



EQUINE ADVOCATES®

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www.equineadvocates.org
Susan Wagner, President & Founder

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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. Our 173-acre horse sanctuary in Chatham, NY, is currently home to 78 rescued horses, ponies, donkeys & mules. We are also very proud to give a forever home to six retired Military Working Horses who served this country as members of the Caisson Platoon, a unit of the U.S. Army. Their respective missions involved leading, pulling or escorting the caissons (wagons) carrying the caskets of fallen military members to their final resting places at Arlington National Cemetery. All the equines at the sanctuary will love out their lives here with love and the best possible care.

Advocacy

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.

Since our inception, our advocacy work has been focused on ending horse slaughter. We were so pleased that our state, New York, made history by passing the most stringent anti-horse slaughter legislation in the nation that bans the slaughter of horses for human and animal consumption from and through the state. This is a major step in moving toward a federal bill. We continue to work toward that end.

Sanctuary Expansion

In October, we were fortunate enough to purchase the adjoining 33-acre farm to expand our operations. There is much work to be done including the installation of perimeter fencing and paddock/catch area fencing, new roads to all the paddocks, water/electric lines installed throughout, barn structures/stall footing material (also electricity and lighting) and generators.

In 2025, we hope to build an Indoor Arena and Rehabilitation Center which would house equines that cannot be outside during inclement weather so they can be turned out inside giving these arthritic equines more mobility which is essential for their wellbeing. Those horses would reside in the Indoor Arena in stalls with additional outside turnout. In addition, this building would give us the opportunity to do rehab work with the equines who need it all year 'round in a safe and enclosed area. It would also be used for programs that we plan to establish. One, in particular, would be called "Veterans with Equine Veterans" which would be the very first program of its kind ever – providing a place for deserving equine veterans who have served this country with honor and need a safe place to retire combined with a program to help military veterans with stress disorders where being around and working with horses can make huge differences in their lives.

Humane Education Program / Public Open Days / Annual Event

Our in-person Humane Education Program welcomed students of all ages in 2023 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 a concert by the incomparable, Judy Collins.

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
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Kelley Watts, Treasurer
Karen Wagner, Secretary
Regan Backer
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Yvette Jackson
Barbara Guarino Lester
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Financial Information Year ending 12/31/2023

Income	
Donations & Grants	\$3,612,273
Annual Gala	176,115
Interest/Investment Income	97,094
Net Assets reclassified	<u>118,000</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,003,482

Expenses

Program Services (78%)	
Equine Rescue & Sanctuary	\$1,218,703
Equine Education	<u>378,079</u>
	\$1,596,782
Supporting Services	
Management & General (12%)	\$ 255,520
Fundraising (10%)	<u>199,805</u>
	\$ 455,325
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,052,107**

** Includes \$118,551 in depreciation.

Assets

Assets at start of year	\$4,763,648
Assets at end of year	\$6,597,023
Increase in Assets	\$1,833,375