



Grace Falls Volunteer Info

So, you think you want to volunteer at Grace Falls? Great! Here's a check list to help you through the process.

1. Have you thought about how often (days/hours) you would like to volunteer?
2. Do you have an idea in which area you would like to volunteer?
3. If you want to work with the horses, keep in mind you will need to find extra time on your own to come and practice working with the horses before you can volunteer with a child. James and Aly will determine when you are ready for this.
4. Is there something specific (a talent, gift, idea) that you would like to use at the farm?
5. An AZ fingerprint clearance card is required to volunteer. It is a \$35.00 fee and can be completed at most police stations.
6. I have a patient attitude and can deal with a child for a 90 minute session or/ I would like to volunteer doing something on my own.
7. I have my own transportation or have made arrangements for my own transportation to and from the farm when volunteering.
8. I realize I represent Christ and Grace Falls Farm when I volunteer at the farm. My actions speak louder than words. Swearing, using alcohol and drugs, and having inappropriate behavior can get me disqualified as a volunteer.
9. Safety is number one at Grace Falls. I must slow myself down and check and double check the safety of my buddy as well as myself at all times. If I approach an unsafe situation, please let a Grace Falls staff member know. **NEVER LEAVE YOUR BUDDY ALONE!**
10. Being courteous is right up there with being safe. We would not be here if it wasn't for the families that use this place. If you are within 10ft. of another person, please say "hello" and acknowledge the other person. Introduce yourself by name if you don't know someone you come in contact with. Welcome parents and children as they come down the drive way.
11. Show parents to an area where they may relax while their child is in session. Reassure them their child is in the best care for the next 90 minutes. This is a time for the CHILD to feel special. If you are working with a young child, bend down and get on their eye level when talking with them. Listen to them when they talk by making eye contact. Give them your undivided attention!
12. IF they do not want to spend time with the horses, it is okay. There will be a box of craft supplies and ideas for you to work on, as well as games, and extra chore ideas if they enjoy that.



13. Starting out with a farm chore is a way for the child to gain ownership of this place. He/she will be proud of the work they are putting in to this place. Be proud for them. This is a big feat for some of them! Some will want to do chores the entire time they are here, and some will be ready to move on to different activities.
14. We are just here as their friends. Some of these children come from abusive backgrounds and are intimidated by adults or peers. Start with a handshake when greeting the child. Hugs may follow as they warm up and get to know you. Always give an open hug or sideways hug. Use verbal commands instead of touching. You can always imitate what you want them to do, by doing it first.
15. If you need help ASK. Don't try and wing something on your own, and pay for it later.
16. Come with a positive attitude! It's contagious!
17. If you start out volunteering and you don't like what you are doing, try something new.
18. If you are unable to make it to volunteer for the session/time slot you signed up for. Please let us know ASAP, as it may directly affect a family here at the farm. However, we don't want sickness to spread around the farm either. If you have had a fever in the last 24hrs or a chronic cough before you were to volunteer, please give us a call and stay home to get better!
19. Keep a neat appearance. No jewelry is best on the farm. Long pants (khakis or jeans) or shorts to your knee and a GFF Volunteer shirt (free) and tennis shoes or boots is all that is required.
20. ***Thank you!!!*** Without servant hearts like yours we wouldn't be able to offer what we do.