you could fall. Riding a horse requires the participant to balance on the saddle. Participants may lose their balance that can result in falling from the horse.

Furthermore, HPK employees have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather or other environmental conditions. They may give incomplete warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless HPK from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of HPK's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of HPK.**

4. Should HPK or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.

6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against HPK, I agree to do so solely in the state of Florida, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against HPK on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Print Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Signature of Participant _____ Date _____

PARENT'S OR GUARDIAN'S ADDITIONAL INDEMNIFICATION (Must be completed for participants under the age of 18)

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) ("Minor") being permitted by HPK to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities, I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless HPK from any and all Claims which are brought by, or on behalf of Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by Minor.