



SAFE | Save a
Forgotten
Equine



Global Federation of
Animal Sanctuaries
Accredited



2023 Annual Report



Our Mission

To rescue, rehabilitate, and retrain horses facing neglect or abuse, and provide them with the best opportunity for a permanent home and a lifetime of safety.

Our Vision

A world in which all horse owners take responsibility for their animals:
responsibility for their care,
responsibility for their safety,
and responsibility for their passing.

Our Values

Transparency • Integrity • Honesty • Professionalism • Compassion

Photography donated by Karen Wegehenkel

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On the cover: Harissa allows herself to be petted, photo by Candi Kintzley



Executive Director's Message

In 2023, we helped a lot of horses feel better and helped a lot of horses find new homes. We answered the call when Animal Control needed our support, and we assisted horse owners facing tough times so they could keep their horses at home. We welcomed new volunteers and celebrated the ones who have been with us for years. We gave our horses daily attention to help them overcome their pasts and prepare for a better future. We taught some of them to be ridden, and taught all of them to be good horses with better manners. We improved and streamlined our horse keeping practices, and we continued to work toward long-term stability and sustainability for the future. We started the year off strong, and finished even stronger.



Trailer loading practice with Henry

When the year began, we were up to our eyeballs in horses, having taken responsibility for 27 horses seized by Animal Control in December 2022. It took several months to re-balance the scales, but we were successful in finding great homes for many of them by about May. Which was fortunate...because the call for help came again as soon as we had room. This time, it was seven badly neglected and essentially feral horses, in different stages of being completely untouchable. They weren't just shy...some of them were aggressive, and would try to bite or strike anyone who got too close. These were not "bad" horses, these were horses treated so badly that they were literally fighting for their lives.

It was this group of horses that finally made it clear to us that we really have the ability and experience to help horses at the most troubled end of the spectrum. If we couldn't help these horses, then nobody could. With the condition they were in and, more importantly, the behavioral issues they displayed, we were literally their last and only hope.

Being someone's "last and only hope" can be a lot of pressure! But that pressure just makes us more determined. It increases the passion we have for our mission. And it moves us to work harder and study harder, and get better and better at what we do. This is where SAFE truly shines. The experience we've gained working with horses who have been traumatized or mistreated has made us the best people for troubled horses in bad situations.

This is the mission that you have joined as a supporter of SAFE. I hope you are as proud and gratified about it as I am. Together, the difference we can make is staggering.

Thank you for being part of SAFE.

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director
SAFE | Save a Forgotten Equine



2023 Top Donors

2023 was another terrific year of support for the horses at SAFE. For the second year in a row, our revenue exceeded \$1 million dollars, even with the number of individual donors dropping 12% from the year before. The increase in donations can be attributed to growth within our major donor pool. We improved our donor retention rate from 40% to 44%, and in total, we had 1,240 individuals and companies making gifts.

\$45,000 and above	Svanee's Foundation	Milgard Family Foundation
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\$25,000-\$44,999	Microsoft Employee Giving Program	Philipp Grubauer & Isobel Kuchinsky	Keith & Kelly Barnes
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\$10,000-\$24,999

Geraldine Cherry	Sheila Hoople	Jackie Liles
Judith Crosby	Jackson Family Foundation	Trish & Seamas Markey
Frank Lumber	Jarvis Family Donor Fund	Jane Millar
Gates Foundation	Jasper Family Foundation	Jeannie & Bruce Nordstrom
Marion & Richard Graham Foundation	Ruth Kennedy	Lisa Pascualy
John Hammond	Carol Lescoulie	Mary Ann Redeker

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous	Maeve Harris	Don Miller & Susan Miner
Elizabeth Avery	Ellen Kay Hatton	Paula & John O'Neil
Don Beaty & Carrie Sjaarda	Daniel Hoolahan	Oregon Community Foundation
Bellevue Rare Coins	Rebecca Johnson	Marilyn Philips
Cathi Champion	Tiffany Lindan	Suzi Puckett
Joel & Katie Conner	Julie Lindquist	Rhodes River Ranch
William & Lisa Conquergood	Chris Lucurell	Joe & Bernice Schick
Christine Dehner	Barb Lui	Stacie Smith & Samantha Cichos
Randee Fox & Paula Boggs	Deborah Meyer	Judith & Michael Tembreull

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous	Ashley Farrington	Patricia Payne
Alpiner Charitable Fund	Barbara Glass	Terry Phelps & Marcus Peddy
Ginger Atherton	Deborah Hauck	Eleanor Pollnow
Sharon & Jay Ballantine	Jamie Hills	Amy Quackenbush
Jay Cady	Debbie Kinson	Joan E Ringstad
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Daugherty Family Fund	Fred & Roxanne Kneib	Becky Swanlund
Amy Delachica	Kellie Larsen	Nancy Truitt Pierce
Leslie DiMaio	JoAnne & Dwight Locke	Tulalip Tribes
Richard & Jolene Duncan	Susanne Meslans	Mary Whilden
Duvall Veterinary Hospital	Christine Munson	Joan & Robert Yankis
Lauren & Bryan Engle	Kim Nicholl	Maile Zahand

\$1,000-\$2,499

Anonymous (3)	Mary Foust	Mark Levine & John Keppeler	Elaine Rose
Frank Artale	Gael & Patti Gable	Love That Red Winery	RP Plastic Surgery
The Arthur Family	Glenn Gardner	Marla Lucas	Susan Ruffo
Casey Atchinson	Anne Gittinger	Lara Lutz	Gary Ruttan
Charlann Bachmeier	Beth Glostén	Hayley Maclean	Pepper Schwartz
BP Employee Giving	Monique Goodrich	Michelle Manson	Jeanne Shepard
Pam & Dan Brady	Google Employee Giving	Mark Mathews	Vipula Shukla
Chris Cardwell	Grange Supply	Bronwen Maxwell	Jodi Sisson
Alex Casey	Greystone	Wendy Meyers	Stephen & Linda Skinner
Jennifer Cherney	Bonnie Hammond	Camille Michael	Sue Smith
Kathryn Christensen	Robert & Judith Hammond	Janice Misner	Janelle Smith-Haff
Lisa Conners	Trela & Kurt Herman	Linda Morris	Ron Steele
Victoria Corell	Dena Hibbard	Len & Rayne Nahajski	Heidi Steen
Sean Cramer	Kris Holden	Nintendo of America Inc	Tiffany Stewart
Christian Crowell	Stephanie Holderreed	Billie Otto	Denise Stringfellow
Lori Curtis	Mary Kathleen Hope	Dan Pace	Margaret Sullivan
LaFay Dillon	Monica Horn	Diane Pace & William Swartz	Eve M Tai
Bruce & Mary Dodds	Carol Inukai	Julia Prien	Doug Taylor
Shannon Donohue	Cindy Johnson	Kyle Putnam	D&N Thatcher Family Fund
George Dragseth	Pamela Johnson	Eileen Quackenbush	Walmart Spark Fund
Rebecca Ebsworth	Diane Johnson	Sadie Raney	Colin Winkley
Olive Edwards	Linda Johnson	Jared Ream	MJ Witt
Elevated Eats	Neal & Malia Karlinsky	Cathy & Larry Robinson	
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Joana Figueiredo	Elizabeth Leech	Howard Roehl	
Filson	Kate & Julia Lefond	Darcy Roennfeldt	

\$500-\$999

Anonymous (5)	Sara Eggers	Laura Machado de Wright	Stephani Siudmak
Airlift Northwest	Sam Farrington	L. Devin MacKrell	Barbara Slack
Lise Anderheggen-Leif	Kathy Fichera	Katherine Mason	Capri Stewart
Susan Anderson	Alicia Follmer	Virginia McDonald	Nichole Strohm
Jeanne Arredondo	Debra Fouts	Cheryl McGarry	Triplehorn Brewery
Gwendolyn Banchemo	Stacy Garfield	Jennifer Middour	Leigh Troggio
Clara Beier	Diana Grant	Dewey Millar	US Bank Foundation Team
Jean Bergquist	Sherry Hansen	Gwendolyn Moore	Carole Viney
Lisa & Paul Bialek	Douglas Heaberlin	Laura Green Morrell	Renée Wass
Black Rock Spirits	Janet Heineck	Martha & Colin Moseley	Kimberly Watson
Boeing Employee Matching Gift Program	Susan Henry	Kathleen Navarre	Doug White
Lauren Carroll	Stefan Hirtbach	Larry & Patsy Neher	Lara Williams
Lynda Caughey	John & Jennifer Jasper	Cathy Olson	Shannon Woodcock
Tom Chandler	Rex Jennings	Olson's Tack Shop	Duke Young
Brie Chin-Deyerle	JM Cellars	Sheila Otter	Marin Younker
Bear Cho	Manish Joneja	Karla Parks	
Dillon Claire	Stacy Jones	Greg Parsons	
Sharman Conner	Andrew Kessel	Kaci Paul	
Susan Costello	Addie Kingsland	Tina Perovich	
Cougar Mountain Zoo	Brian & Kala Krauss	Linda Perrine	
Sue Coulter	Roxanne Kuster-Moore	Lindsey Peterson	
Ann Daigle	Jane Lagerstrom	Ann Pimpan	
Yajna Maciel de Almeida	Laura Landau	Dean Rebhuhn	
Mel DeWalt	Elizabeth Larson	Barb Rigelhof	
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Theresa Dodge	Margaret Laverty	Holly Ruiz	
Wendy & Craig Duckering	Rick Libsack	Liz Russell	
Jean Eddy	Lisa Loboduk	Gayle Saunders	
	Nancy Lynn Lyon	Seattle Mounted Patrol	

\$250-\$499

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Maureen Ahern	Stephanie Collins	Goose Ridge Vineyards	Carolyn Mahran	Alison Patton	Starbucks
Alisa Allgood	Margaret Colony	Bonnie Gorder-Hinchey	Jill Marcell	Kerri Pearson	Jeanne Stine
Jennifer Aragon	Heather Conradt	Erin Gorman	Marsha Martin	Koko Pipkin	Carrie Stewart
Archer Hotel	Costco Employee Giving	Virginia Guest	Nothing Bundt Cake	PlayStation Cares	Rajasekaran Subramanian
Jeanne and John Atkins	Ben Criss	Denise Gunderson	Jennifer McCoy	Susan Powers	Rebecca Sykes
Dave Aust	Chelsea Culver	Veena Halvorson	Mikah & Amy McCudden	Judy Prisoc	Mike Treit
Scott Bailey	Joel Dale	Shirley Havenga	Christine McLellan	Katie Renschler	Karen Turley
Alexandra Ballard	Kim Daniel	Jean Hays	-Johnson	Karen Rodrigue	United Way of King County
Robert Basham	Carla Davis	Heritage Restaurant	Colleen Melendrez	Gretchen Rohde	Neeva Valdez
Mary Bauer	Nicky & James de Reuck	Kiamalise Herres	James Meniketti	Janna Cathleen Rome	Betsy Warren
Kadie Bell Sata	Alison DeGregorio	Pat Herrick	Bruce & Rebecka Milne	Ellyn Rose	Brian Wax
Barbara Bentley	Christine DiJulio	Emily Hickman	Ralph Montes	Laura Stachel	Dana Westerman, DVM
Jeannie Blank	Dimitriou's Jazz Alley	Lylee Hubbard	Kimberly Moore	John Scannell	Mark Weyna
Pamela Bowerman	Nancy Eberhardt	Frank Hummel	Virginia Morris	Rachael Sewell	Susan Wilbanks
Karen Brandvold	Kaye Eckmann	Julie Hunter	Judy Moursund	Marleen Shanks	Megan Wilson
Geoff Busby	Mary Eddy	Dejenelle Jacobs	Shelly Navarre	Gargee Sharma	Windermere Foundation
Cairn Brewing LLC	Sue Eiben	Barb Jensen	Meghan Nicholson	Lynne Sheppard	Woodinville Whiskey Co.
Lissa Capps	Kirsty Ellison	K Diamond K Guest Ranch	Roxanne Oliver	Lynda Shipway	Michael Zwartz
Candace Carrier	Megan Fontenot	Megan Kavanagh	Paul & KimberlyOlmsted	Melanie Simpson	
Kim Carter	Deborah Fournier	Rick Krause	Lauren Owen	Nikki Skillern	
Boots Chandler	Jonathan Garrigues	Michael & Cheri Levy	Amy Owens	Kendra Skold	
Judy Chavez	Lisa Glenn	Martha Lindley	Nancy Palmer	Nancy Smith	
Teresa Chiftis	Manish Godse	Bill Loscher		Nicole Snider	

\$100-\$249

Anonymous (13)	Kori Cossey	Donna & George Gleason	Paul Leitkowski	Krishna Kumar Parthasarathy	Sheila Sloan-Evans
ABC Pacific Corp	Bob Cournoyer	Wendy Goff	Leslie Lenz	Alexander Pascualy	David & Kathryn Smith
Susan Abrisz	John Crusing	Goode Rider	Arthur Leonard	Heather Paton	Couren Smith
Edward & Dani Ackerley	Rebecca Cypher	Amy Granat	Christina Lewis	Holly Pendleton	Julie Smith
John Adams	Mimi Darr Clark	Kris Gray	Susannah Lewis	Stephanie Perkal	Vearlene Snow
Adobe Employee Giving	Mike Davidson	Skye Guidotti	Ming Lun Li	Samantha Peters	Diana Soltani
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Thomas Amlie	Audra Doll	Tyler Hammond	Laurelin Lloyd	Michelle Quackenbush	Lisa Stephens
Chris & Susan Anderheggen	Sharon Doty	Juliane Hanley	Edith Logeman	Ashley Quackenbush	Toby Sterman
Erik Anderson	Keith Drebin	Julie Harcus	Barbara Loree	Robin Quiroga	Myria Stevens
Sally Annabella	Tabitha Duenas	Colleen Headley	Peter Loron	The Alibi Room	Joan Storlie
Apple Inc Employee Giving	Polly DuPont	Keri Healey	Melissa Lubatti	Mary Ann Ramminger	Rebekah Strickland
Ricardo Arroyo	Sharon Eagan	Jesse Heath	Stephanie Lutgring	Jill Rand	Maureen Strieb
Michelle Asban	Eliza Eddy	Jennifer Heineman	Meghan MacKrell	Lindsay Refvem	HElen Stusser
AT&T Employee Giving	Patrick Egan	Carol Heinz	Laura Malek	Kevin Refvem	Jason Terpsma
Christy Avery	Vivian Eickhoff	Patricia & Anthony Hernandez	Megan Manassero	Stanalee Reisinger	Kushagra Thapar
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Jessica Bartlett	Rachel Endicott	Tracy Hill	Todd Marsh	Anastacio Rivera	Laura Tisdale
Vanessa Bassett	David Engelstein	Barbara Holderreed	Jenny Martin	Sherry & Mel Robinson	Brandon Toner
Cathi Bauer	Susan Epstein	Kimi Wagoner	Leigha Mason	Michelle Robles	Kit Topaz
Karen Bell	Lynn Erckmann	Beatrice Huetter	Jake Mast	Jerallyn Roetemeyer	Joanna Tracy
Gizela Berreth	Ann Erramouspe	Sara Hummel	Laura May	Christina Root	Carol Trapp
Frederique Bertolus	Rick Ess	Robin Hunt	Carolyn Mayer	Jenny RorabackCarson	Allison & Alan Tuntland
Richa Bhayani	Samantha Etzel	April Ibarra	Sherry & Richard McDanold	Elizabeth Ryan	Lisa Tynes
Lizzie Biagioni	Nancy Falcone	Leita Ingalls	Sarah McGarr	Jason Ryder	Mary Valley
Kim Boase	Norah Farnham	Sharon Jackson	Kelly McKee	Rich & Cheryl Sadler	Kelsey Van Horn
Lara Bogaard	Andrew Faust	Md Jahid	Paige McNerthey	Jeannie Sanders	Laura Vanderpool
Don Bohm	Jennifer Feldman	Marie Jainga	Scott Mead	Lisa Santee	Adria Vincent
Kristi Boucher	Laurie Fenner	Kimberly Johnston	Barbara Mericle	Lisa Schildt	Barb Visker
Heather Bourbonnais	Clifford Fisher	Mark Jones	Jessi Minnitti	Brooke Schultz	Sara Vowels
Dennis & Linda Boyd	Lisa Fite	Elizabeth Kane	Cyndi Moen	Kristi Schurman	Margaret Vredevel
Karissa Bresheare	Holly Fleming	Karen Kane	Teri Morgan	Cindy Schuster	Wendy Walsh
Jodale Brinkley	Blair Fleming	Shih-Ling Keng	Peggy Mundy	Shtru Scott	Wei Wang
Carl Brochu	Laurie Flynn	Leigh Killam	Lisa Murr	Adrienne Scott	Hope Wechkin
Vidette Buchman	Marta Fowler	Lance King	Amy Naish	Seattle Seahawks	Patrick Wedig
Cynthia Burbank	Margaret France	Richard Kink	Lisa Nelson	Laurie Taylor	Sarah Weil
Suzy Canton	Alexandra French	Karen Kitterman	Jan Neuberger	Sharon Senger	Maureen Welch
Jacob Carda	Heidi Furseth	Shenandoah Knipe	Mary Nicholson	Jacqueline Seyer	Nydia White
Steven Carroll	Celia Gainer	Anton Kolesnyk	Terry Norgren	Alaina & Analee Shanks	Julia Whitenight
Center Art LLC	David Gardiner	Shilpa Srinivasan	Lisa O'Brien	Tiffany Sharer McGehee	Rachel Wilkinson
Colleen Chamberlin	Lisa Garr	Kroger	Kathie Oeser	Leslie Sherman	Elizabeth Willmott
Jillian Clark	Adrian Garside	Kris Kutchera	Steven & Janet Okerlund	Roberta Sherwood	Christina Wilsdon
Dean Clarke	Sabra Geariety	Robyn Landin	Patty Ontiveros	Nancy Shimeall	Beck Wren
Karen Claypool	Meribeth Geiger	Cindy Larned	Nancy Pabers	Lori Shufelt	Margaret Wright
Margaret Clinton	Nicole Gerber	Rita Larson	Patty Padden	Holly Shull Vogel	Marguerite Yeo
Tami Cochran	Caroline Gilmore	Joanne Lauzon	Dylan Palm	Christina Siemens	Wendy Zeldner
Jacob Cohen	Linda Gilmour	Janis Ginestra	Mirella Pappe	Frances Sievertant	Melinda Zopf
Craig Coombs	Janis Ginestra	Laura Giorgi	Ramakrishnan	Amanda Silver	Debby Zuber
Lara Cordy	Laura Giorgi	Maggie Gipson	Parameswaran	Shera Sinell	
Bruce Cornelius			Priya Parmar	LaAkea Siverts	



Everybody Needs a Friend

Sparky the miniature donkey came to SAFE in the summer of 2022, after being seized by Animal Control in a neglect case. He became the second “non-horse” equine rescued by SAFE in 17 years. The horses found his unusual appearance quite alarming, and every time we took Sparky for a walk around the property, a great deal of snorting, prancing, and staring followed him wherever he went. Sparky taught us a lot about the differences between horses and donkeys. The biggest revelation was the fact that while horses can often make friends with animals outside their species, donkeys prefer the company of other donkeys. Even Sunny and Shasta, our resident mini horses, could not satisfy Sparky’s need for companionship. So imagine our joy when we were asked to help another mini donkey in early 2023. Rojo had recently lost his buddy, so he also needed a friend. Rojo and Sparky could be twins— the two geldings are similar in age, height, and temperament. Happily, they took to each other almost immediately! As permanent residents at SAFE, Sparky and Rojo are occasionally asked to greet guests at Open Houses or Heart of the Horse. Most of the time you will find them side by side, grazing, trotting around, or just contemplating donkey life. Everybody needs a friend, and we’re so glad that Sparky and Rojo have each other.



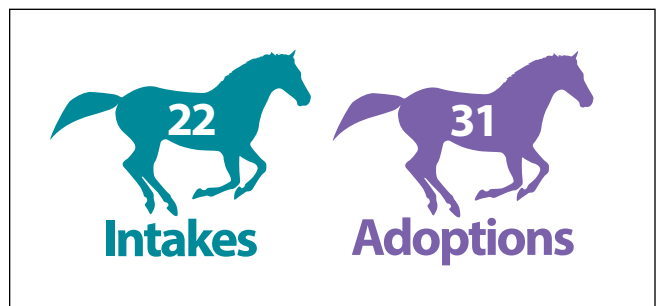
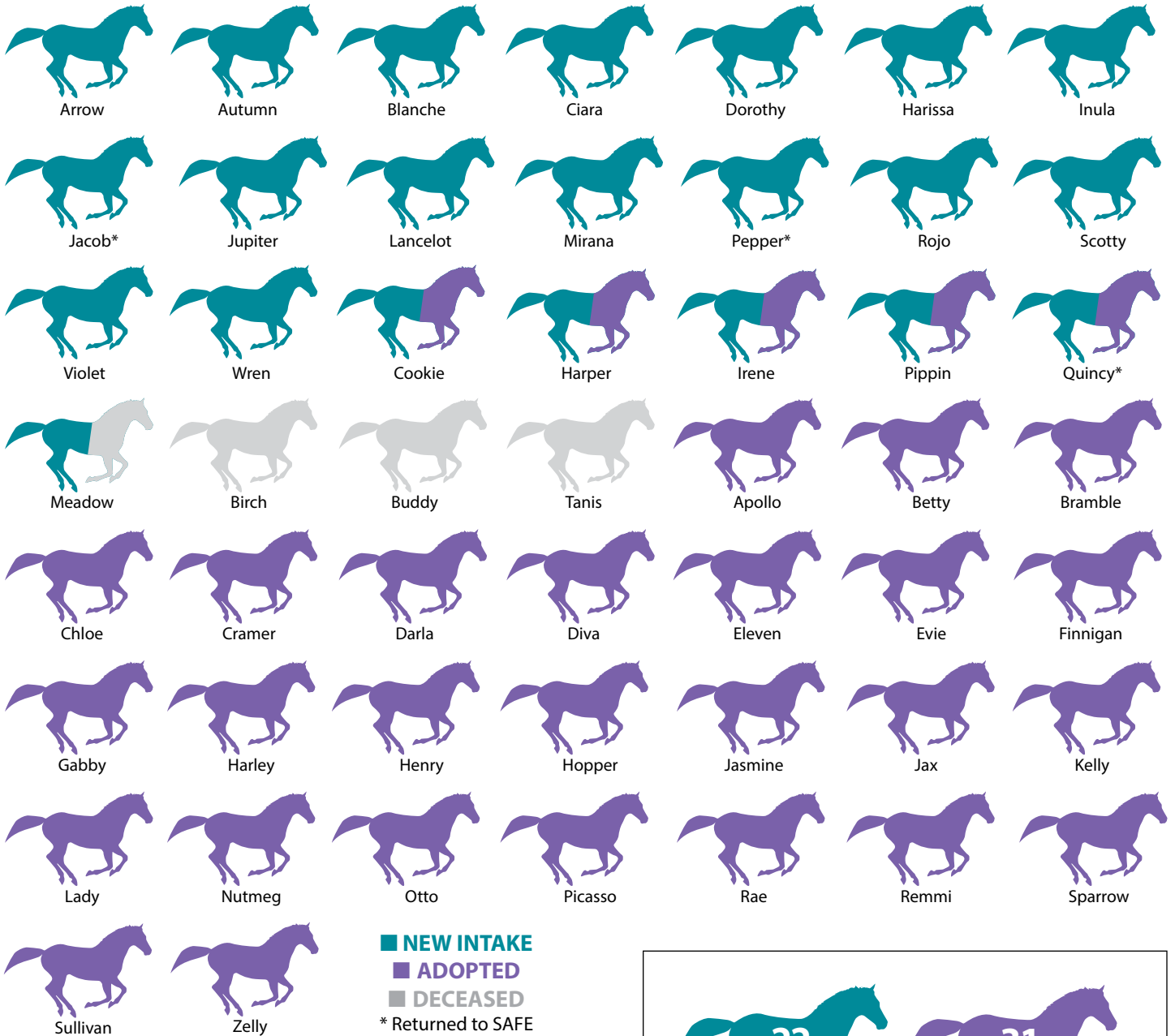
Rojo (left); Sparky (right). Photos by Candi Kintzley



Program Milestones

Intakes and Adoptions

At the end of 2022, SAFE took responsibility for 27 horses seized by Animal Control in Pierce County. We were able to place 13 of those horses early in 2023, allowing us to begin intaking horses again by March. Three horses were returned to SAFE by their adopters, and we lost four horses in total: two that colicked, and two that were humanely euthanized due to the effects of neglect.

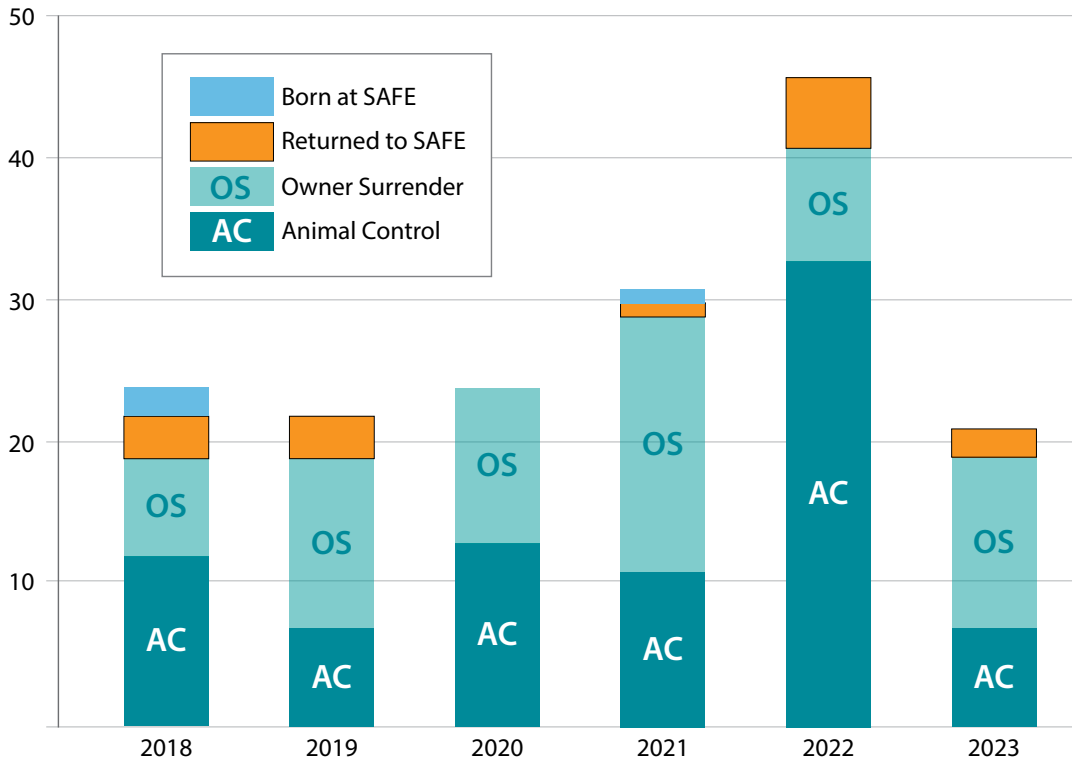


Horses rescued in prior years awaiting adoption:

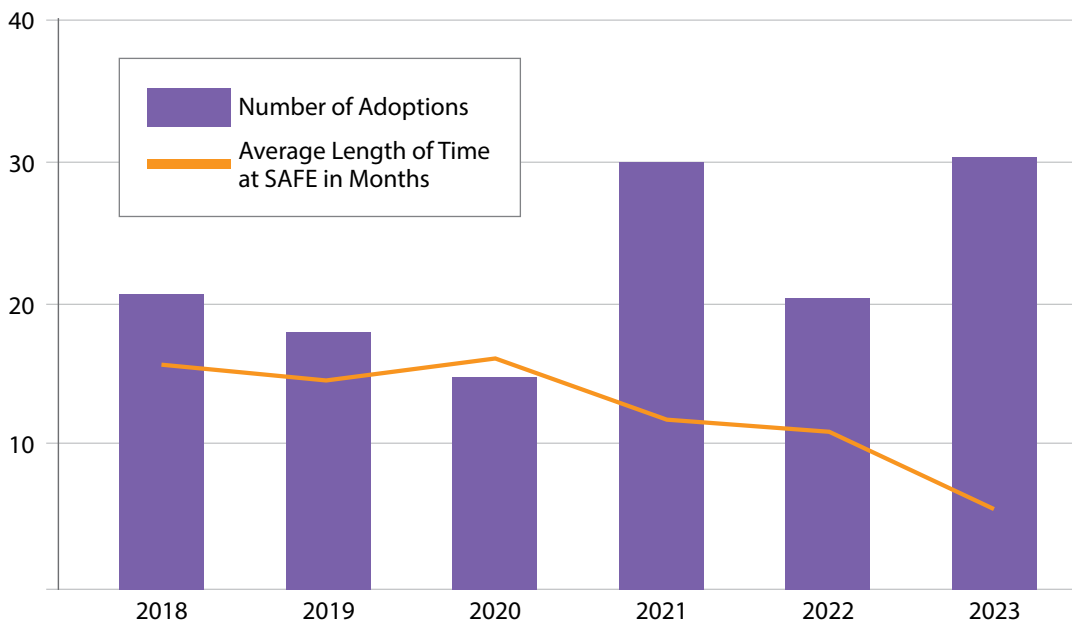
- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Lacey (2016) | Frosting (2021) | Brandy (2021) | Declan (2022) |
| Sienna (2017) | Domino (2021) | Bandit (2021) | Poppy (2022) |
| Nova (2018) | Esme (2021) | Tiva (2022) | Addie (2022) |
| Veronica (2020) | Edward (2021) | Artie (2022) | Moshi (2022) |
| Barb (2020) | Montana (2021) | Bijou (2022) | |

Intake and Adoption Statistics 2018 – 2023

This graph illustrates the sources of new horse intakes over the last six years. Animal Control (AC) cases take top priority but most years have about the same number of Owner Surrenders (OS). We were not able to take in as many horses in 2023 due to the high volume of Animal Control cases in 2022.



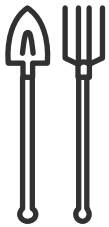
In the same period, the number of horses placed into adoptive homes has shown some fluctuation, but recent years have witnessed a healthy increase in adoptions. Concurrently, the duration of horses' stays at SAFE has decreased, opening up space at the rescue more quickly and enabling SAFE to assist more horses in need.





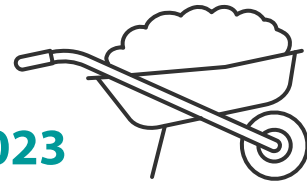
Volunteers: the Heart of SAFE

With only five full-time paid employees on staff, the vast majority of SAFE’s work is performed by volunteers. At our Redmond, WA facility, we have three regular chore shifts each day. Morning shifts are responsible for feeding, turnout, and stall cleaning. Afternoon shifts bring horses in for the night and clean their paddocks. “Night Check” serves one last late feeding and ensures that all the horses are tucked away safe and sound for the evening. There are also many other volunteers that keep SAFE operating at full capacity: our volunteer Board of Directors, the volunteers that make up the Operations Council, and the many individuals who work behind the scenes on facility maintenance, special events, fundraising, marketing, and more. Our volunteer program is critical to our success as a rescue, and it’s absolutely true when we say we could not do what we do without our volunteers.



In 2023, SAFE had a total of **247 active volunteers**

61 were new in 2023



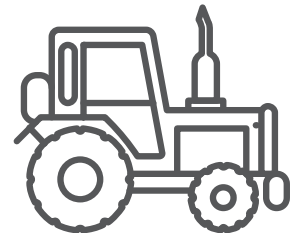
In 2023, we logged

20,051 volunteer hours

which would be the same as

10 full-time employees,

saving \$300,765 in payroll costs



and by the end of 2023, we had

9

volunteers who reached or passed their 10 YEAR anniversary volunteering at SAFE



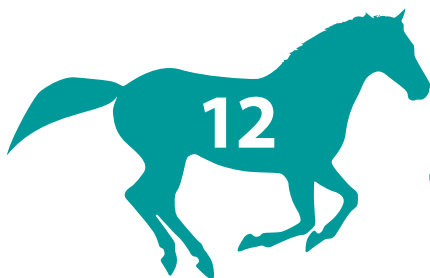
Extending Community Outreach

Because SAFE operates with a self-imposed cap of no more than 30 horses at any given time, there is a limit to how many horses we are able to help. Our Community Outreach Program was developed to help horse owners keep their horses out of the rescue pipeline. SAFE offers short-term assistance to horse owners facing life changes and challenges, as well as gelding surgery and humane euthanization. We also encourage owner responsibility by providing counseling and advice about safe rehoming and manageable horsekeeping practices.

In 2023, SAFE was contacted by

191 horse owners seeking help

Most of these horse owners were offered counseling, with an emphasis on safe rehoming and owner responsibility



owner-surrendered horses were taken in and SAFE spent \$11,003 to stabilize and rehabilitate them in their initial year at the rescue

SAFE provided hay to 112 horses across Washington State at a cost of \$11,241

SAFE spent an additional \$27,101 on Community Outreach Assistance:

16 humane euthanizations

12 horses received vet, farrier, or training

9 stallions turned into happy geldings



2023 Financials

Financial stability has been a hallmark of SAFE for quite some time, and that trend continued in 2023. We recorded over \$1.2 million dollars in annual revenue from a diversified revenue stream, with large increases in special events revenue as well as grants and foundation gifts. Overall, revenue was nearly 40% higher than we budgeted. Expenses also came in somewhat higher than budgeted, but we still ended the year with a budget surplus. Those funds will further strengthen our emergency reserves and our ability to plan for future property ownership.

Statement of Activities

OPERATING REVENUE

Public Support

Donations	\$411,900
Special Events	\$584,653
Workplace Giving	\$102,471
Grants & Foundation Gifts	\$90,070

Program Revenue

Adoptions	\$14,755
Animal Control Reimbursements	\$11,263
Miscellaneous Income	\$2,800

Total Operating Revenue **\$ 1,217,912**



OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services

Rescue Program	\$711,393
Community Outreach	\$38,342

Supporting Services

Fundraising	\$155,927
Management	\$84,485

Total Operating Expenses **\$ 990,147**



Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank Accounts	\$981,160
Accounts Receivable	\$0
Other Current Assets	\$0

Fixed Assets

Rescue Assets	\$68,204
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Other Assets

Lease Deposit	\$6,833
Lease Last Month Payment	\$5,765

Total Assets **\$ 1,061,963**

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$17,641
Credit Cards	\$32,925
Other Current Liabilities	\$593

Long-Term Liabilities

Arena Harrow Interest Free Loan	\$2,788
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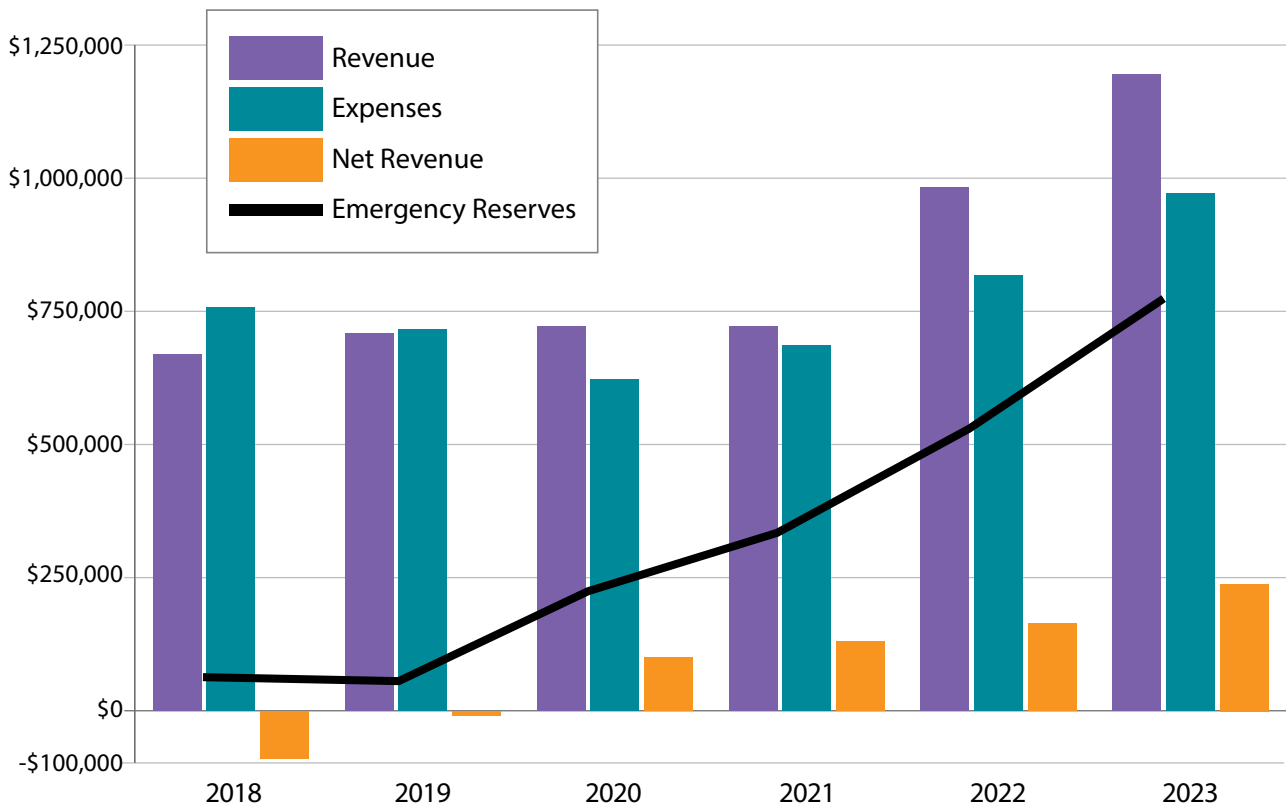
Equity

Net Assets without Restrictions	\$765,117
Net Revenue	\$242,900

Total Liabilities and Equity **\$ 1,061,963**

Revenue vs. Expenses 2018-2023

As you can see from this chart, SAFE's revenue has exceeded spending for the last four years. This has allowed us to steadily increase our emergency reserves, and better prepare us for unexpected future events, such as natural disasters or economic downturns.





Accomplishments & Highlights

Mayday Rescue: The Gig Harbor Horses

Rescue is not always pretty. That fact became very evident in May when we arrived at a small farm in Gig Harbor where six mares and a stallion were living in foul-smelling mud, surrounded by bent panels, barbed wire, falling down structures, and filthy water tubs. To add insult to injury, these horses were nearly feral, having had little to no handling over the course of their lives. They needed help fast.

When it comes to transporting untouchable horses, the first challenge is getting them into our horse trailers. The team from SAFE used panels to build an elaborate system of chutes throughout the property to funnel each horse into its trailer. Once that was accomplished, the Gig Harbor horses were on the road, headed toward their new life.

After the horses were safely tucked into their clean, dry paddocks at SAFE, we were able to start evaluating what we had on our hands. Any hope of a quick turnaround for this bunch quickly faded. Some of the horses were aggressive, some were terrified, and none were trained. Their hooves were overgrown, even curling up at the toe in some cases. Four of the mares had matted, rotten hair going halfway up their legs. These horses stank — a horrible odor that lingered for days after their rescue. And none of them were keen on letting anyone close enough to even touch them, much less clean them!

Thankfully, life was improving in a big way for the Gig Harbor horses. Delicious, nutritious hay was served four times a day, and they drank deeply from clean water troughs that never went empty. There was not a speck of mud in their paddocks,



Ciara & Inula (top); Lancelot (middle); Harissa & Mirana (bottom)
Photos by Lily Leitkowski

and their manure was picked up and taken away every day without fail. They could escape from rain or hot sun in clean shelters, without risking injury from protruding nails or broken boards. People smiled and spoke softly to them. They could finally relax and feel safe.

As our Horsemanship team began working with these horses, it became very clear that gentling them was going to be a long process that would require both skill and patience. Fortunately, we have both of those in abundance. SAFE's staff and many of our volunteers work very hard to learn and practice the skills and techniques necessary to transform troubled horses. We take the time needed to help these horses through their trauma. We listen to what they are telling us, and we give them what they need. And it works.

It's actually pretty rare that SAFE takes in a well-educated horse because well-educated horses don't often end up at rescues. It's not against the law to let horses grow up untrained or unhandled, but in a lot of ways, it's the worst kind of neglect a horse can suffer. Sadly, it happens to horses all the time, and there are very few rescues who are prepared to deal with them. Our experience working with neglected horses that are wild, feral, or damaged has made SAFE the best place for horses like the Gig Harbor group.

Each of these horses is progressing at different speeds and facing different challenges. But even the most aggressive mare of the group, Harissa, will now walk up to her gate for a friendly hello. Harissa has miles to go in terms of horsemanship, but she's on the right road and making good progress. Others, like Wren, are coming along faster. The photos to the right illustrate Wren's transformation from a horse that had to be roped to be caught...to a horse who is going nicely under saddle and is ready for adoption.



May 2023: unwilling to be caught



June 2023: starting to soften



September 2023: first saddling



November 2023: first ride

Acknowledgements

SAFE is all about the horses, but helping them would not be possible without people who chose to make our mission their own. If you find inspiration from the members of the community that is reflected in the pages of this Annual Report, please consider joining us. You are welcome and encouraged to follow in their footsteps and become part of SAFE.

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and the many dedicated and
hardworking SAFE volunteers.