**GLOBAL GIVING PROJECT**

**Support 5 Rescued Horses Who Help People in Need**

**FUNDING NEEDED: $15,650 + $16,000\***

**PURPOSE & REASON:** These funds are needed to cover the costs of quality care for our 5 rescue horses. As our therapy herd, they provide services to clients who need them. Moreover, in order to continue to help people in our community with special challenges recognize and \*demonstrate their abilities and strengths, we need to give these rescued horses the care they deserve.

Direct care for our horses constitutes 20% of our annual budget this coming year, and these are costs that must be covered regardless of what happens with programming due to COVID-19. Last year we had a mandatory 5-month shutdown due to COVID-19 executive orders – a shutdown that came 2 weeks before our scheduled major in-person fundraiser. This meant we not only did not have the income we projected from our programs, we also were unable to raise money through our fundraiser. The costs for the horses, however, do not stop when programming stops or in-person fundraisers are cancelled. In addition, the demand for our services is higher than we’ve ever had, while the number of people able to pay $65 an hour is lower than ever. We need to raise the money NOW to know our horses will have the care they need so they can provide services (and financial aid to cover those costs) to 100 clients during the coming 12 months. Donations going towards the horses will directly impact not only our five rescue horses, but also our community at large!

**\*UPDATE 2/13/22**

**6-months in, our current situation is this:** Our rescued horses give us their best as therapy horses, and when they’re not working, they have “turn out” and move freely, grazing on the farm. The farm (next door to the center) is 22-acres with a variety of forage and grass. Turn out is the healthiest situation for any horse, providing much needed exercise and grass. So, we do our best to provide this as much as possible. Research shows that horses turned out much of the day with proper shelter have a much lower incidence of colic, ulcers, joint issues and respiratory issues.

On the farm, there are small clumps of trees (our only shelter at the present), but we have found in the past six months that they are not adequate for protection for the horses when the weather is extreme. Very few provide afternoon shade, and in the summer, we frequently experience heat indexes over 100 degrees. We also have heavy rains and winds, at times, and we have found these tree stands are not adequate in those conditions either.

**SOLUTION – part of this year’s needs for our rescued horses:** We need to provide two run-in shelters where the horses can come and go as they please. In addition, we have no sheltered place (e.g., a stall) to keep a horse at rest if he is injured and requires rehabilitation.

Run-in sheds are three-sided structures that provide shelter from hot sun, wind and wet weather for horses in pasture (example pictured below). A run-in shelter gives pastured horses the best of both worlds – freedom and protection, allowing them to self-regulate a bit when the weather is extreme. And, with an extra internal wall and front gate in the run-in, we will also have a stall area where we can keep an injured or ill horse protected and at rest while they are rehabilitating. **The cost for two 12’x24’ run-in shelter is roughly $16,000 ($8,000 each). This includes clearing and leveling the ground where they will be located and voluntary labor for the finishing construction** (see line 1 of breakdown below).

**BREAKDOWN OF $ NEEDED**

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| **ANNUAL CARE EXPENSES FOR 5 RESCUED HORSES (2021/22)** |
| \*Two 12’x24’ run-in shelters (cement foundation, steel and wood construction) | $16,000 |
| Veterinary Services (vaccinations, checkups, wound/illness treatment) | $ 2,400 |
| Horse Training consultant services and education | $ 800 |
| Farrier Services (monthly hoof care) | $ 2,400 |
| Other Professional Services (equine dentist, acupressure &/or equine physio treatment) | $ 1,400 |
| Tack (driving reins, lunge line, 2 saddles, western saddle pad, 2 girths, halters, lead ropes, 2 bitless bridles, 2 sets stirrup leathers, 3 sets reins) | $ 2,600 |
| Basic Care & Feed Supplies (shampoo, fly spray, grooming tools, feed pans, buckets, manure rake, wagon, storage bins) | $ 800 |
| Medical Supplies & Medication (vet wrap, deworming paste, thermometer, stethoscope, wound cream/spray, NSAIDS, syringes, soaking boots) | $ 950 |
| Supplements (given daily-vitamin, mineral, digestive/probiotics, hoof & coat) | $ 2,550 |
| Hay  | $ 500 |
| Feed (beet pulp, grain, alfalfa, carrots/bananas) | $ 1,250 |
| **ANNUAL TOTAL**  | **$31,650** |