

# KEEPING AMERICA'S HORSES SAFE!

FOR THE LOVE OF HORSES



# **2023 ANNUAL REPORT**







We Need Them As Much
As They Need Us





# **OUR MISSION**

The EQUUS Foundation is the only national animal welfare charity and accrediting body in the United States 100% dedicated to protecting America's horses from peril and strengthening the bond between horses and people.

# OURVISION

- Horses involved in any role and in any capacity - as athletes, companions, laborers, teachers and healers - are valued as partners and not treated as commodities.
- Horses transition from one chapter to the next without risk of abuse, neglect and slaughter.
- Horses live in comfort and with dignity throughout their lives.
- When the times comes, horses experience a peaceful and humane end of life.

# Throughout history, human civilization has advanced on the backs of horses - literally!

Horses have been our loyal partners in work, transportation, sport, war, and as companions and healers — and yet, thousands of horses are abandoned and discarded each year to face an uncertain, and often horrific future.





# President's Letter

#### FOR THE LOVE OF HORSES

The EQUUS Foundation was born from love of equestrian sport and the critical need to provide care to horses after their sport careers are over. We awarded our first grants in 2003 to seven equine charities based in Connecticut and the metropolitan New York area and now support hundreds of charities nationwide.

While there has been significant progress in reducing the number of America's horses destined for slaughter, there are still over 20,000 shipped across our borders for slaughter each year and tens of thousands are still subjected to abuse and neglect.

We believe that the best way to help these horses is to transition them into a new life, role and purpose by providing viable options to owners when they cannot, or no longer wish to, care for them before they end up in the slaughter pipeline. I am proud to report that thanks to our Equine Ambassador - Lafitte De Muze - and his owner, Cheryl Olsten, and his rider, Amanda Steege, we were able to establish Lafitte De Muze Safety Net Grants aimed at helping to keep horses with their owners, assisting with re-homing the horses, and providing counseling and end-of-life services when needed.

Looking to the future and in recognition of the labor shortage affecting industry nationwide, we established Equine Studies Scholarships to inspire and reward the next generation of equine professionals. We announced the award of \$13,000 in scholarships to ten undergraduate and graduate level students enrolled in equine studies and veterinary programs at institutions of higher learning listed on the EQUUS Foundation's Equine Education Network.

To raise public awareness that America's horses enhance our lives and need our protection and to build consensus within the equine industry to embrace solutions for equines in transition other than shipping them across our borders for slaughter, we established the #HorseProtector campaign and ended the year with over 1,000 people taking the pledge.

We also released a study by Dr. Karin Bump commissioned by the EQUUS Foundation to examine the sustainability, equine welfare and business-related performance indicators of the equine charities that attained the EQUUS Foundation Guardian designation in 2022. There is every indication that equine charities are making a difference in the lives of horses and the people who benefit from them, but his study reinforces the critical need not just on donations of money, but also donations of products and services, including volunteer labor, from horse lovers who care about where horses go next.

The EQUUS Foundation also established the Spirit Award in 2023 in recognition of its roots in the equestrian sport and to honor equestrians that have significantly elevated the image and desirability of horses. In accepting the inaugural Spirit Award, McLain Ward said, "We owe our horses our lives and they ask only for kindness in return. We need to ensure their relevance does not fade away. This is our greatest responsibility as equestrians."

We are proud of the role we play in ensuring that horses are safe, healthy, and treated with dignity as partners. More and more equestrians now recognize that for the equestrian sport to progress and for the sport to have the acceptance of the public, the welfare of the horse must come first.

We deeply appreciate the generosity of the individuals and organizations that support the EQUUS Foundation. It is only through engaging passionate supporters and collaboration that we are able to accomplish our mission.

Thank you.

Lynn Coakley
Prosident

Finding Common Ground Engaging stakeholders as leaders and advocates and partnering with individuals and organizations to improve the way horses are treated and perceived

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair: Jenny Belknap Kees Vice Chair: Catherine Herman President: Lynn Coakley Secretary-Treasurer: Mark Sheptoff Directors: Natalie Jackson Richard Mitchell, DVM

#### **EQUUSTARS**

Beth Behrs Georgina Bloomberg Brandi Cyrus Brianne Goutal-Marteau Clementine Goutal Jessica Springsteen

Kentucky Equine Adoption Center

Loudoun Therapeutic Riding Foundation, Inc.

Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue, Inc.

Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals

Maryland Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

Mitchell Farm Equine Retirement, Inc.

Secretariat Center

Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.

Sprout Therapeutic Riding and Education Center

Thorncroft Equestrian Center

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Ariat International

Augusta Mills Equestrian

Equiparent

Fairfield Equine Associates

Hilltop Bio

Kroop's

Split Rock Jumping Tour, LLC

#### LEADERSHIP CIRCLE Kristin Trudell Baran

Jenny Belknap and Tim Kees Lynn Coakley Catherine and Steve Herman, MD Tina and Bob Hinckley Natalie Jackson Penny Brandt Jackson and Thomas Campbell Jackson Samantha Kelly Serena Marron Julie and Rick Mitchell, VMD Caroline Moran Alexandra Murray Chervl Olsten JoAnn Palazzo Caryl Philips and Frank Zeiss

Elizabeth and Clifford Press

Andi and Mark Sheptoff

Michael Taylor and Connie Marguez



#### #HORSEPROTECTORS

Building advocacy and consensus that horses enhance our lives and need our

#### **ALLIANCE MEMBERS**

American Hippotherapy Association, Inc. American Saddlebred Horse Association, Inc. **MENTORS** American Vaulting Association Brook Hill Farm **ASPCA** Central Kentucky Riding for Hope, Inc. (CKRH) Brooke USA Colorado Horse Rescue Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA) Davs End Farm Horse Rescue Equestrian Aid Foundation Endeavor Therapeutic Horsemanship, Inc. Green Chimneys High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc.

Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association Equine Land Conservation Resource The Foundation for the Horse Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries Horses and Humans Research Foundation Humane Equine Aid & Rapid Transport (HEART) Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Interscholastic Equestrian Association Kentucky Horse Park Foundation Maryland Horse Council Maryland Horse Industry Board

Metropolitan Equestrian Team National Association of Equine Affiliated Academics PATH International

Retired Racehorse Project Thoroughbred Charities of America (TCA) United Horse Coalition United States Equestrian Federation, Inc.

United States Equestrian Team Foundation, Inc United States Hunter Jumper Association Inc. & **USHJA** Foundation United States Pony Clubs, Inc.

## **EOUINE AMBASSADORS**

Sport horses whose owners pay it forward by donating a portion of their winnings in equestrian sport competitions to help horses in need.



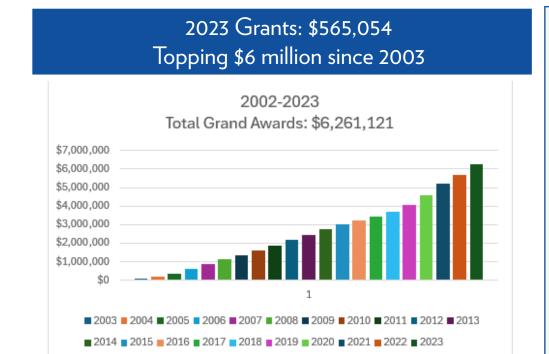
LAFITTE DE MUZE Our first Equine Ambassador Owned by Cheryl Olsten & ridden by Amanda Steege



CACAN (ABOVE) & RAPIDASH Owned & Ridden by Serena Marron

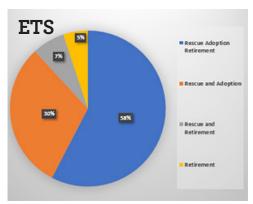
# Informed giving - More important now than ever before

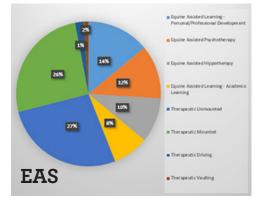
Ensuring donor dollars are invested in programs that have the greatest impact



# 2023 Direct Impact! 121 equine charities 4,300 equines

Only equine charities that have undergone a rigorous review and attain the EQUUS Foundation Guardian designation are eligible for financial support from the EQUUS Foundation.







\*Statement of Financial Activities Fiscal Year Ending August, 31, 2021 Revenue \$845,734

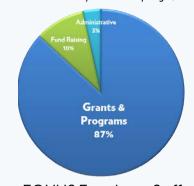
Contributions \$837.250 Investments \$8,484 Expense \$836,197 Programs \$726.435

Administrative \$28,615 Net Surplus \$9,537

\$81,147

\*Audit conducted by Sabel & Oplinger, P.C.

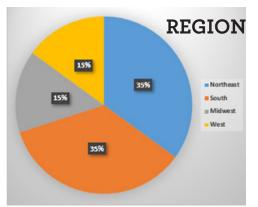
Development



#### **EQUUS Foundation Staff**

Lynn Coakley, President Valerie Angeli, VP, Engagement Tim Williams, Program Director Barbara Bower, Administrative Assistant

The EQUUS Foundation utilizes independent contractors to administer its programs and has no employees other than the President.



The EQUUS Foundation supports charities nationwide that provide Equine Transition Services (ETS), Equine Assisted Services (EAS), and Commuity Outreach. ETS are services involving the rescue, rehabilitation, retraining, rehoming, and retirement (sanctuary) of America's at-risk, transitioning, aged and infirm horses. EAS and Community Outreach are services involving equinehuman interactions to elevate the lives of people with and without special needs -- the distinction being that EAS is conducted by credentialed service providers.

# 715 Rider's Closet recipients 9,700 awards

715 individual riders in need, scholastic riding programs, pony clubs, equestrian camp programs and equine charities received over 9,700 new and gently used riding apparel through the Rider's Closet.

# EQUUS Foundation 2023 Annual Report

# **EQUUS**

FOR THE LOVE OF HORSES

# At Work

Ensuring a humane and sustainable environment for horses now and in the future



EQUINE WELFARE NETWORK GUARDIANS organizations across America



Connecting enthusiasts with equine 
Ensuring transparency in the care and Recognizing the highest standards service of America's horses



**MENTORS** for the care of America's horses



**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING INITIATIVE** Cultivating advocacy through education





**NEXT CHAPTERS** SAFE LANDINGS Listing adoptable horses seeking Providing opportunities for horses their next chapter



HAPPY ENDINGS Sharing stories of the joy of adoption and finding forever homes facillities committed to our mission



**FOREVER FARMS** Private or for-profit equestrian



**CHAMPIONS** Stimulating and rewarding volunteerism on behalf of horses

THE RIDER'S CLOSET to pursue their horsemanship dreams studies at the collegiate level



Providing riding attire to equestrians 

Encouraging the pursuit of equine

EQUINE EDUCATION NETWORK EQUINE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIPS Scholarships to inspire and reward the next generation of equine professionals

# Awards & Honors Recognizing achievement and the importance of horses in our lives



**NEDA DEMAYO** Celebrating the humanitarian achievements made by a member of the equestrian world



MCLAIN WARD Honoring those who elevate the image and desirability of horses.



AMANDA AVISON, DVM Honoring significant progress in the field of equine health care research



CHESAPEAKE THERAPEUTIC **RIDING** 

Recognizing a horse, individual or organization that best demonstrates the values of honor and service

#### Horse Whisperers

Horse Whisperers honors individuals and organizations that provide, or have provided, substantial and much needed resources to ensure that America's horses are safe and live with dignity throughout their lives and brings added recognition to equine charities operating at the highest standards for business and equine welfare practices.

The recipients of Horse Whisperer Awards are selected by the Board of Directors from among EQUUS Foundation grant recipients that best align with the interests of the Horse Whisperers, including those equine charities with which the Horse Whisperer may be familiar.

#### Perpetual:

Michele E. Arnhold Memorial: High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Old Lyme, CT Daniel D. Barkan Memorial: Brook Hill Farm, Forest, VA

#### Annual:

Augusta Mills Equestrian - Matt Metell: New England Equine Rescue - North Inc., West Newbury, MA

#### Avalon Memorial:

Maryland Therapeutic Riding, Inc., Crownsville, MD

#### Ellen R. Pearl:

Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals, South Windham, ME

# Gore Family Memorial Foundation Trust:

Drifter's Hearts of Hope, Franktown, CO, and Horse Haven of Tennessee, Inc, Knoxville, TN Jackson Family:

Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Lisbon, MD, and Sprout Therapeutic Riding and Education Center, Aldie, VA

#### Judith Richter Memorial:

Endeavor Therapeutic Horsemanship, Inc., Bedford Corners, NY

#### Kay Family Foundation:

Loudoun Therapeutic Riding Foundation, Inc., Lovettsville, VA and Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue, Inc., Dover Plains, NY

#### Lafitte De Muze:

Sunshine Horses Inc., Clay, NY

#### Marguerite Brennan Memorial:

Mitchell Farm Equine Retirement, Inc., Salem, CT Mighty Nice:

#### Thorncroft Equestrian Center, Malvern, PA **Newstead Foundation:**

Secretariat Center, Lexington, KY

#### Otis Booth Foundation:

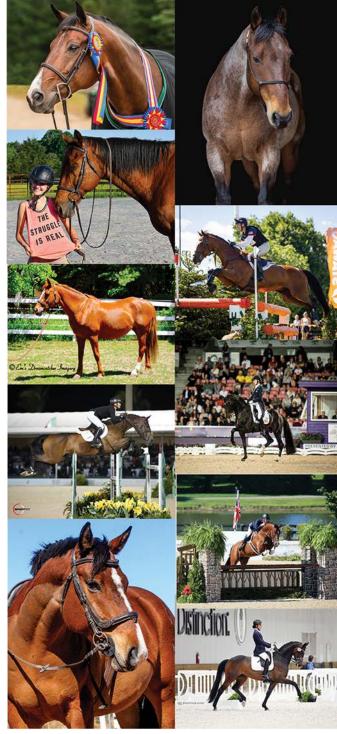
Colorado Horse Rescue, Longmont, CO, and Kentucky Equine Adoption Center, Lexington, KY Richard L. Parish Memorial:

Charleston Area Therapeutic Riding, Inc., Johns Island, SC, and Green Chimneys, Brewster, NY

Split Rock Show Jumping Tour/Bobbie & Derek Braun: Central Kentucky Riding for Hope, Inc. (CKRH), Lexington, KY







The Horse Stars Hall of Fame inductees include stellar athletes selected by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and horses selected by the EQUUS Foundation that have had or are having a life-changing or inspirational impact on the public as companions, teachers and healers. Top to Bottom: Left: Lafitte De Muze, Big Deuce, Paxton Abbey., Orafina and Johnie Bravo. Right: Puzzle, Winston, Off The Record, Salvino, Cannon Creek, and Quiana.

Our Gratitude and Thanks The EQUUS Foundation wishes to express its appreciation to individuals and organizations supporting our mission through annual giving, campaign participation and event attendance.



# DIAMOND (\$25,000+

Georgina Bloomberg Cheryl Olsten & Lafitte De Muze Otis Booth Foundation Caryl Philips and Frank Zeiss

# PLATINUM (\$10,000+)

Ariat International Augusta Mills Equestrian & Matt Metell Brooke USA Fairfield Equine Associates Anonymous GlobalGiving Gore Family Memorial Foundation Trust Natalie Jackson Elizabeth L. Johnson & Louisburg Farm Kay Family Foundation Samantha Kelly Serena Marron Caroline A. Moran Newstead Foundation Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bondy and The Richard Laurence Parish Foundation

### GOLD (\$5,000+)

The Adikes Family Foundation Ms. Patricia Adikes Hill Jenny Belknap Kees and Tim Kees The Broder Family Foundation Inc. The Coakley Family The Estee Lauder Companies Evergate Stables Caroline Fout The Gumbo Foundation Jane Henderson Catherine and Steven Herman, MD Laura J. Niles Foundation A.P. Loretto In Honor of Justice William A. Newson JoAnn Palazzo Angela Vitali and Leslie M. Panzarino Ambassador & Mrs. Ronald P. Spogli Taylor Harris Insurance Services Paul Goldstein & Jan Thompson in honor of Lizzy Goldstein Dr. Nancy O'Reilly & Women Connect 4 Good

# SILVER (\$2,500+)

Animal Charities of America John W. and Margaret G. Bertsch Charitable Foundation Teresa Boss Bobbie Braun and the Neuwirth Foundation ConnectOne Bank Grace Fisher The Foundation for the Horse Hilltop Bio Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hinckley Kate Mancosh & the Mancosh Family Margaret O'Neill Robin Parsky Robert M. Pozzo Andi and Mark Sheptoff Jayne Wall Jean Yeager

# BRONZE (\$1,000+)

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Michael Smith

Susan Stanley

Mr. & Mrs. William Heifner Tracev Hogan Laura and Karen Horton Kaitlyn King Cynthia Linsenbardt Britta Lippert Suzanne Marquard The Masterson Method Maja McGuire

Cheryl M. Rakestraw Rosalind Schaefer Haleigh Smith Ken & Emily Smith Mr. & Mrs. Harold Trischman Meg Weiss Joni P. Werthan & Warioto Farm Kim Wiggins

Jill Norair

# Every donation makes a difference

\$500-\$999 Maria Amiot Collette Y. Duddy Mr Alan Dutkiewicz Mrs Drusilla Arnold Bob Egerton Mr. and Mrs. James Elliott Kristen Baran Mrs. Mikayla Beasley Mrs Barb Flouro The Bentz Family Mr. Mike Foster Bio X Cell Team Frank Pace, Jr. Foundation Inc Julia Bozzo Sharon Gamsby Scott Bradley Dr. Penny Giovanetti David Bruyette Ellen Green Ms. Bobbi Buettgenbach Marge Gunnar Ms. Jenna Calcaterra Pavel Gvantmakhe Capital One Rewards Arlene Hanks Janet F. Catalona Roy K. Hendee III Dr. Terri Champney Mr. & Mrs. James Hinton Jan Clifford Mrs Melissa Johnson Lily Cloues Patricia Jones Kit Condon Christy Joyce Susanne & Barry Cooper Pat Kline Dr & Mrs Charles Cornell Dr. Dianne Kriegshauser David Cox Kroop's Linda Cozzolino Mrs. Bonita Labat Emma Crane Paige Crane Claire Mann Rob Crane Fmily Mann Susan Crouse Natalie Martir

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Rachel Sabo

(CONTINUED)

Lucy Paulsen

Jason and Mandy Peabody

# The difference a day makes Just \$25 a day will not only care for a horse who has been the victim of abuse and neglect, it will also care for a horse at an equine therapeutic center who is enriching and improving the lives of people facing hardships.

#### \$100-\$250

(CONTINUED) Janice Melnick Sackel Kayla Savard Virginia Schaaf Megan Scheffe Jill Schenkel Kirby Schmidt  $Ms.\ Katie\ Schmit$ Mrs. Gina Schodrowski Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Inc (SEL) Nicole Shahinian-Simpson Dr. Lisa Shubitz Dorit and Stephen Silve Van Silver Phillip E. Simmon Chandler Simpkins Helen Sisler Szymanski Leslie Smith Karen Snyder Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Spence William Austin Spencer, Jr Nancy Spiesman Dr. Danielle Stacy Ms. Joyce Stacy Adriene Standeford State Farm Companies Foundation Amanda Steege Ms. Tammy Stewart Donna Stina Art Sullivan Miss Ashley Thomson James D. Thorne Ms. Maura Tie Stephen Tobin Rory Toolan Kourtney Towles Mrs Holly Tripp Dr. Susan Tritel Charlene Turner United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley Susan Uzzle Robyn Valencic Richard Van Billiard Jr Amalea Van Kamper Janie Vermillion Mrs Viola Von Laza Mr. Rex Wagner Mrs. Diane Wallace Dr Thomas Wallet Emily Weddell Mr. William White Mrs. Lisa Whittie Holly Wibbens Jamie Wieland Philip Wilkins Janice Williams Mr. Joseph P. William Elaine Winfrey Tom Wisniewsl Ms. Louise Wollman Will Woltman Melissa Wooter Caroline Worley Marie Zara

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