



OUR MISSION

Hidden Acres Thoroughbred Rescue (HATBR) is a non-profit 501c3 organization founded to promote the physical and emotional well-being of thoroughbreds that are retiring from the racetrack. We do this by fostering horses and placing them with loving owners, raising awareness on the cruel fates many of these horses face after the track, and raising the funds we need to feed and care for them, and to fund the adoption process and ensure a suitable match is made between horse and rider.

THE NEED

Each year, 30,000 to 40,000 horses are slaughtered and processed for human and pet consumption throughout the world - 60% of these horses originated from the racing industry. In the United States, more than 10,000 thoroughbreds are shipped annually to slaughterhouses in Canada and Mexico.

Many thoroughbreds going for meat are actually well bred, expensive horses that have literally given their heart to the sport, trainers, and owners that are so easily forsaking them. By and large, racehorses don't retire to green pasture if they don't win; they mostly go to a slaughter auction.

And if slaughtering an animal of such athletic majesty is not bad enough, the means to the end are just as heartbreaking. Horses are sent to slaughterhouses in cramped trailers, usually without access to water or food. Injuries are common. Despite being banned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, many horses continue to be shipped in double-decker trailers designed for cattle or sheep, vehicles not remotely tall enough for horses.

A University of California, Davis study of 306 horses destined for slaughter found that 60 of them sustained serious injuries during transport. And if they are lucky enough to arrive unharmed, at slaughter, these compelling competitors with uncommon courage are reduced to thrashing about to avoid a pneumatic gun that renders them unconscious before their throat is slit.

Some thoroughbreds are simply abandoned, left on vacant land to die a slow, painful death from thirst and hunger.

HIDDEN ACRES LAST CHANCE FOR THOROUGHBREDS

Hidden Acres Thoroughbred Rescue received its non-profit status in 2011 but



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founder Susanna Norris and her twin sister Shannon have been rehabilitating off the track thoroughbreds for over 20 years. They have loved and nurtured dozens of horses for personal enjoyment, many of which have become successful hunter, jumper, and event horses.

It was a natural progression to open the doors of Suzanna's own Hidden Acres Equestrian Center to care for and rehabilitate these horses in need on a much larger scale. In December 2010, Hidden Acres began officially fostering retired off the track thoroughbreds for FL TRAC, a volunteer-ran thoroughbred retirement and placement program dedicated specifically to racehorses with careers from Calder Race Course and Gulfstream Park (fltrac.org). By forming our own 501c3, Hidden Acres Thoroughbred Rescue works alongside FL TRAC in hopes of ensuring the vast numbers of horses coming from Calder and Gulfstream Park racetracks would have a guaranteed second chance at life.

In 2011, our first year of operation, we were able to adopt out 13 thoroughbreds to loving homes. Our goal in 2012 is to triple that!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

SUPPORT US

One of the biggest challenges an organization like ours faces is securing the funding needed to cover the high overhead of our program. No gift is too large or too small. Every dollar helps ensure only the best care and love for these in-need animals.

Your support will provide feed, hay, vitamins, veterinary care, farriers and hoof care, as well as training and rehabilitation to the horses we foster. With your help, we will be able to build a successful volunteer program, market our center, foster and place our horses, and be a voice for thoroughbreds everywhere.

Your support is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law and we recognize our donors and friends on our website. **For donations of \$50 or more**, we will send a 6" x 4" photo of one of the horses you are helping and a certificate of appreciation. **Great for birthday and holiday gifts!**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Trust and sense of place are proven ingredients in a business plan. Your benevolence will portray your company as one that cares about your community!

Our sponsorship program will work with each business individually to creatively develop a strategy or fundraising event for your specific business that will help gain customers and recognition while also raising funds for our horses. If you are interested in a mutually beneficial relationship or have an idea that could benefit both parties, please, contact us, and we will arrange a meeting to get started right away.

As a sponsor you will be recognized at our facility and on our website, including a live link to your site. Event sponsors will be recognized in all marketing according to level of sponsorship. For more information on our sponsorship opportunities, please contact us.

IN-KIND SUPPORT

In addition to financial support, the following are additional ways you can benefit our program:

- VOLUNTEER:** Help is always welcome for barn chores and maintenance, horse care, as well as administrative, marketing, and fundraising.
- SPREAD THE WORD:** Tell your friends, family, and colleagues about us. Follow us on Facebook.
- DONATE GOODS:** We accept tack, feed bowls, lumber, tools, any barn equipment or goods we might need. We also accept other items for auction or sale to raise funds. Contact us first please.



Group photo of newly adopted OTTBs and other HA boarders

CONTACT US

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