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www.equineadvocates.org
Susan Wagner, President & Founder

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

## Rescue & Sanctuary

We focus our work on rescue, sanctuary, humane education & advocacy. Since 1996, we have helped save & rescue countless equines from slaughter, abuse and neglect. In 2004, we established Equine Advocates Rescue & Sanctuary, a 140-acre horse sanctuary in Chatham, NY, that is currently home to 80 rescued horses, ponies, donkeys & mules. We are also very proud to give a forever home to two retired working military horses from the U.S. Caisson Division.

### <u>Advocacy</u>

Through our website, e-blasts, social media, campaigns, newsletters and rescue operations, we provide information to help bring awareness to the general public on important equine issues. We also provide tools to help people get involved and become proactive. We believe everyone can make a difference and report equine cruelty when they see it. We provide fact sheets, letters, reports, informational videos, presentations from past equine summits and other important information that can be printed out and shared to help them become better informed.

Much of our advocacy work is now focused on horse slaughter. The last of the 14 horse slaughterhouses to operate in the U.S. closed its doors in 2007. There is now a push by some in Congress to reopen them in the U.S which would be catastrophic for America's horses. Over-breeding, horse theft and consumer fraud at low-end horse auctions would skyrocket once again if horse slaughterhouses were to reopen here. While there has never been a federal ban on the slaughter of America's horses, since 2007 Congress has included language in spending bills defunding horse meat inspectors making it illegal for these plants to reopen and operate here. However, without a federal ban, tens of thousands of America's horses continue to be transported live across our borders into Mexico & Canada for slaughter. We are working with other equine protection organizations to ensure that these plants do not reopen in the U.S. And, of course, to push for a complete ban on horse slaughter in the U.S. and the transport of America's horses to foreign countries for that purpose.

Other urgent matters we focus our attention on include seeing the protections reinstated for our wild horse and burro herds, banning the unnecessary and barbaric PMU industry, and promoting electric horseless carriages in busy, over-crowded cities. In 2022, Mount Dora, Florida became the first city in the U.S. to offer commercial electric carriage rides, joining the global trend in compassionate and responsible tourism which includes ending the urban carriage horse trade. We are promoting the transition from horse-drawn to electric carriages in cities around the country and are optimistic that Philadelphia and San Antonia may be next.

#### Humane Education Program / Public Open Days / Annual Event

Our in-person Humane Education Program welcomed students of all ages in 2022 for interactive PowerPoint presentations and sanctuary tours. We also received thousands of visitors who attended our Public Open Days and hosted our Annual Event featuring dancers from Ailey II and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

## **Ratings & Accreditations**











## **Mission Statement**

To rescue, protect and prevent the abuse of equines through education, investigation, rescue operations, the dissemination of information to the public and the operation of a horse sanctuary for slaughter-bound, abused and neglected horses.

#### **Board of Directors**

Jeffrey Tucker, Chairman Susan Wagner, President Marilyn Sygrove, Vice President Kelley Watts, Treasurer Karen Wagner, Secretary Regan Backer Ellen Goldner Elisa Haworth Yvette Jackson Barbara Guarino Lester

## Financial Information Year ending 12/31/2022

Income

Donations & Grants \$2,330,164
Annual Gala 114,903
Interest/Investment Income 771,742
TOTAL INCOME \$2,373,325

**Expenses** 

Program Services (81%)

Equine Rescue & Sanctuary \$1,346,471
Equine Education \$11,346,471
\$\frac{210,728}{\$1,557,199}\$

Supporting Services

Management & General (10%) \$ 189,470 Fundraising (9%) 171,076

\$ 360,546 TOTAL EXPENSES \$1,917,745\*\*

\*\* Includes \$199,600 in depreciation.

#### Assets

Assets at start of year \$4,408,068 Assets at end of year \$4,763,648 Increase in Assets \$355,580