



Internship Information & Application

Days End Farm Horse Rescue
1372 Woodbine Road * Woodbine, MD 21797
Phone: (301) 854-5037 * E-mail: info@defhr.org * Website: www.defhr.org
Protection for Horses...Education for People

Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc.

Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc. (DEFHR) is a non-profit, 501(c)3 equine welfare organization established in 1989 by co-founder Kathleen Schwartz-Howe. DEFHR's mission is to foster care and compassion for horses through intervention, education, and outreach. DEFHR's vision is to create and nurture a beneficial relationship between abused and neglected horses and caring human beings.

Programs offered by DEFHR:

- Rescue, Rehabilitation, and Rehoming
 - o Critical & Maintenance Care
 - o Adoption, Guardian Program, Equidopt
- Humane Education
 - o Tours (scheduled and walk-ins)
 - o Continued Volunteer Learning
 - o Scout Days
 - o School Learning Program
 - o Internship Programs
 - o Horse Care Clinics
 - o Equine Cruelty Investigators Clinics
 - o Large Animal Rescue Training
- Community Outreach
- Volunteer Program
- Equine Emergency and Disaster Services

Ziporah – April 2018



Ziporah – August 2018



Internship Information

This packet includes information pertaining to Days End Farm Horse Rescue's Equine Care & Rehabilitation Internship Program, as well as paperwork needed for the application process. Please read through the entire packet and, if you decide to apply, pay close attention to all sections that are needed for your application. All information pertains to the residential option, unless stated otherwise.

Program Goal

The goal of this program is to encourage careers in equine management, veterinary care, advocacy, rescue, and rehabilitation.

Program Description

Days End Farm Horse Rescue's Internship Program is designed to immerse participants in the daily operations of a non-profit horse rescue by giving them a unique opportunity to work with neglected and abused horses seized by Animal Control agencies. Through education and interaction, students gain experience working with equine professionals and the public throughout the rescue and rehabilitation process. Interns can expect to gain significant equine husbandry experience, recognize equine cruelty and neglect, receive training in basic rehabilitation, and learn about horse psychology and its application in everyday handling and training.

This program is tailored to those seeking careers in equine management, horse rescue and rehabilitation, and equine veterinary services. Interns can expect to work with a population of 50-90 horses, a knowledgeable and friendly staff, and dedicated volunteers. Participants will spend most of their time at our main facility, but will travel occasionally to our satellite facility, as well as off-site clinics, and events as scheduled. We offer both residential (paid) and non-residential (unpaid) options.

DEFHR Intern Job Description

Responsibilities

- General care and management of our entire equine population, including but not limited to:
 - o Feed management (preparing and distributing)
 - o Medicating (identifying and interpreting common medical conditions, administering basic medical care, etc.)
 - o Working with the veterinarian, farrier, and dentist on a regular basis
 - o Assisting with the care, management, and oversight of critical care horses (rehabilitation, colic watch, sling care, etc.)
- Maintaining the facility in a clean, orderly, and safe manner, including but not limited to:
 - o Basic barn chores (mucking stalls and paddocks, cleaning/filling waters, etc.)
 - o Sweeping, raking, and de-cobwebbing barns and paddocks
 - o Minor facility maintenance and repair
 - o Organization of barn and public areas
- Daily interactions with staff, volunteers, and the public, including but not limited to:
 - o Communicating with staff to report the status of a horse or task, receive constructive feedback or instruction, or relay information from a volunteer
 - o Coordinating volunteers to match them with the appropriate tasks
 - o Give tours, receive donations, and assist the public
 - o Assist with enforcing farm rules and safety guidelines on a regular basis
- Public speaking
 - o Presenting a pre-made PowerPoint presentation after the end of the internship session in order to receive a Certificate of Completion for the internship session.

Internship FAQ

(** = Residential Interns ONLY)

****Are interns required to be vaccinated against COVID-19?**

Residential interns are required to be fully vaccinated prior to their arrival to our farm. We make this a requirement due to the fact that residential interns are traveling from multiple locations, sometimes internationally, to get here and are then living in very close quarters. If you have an issue with getting vaccinated against COVID-19, you may contact us to discuss further.

What is the area like around Days End Farm?

Days End Farm Horse Rescue is an equine rescue facility located on 58 rolling acres in Woodbine, Maryland. Woodbine is a rural area, with gorgeous country views and farms as far as the eye can see. Within a couple miles of our farm, you can find a grocery store, restaurants, a gym, gas stations, a general store, and local shops. Even though we are in a rural area, we are close to more urbanized areas with plenty of things to do. Baltimore is approximately 30 minutes away, and Annapolis and Washington, DC are approximately 45 minutes to an hour away.

What kind of weather should I expect?

Maryland experiences all four weather seasons, although they can be unpredictable. Precipitation varies between wet and dry spells. Some years are wetter/drier than others. Whether or not we get snow in the winter is based on temperatures. Each session's average weather are as follows:

- Spring session = 41°F average temperature (but can get into single digits), our farm tends to be very windy during these months.
- Summer session = 71° average temperature (but can get into triple digits), very humid.
- Fall session = 51° average temperature, vary between wet and dry.

What should I bring?

It is important to bring clothing and footwear suitable for the time of the year that you will be interning. You will need clothes to keep you warm and dry in the winter and cool in the summer. Rain gear is also important as you will be working in wet conditions. Pack a couple pants and sweatshirts in the summer or t-shirts in the winter, since the weather can be unpredictable. Sturdy, waterproof footwear is extremely important as you will be doing a lot of walking while you work. A professional/dress attire outfit should also be brought for attending events such as group tours, clinics, and other outings. Casual clothes should be brought for your days off. If you are approved to ride, riding apparel will also be needed (ie-boots, helmets, chaps, etc.). Please try to bring at least a week's supply of clothes to cut down on the amount of laundry that you will be doing.

Sunscreen and a water bottle are advised year-round to prevent sunburn and dehydration, as most of your work will be performed outdoors. Residential interns get \$100 per week, so be sure to bring extra money with you. Cell phones and laptops are permitted and WiFi is available.

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Your Participant Release Form will be sent to you via email prior to your arrival. Please make sure to fill it out in its entirety so you can hand it in when you arrive. You need to have your social security number handy so you can fill out your W9 and start receiving your stipend. Please also bring a valid driver's license.

*****What are the accommodations for residential interns? Is food provided?***

Interns live onsite in a cozy bedroom inside our main office (farmhouse). They have access 1.5 bathrooms, a full kitchen and laundry facilities. You will share the room and house with 1 other intern during your stay. We require that living quarters, both private and shared, be kept clean during the entirety of your stay. DEFHR supplies all furnishings, cooking supplies, bedding, and towels. For entertainment purposes, a smart TV equipped with a loaded Amazon Fire Stick is provided. Your personal login must be used for the included apps, which we will confirm have been logged out upon your departure.

Food is not provided. Residential interns receive a \$100 weekly stipend, which is intended to cover food expenses. A weekly trip to the grocery store and bank can be made available, if needed.

Do I need to be currently enrolled in a college or university to participate?

No – we only require that you be at least 18 years of age, and possess an interest and enthusiasm for learning about the services that Days End Farm has to offer.

What times are available to intern?

Specific dates for each session can be found on our website by going to www.defhr.org and clicking on the GET INVOLVED tab.

*****How soon before my start date can I move in?***

The Friday/Saturday prior to your starting day is when we ask that you move in, which will allow you to get unpacked and settled before starting work the next day.

*****Do I need to bring a car?***

You do not need a car, although you are welcome and encouraged to bring one. Keep in mind that there is no public transportation available in the area. Your staff supervisor will arrange for transportation to and from the airport if necessary. Farm vehicles, or carpooling with staff/volunteers, are available for essential errand runs only.

What will my schedule be like?

Residential Applicants: Generally, you will be working Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm with a 1-hour lunch break, and Saturdays, 8am-12pm. Situations may arise outside of your normal hours, such as night feedings, critical care watches, emergencies, and new horse arrivals, for which you will be expected to assist. Should you need to work outside of your normal hours, every effort will be made to adjust your schedule to compensate.

Non-Residential Applicants: Your schedule can be flexible, but we ask that you visit the farm at least 2-3 days/week. You are required to work at least three hours each time you come to Days End Farm. Keep in mind that the amount of time that you put into the internship determines the amount of experience you will gain. In order to officially complete your internship and receive a Certificate of Completion, you will need to work at least 300 hours during your interning session.

*****How many hours per week will I work?***

You will be consistently work 44+ hours per week. More hours may be required during emergencies and impoundments.

Am I allowed to bring my own horse?

No – Days End is limited in space and manpower, so we strictly reserve spaces in our herd for horses from Animal Control. Due to shared housing, no animals are permitted inside the intern house.

Is smoking allowed on the premises?

There is a designated outdoor smoking area for staff and interns. No smoking is permitted anywhere else on the property.

Who will I be working with?

You will also be working closely with staff, volunteers, interns, and various equine professionals.

Will I be able to work with the veterinarian and farrier?

Yes – the vet is typically scheduled at least once per week and the farrier once every other week. Our farm is set up to treat critical care patients. We have a great working relationship with our vet and farriers, and will give you every opportunity we can to observe them.

Will I be involved with educational work?

Yes – Days End has approximately 1,000 individuals who volunteer each year and even more who visit. Education is a core component and as an intern you will have many opportunities to educate the public on proper equine care and treatment. Volunteers and visitors gain valuable hands-on training from our interns.

Will I be involved in riding and training the horses?

Possibly – Training is a large portion of the rehabilitation process, however the extent of the training that you will be doing during your internship is based on your experience level, horse availability, workload and the availability of our staff trainers. While we put great effort toward educating our interns about the training practices we use at Days End, training is not a key component of the Equine Care & Rehabilitation Internship. If the main reason for wanting to intern is to train and/or ride, please consider applying to our Training Internship on the website.

Will I be involved in horse rescues and impoundments in the field?

Maybe – Days End has a strong partnership with Animal Control agencies in Maryland and throughout surrounding states. Impoundments and rescues are sporadic and often unexpected, so there is no guarantee that you will be able to participate in one during your time with us. However, should one arise, we will make every effort for you to be able to come along and observe/assist.

Interns will also get the unique experience of attending an off-site equine assessment within our Owner Assistance Program. DEFHR assists owners with safely rehoming their horses into new homes, part of which involves visiting the horse and owner to get information, photos and videos needed to get them listed. Interns attend these appointments with a DEFHR staff to assist with scribing and videography. This opens up the opportunity to meet various horses and owners, as well as to see more of our great state of Maryland.

Is there anything I should do before my arrival?

Yes, there are some things that you should focus on prior to your arrival:

- Research Days End Farm Horse Rescue by viewing our website at www.defhr.org.
- Familiarize yourself with the anatomy and physiology of the horse.
- Research some common medical ailments in horses (ie – thrush, abscesses, colic, etc) and their signs, symptoms, and general treatments.

Internship Application

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

**** Please be sure to complete this application in its entirety to qualify for consideration for the DEFHR Equine Care & Rehabilitation Internship. ****

Date: _____

Type of internship for which you are applying (circle one): **Residential** **Non-residential**

Session for which you are applying (circle one): **Spring** **Summer** **Fall**

Year: _____

If your preferred session is already filled, are there others that you would consider taking? If so, list below:

General Information:

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Gender: _____

Are you currently a legal citizen of the United States? ____ Yes ____ No

If not, do you have, or are you willing to get, a Visa? ____ Yes ____ No

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, please explain:

For DEFHR Personnel Use Only (do not write below this line)

Date Application Received: _____

Application Complete? Y / N (circle one)

Date Application Reviewed: _____

Applicant Accepted / Denied (circle one)

Date Notification Sent: _____

RSVP Deadline Date: _____

RSVP Received: _____

Confirmed Participation? Y / N (circle one)

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Name _____

College/University currently attending: _____

Major: _____ Graduating Year: _____

School Website: _____

Faculty Advisor: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Courses you have taken relevant to your internship (please list full course title, not number):

Are you willing and physically able to handle intense physical labor, walk a majority of the day, work in all weather conditions and lift at least 50lbs? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, please explain:

Are you willing to work 50+ hours per week? _____ Yes _____ No

If no, please explain:

** Do you foresee yourself having a problem cohabitating with the other interns? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you smoke? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you have any animal or outdoor allergies? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please describe:

Are you currently taking any medications? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please describe:

Do you have health insurance? _____ Yes _____ No

Are you fully vaccinated against COVID-19? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, date of 2nd shot: _____

If no, are you willing to become fully vaccinated before arriving at DEFHR? _____ Yes _____ No

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Name _____

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet:

1. Why do you want this internship? How does it fit into your future career goals?
2. What characteristics do you possess that make you qualified to be in our program, trusted with the lives and well-being of our horses, and represent DEFHR to the public?
3. What is your viewpoint when it comes to humane euthanasia and do you feel you are able to handle the death of a horse?
4. We constantly have visitors from the general public coming to our farm for tours, orientations, appointments, donations, etc. It is important to present Days End in a very courteous and professional manner, and in a way that will promote attention and funding. Do you see yourself as suitable for presenting Days End Farm in such a way? Please explain.
5. What are your opinions on more controversial topics, such as horse slaughter and unwanted, abandoned horses, not only in the United States, but all over the world?
6. What goals are you hoping to accomplish during your internship time at Days End Farm? Are there certain areas of discipline that you would like to focus?
7. Since our interns are required to work in such close proximity, what qualities do you possess that will allow you to excel within, and contribute to, the team structure?
8. **** Residential Applicants Only****: In order to officially complete the internship and receive a Certificate of Completion, all interns upon returning home are required to present a pre-made PowerPoint presentation to a group of at least 15 people within their school/community/workplace/etc. This presentation would be educational, covering the history of the horse and the unwanted horse problem we are currently facing. If you were to get this internship, what group would you give the presentation to and how many people would be included in this group?
9. Please explain how you found out about our internship program.
10. Is there anything else that you would like to share with us?

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Name _____

Please list references (professional and/or academic):

Reference #1: Name _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Relationship _____

Reference #2: Name _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
Relationship _____

Please email or mail your application to the address at the bottom of this page, Attn: Brittney Vallot. Resumes and transcripts are not required, but are encouraged.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

If you have any questions, please contact Brittney Vallot at operations@defhr.org.

By signing this application, I am acknowledging that I understand and am willing to perform all of the duties listed in the job description. I agree to abide by and respect all policies, procedures, and philosophies of Days End Farm Horse Rescue. I also acknowledge that I am aware that the internship I am applying for is voluntary, and that housing and a stipend of \$75/week are available for residential interns only.

Signature

Date

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