



SAFE | Save a  
Forgotten  
Equine

# 2017 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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Executive Director's Message

you are SAFE

For thirteen years, Save a Forgotten Equine Horse Rescue has helped neglected and abused horses in our community. When a new horse arrives at SAFE—scared, hungry, hurting—the first thing we tell them is “you are safe.” They may not understand the words, but I believe they understand the emotion and the intention behind them. I’ve seen many horses transformed by heroic efforts of rescue, vet care, and training...but I’ve also seen horses transformed by kindness. I’ve seen horses make the decision to live because someone touched them gently or spoke caringly to them. I’ve seen horses abandon thier defensive misbehavior because someone gave them the benefit of the doubt. I’ve seen horses place their trust immediately in someone they’ve never seen before...someone who not only told them they were safe, but truly meant it in their heart.

There’s a double meaning to “You are safe.” We say it to the horses but it’s also how we regard the people who make up this organization. Volunteers, adopters, donors, advocates...you are all SAFE. Without you, there would be no rescue. As you peruse this Annual Report, you will see that 2017 was a groundbreaking year for SAFE. We did a lot of incredible work, and we have so much to be proud of. Those accomplishments belong to all of us. And everyone who played a role, whether large or small, can take credit for not only the wonderful year we had, but also for the wonderful organization we’ve created. Great work, my friends!

The momentum we gained in 2017 has continued to grow, and I predict that next year’s Annual Report will be even more glowing than this one. But let’s take a moment to look back on what we accomplished together. My gratitude toward the amazing humans who made all of this happen is boundless. Thank you.

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director  
SAFE | Save a Forgotten Equine



photography donated by Jessica Farren Photography



# 2017 Top Donors

SAFE received an overwhelming amount of support from our community in 2017. We received donations from just over 600 individuals and business, with more than 80% of those donors giving at an annual level of \$500 or less. While our major donor program continues to grow, we are still very much a grass-roots organization!

## \$50,000 and above

The Estate of  
Mrs. Shirley Coffey



## \$25,000-\$49,999

Jane Millar

Microsoft Employee  
Giving Program

## \$10,000-\$24,999

Carol Lescoulie

Svaneé's Foundation

Mary Ann Redeker

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Anne E. Gittinger  
ASPCA Equine Fund  
Bernice & Joe Schick  
Boeing Employee Matching

Brian Blanchard  
Google Employee Matching  
Jamie Hills  
Kyle Putnam

Leigh & Chaun Mackey  
The Carl Jud Foundation  
Tiffany Lindan  
Vipula Shukla

## \$2,500 to \$4,999

14 Hands Winery  
Alice Pennels Trust  
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation  
Brian & Joy Lewis  
Caren McMillen  
Cathi Champion  
Charlotte Yarkoni

Cheryl Cho  
Deborah Meyer  
F5 Networks  
IBM Corporation  
James Snyder  
Jennifer Anderson & Eric Michgelson  
Lara & Tad Lutz

Marv & Kaye Romsland  
Michael Jackson  
Pilchuck Veterinary Hospital  
Richard & Jolene Duncan  
Steve & Suzi Puckett  
William Carrel  
Wurzel & Susan Parsons-Kier

## \$1,000-\$2,499

1-866-SLABJACK  
Barbara Gordon  
Cari Sommer Charitable Fund  
Charles Hart  
Christine McLellan-Johnson  
D. Gail Bleeker  
Dale Christian  
Debra Fouts  
Elizabeth Leech  
Estate of Joseph Robert Howard  
Eve Tai  
Geraldine Cherry  
Heather & John-Paul Andreini  
Heidi Gloudemans & Jack Elmore  
Jack & Theresa Hodge

Jason King & Jenn McCoy  
Jessica Farren  
JoAnne & Dwight Locke  
Joel & Katie Conner  
John Mabbott  
Jude & Michael Tembreull  
Judy & Nathan Coe  
Kathy Wehle & Theresa Haynie  
Keith & Kelly Barnes  
Laurel Kelly & John W Sims  
Lauren & Bryan Engle  
Lisa Johnson  
Mt. Rainier Equine Veterinary Services  
Nancy Pyron  
Patrick Pielage & Kris Gulbran

Pella Rollscreen Foundation  
Prodigious Fund  
Rainland Farm Equine Clinic  
Robert & Judith Hammond  
Ross Hubbard  
Ruth Kennedy  
Sharman Conner  
Sheridan Jones  
Starbucks Partner Match  
Stephanie Holderreed  
Sue & Larry Myers  
Tony Hewett  
Vernon & Mary Wells

## \$500-\$999

Aaron & Jana Whitcomb  
Barbara Ferderer  
Barbara & John Beachner  
Barbara Slack  
Beth Glosten, RiderPilates, LLC  
Brandee Warren  
Capt. Harry E. Jennings  
Carol Alpiner  
Carol & Marty Olson  
Deanna Thronson  
Debi & Larry Shatos  
Debra Stranne  
Elizabeth Mitchell  
Elizabeth Shriner  
Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund  
Gwendolyn Moore

Irene Dunham  
Jackie Liles  
Jane Lagerstrom  
Jason & Stacie Haworth  
John Parkey  
Julie Winkler  
Karen Kelley  
Karen Moore  
Kathleen Winder  
Kathy Hope & Andy Parypa  
Kimberly Watson  
Kinnon McDonell  
Laura Landau  
Laura McCorkle & Patrick O'Kelley II  
Lauren Carroll  
Lisa & Paul Bialek

Maureen Ellison  
McKinstry Charitable Foundation  
Michael & Kimberly Grahm  
Patricia Riehl  
Paul & Laurette Berglund  
Randy Wallingford  
Rebecca Pohlman  
Susanne Meslans  
Tenhulzen Real Estate  
Terry Phelps-Peddy & Marcus Peddy  
Therese Jardine  
Tony & Annalisa Scripa  
Trond & Debbie Bodal

## \$250-\$499

Alicia Brattin  
Andrea & Stephen Capizzi  
Andrea Heuston  
Arena Rehab Specialists  
Ashley Farrington  
Balanced Horse Veterinary Service,  
Beck Wren  
Bruce & Mary Dobbs  
Candi Kintzley  
Casey Lyons  
Chevron Matching Gifts  
Cristina Brendicke  
Curt Garner  
David Wesche  
Dipanjan Ghosh  
Elizabeth Stephan  
Heather Courtney  
Hunter McLees  
James Grua  
Janice Misner  
Jenny Wagner  
Judy Glaser  
Julie Manheim  
Kara Stearman  
Katherine Mason

Kelly Rollin  
Kim Carter  
Kirsty Ellison  
Kit Topaz  
Kristin Lozier  
LaFay Dillon  
Lake Washington Saddle Club  
Lauren Guzauskas  
Leslie DiMaio  
Lindsay Refvem  
Liz Lennox  
Liz Snyder  
Lori Page  
Lylee Jeanne Hubbard  
Lynda Caughey  
Maeve Harris  
Marcella Kretzler  
Margaret Colony  
Meaghan Heberlein  
Melinda Zopfi  
Michael Riggins  
Molly Tuohy  
Nancy Bak Smith  
Nancy Powers  
Noelle Sophy

Parrot Heads of Puget Sound  
Larry & Patsy Neher  
Patty Hughes  
Precor Inc Employee Matching  
Rebecca & Bruce Milne  
Robin Gilbertson  
Sally Gregg  
Samantha Guijarro  
Sanda Putnam  
Sandy Williams  
Sara Eggers  
Sara Sluska  
Sarah Peach  
Sharon Eagan  
Sherry Hansen  
Snohomish Coop, Inc.  
Sweeney Road Old Horse Retirement  
Teresa Canady  
Thomas Meyering  
Vicki Jones  
Victoria Guy  
Wendy Mollat DVM  
Whitney Wiggins  
Will Huntley





photography donated by Jessica Farren Photography

## Valor's Story

Sadly, there never seems to be a shortage of unwanted horses. Time and time again we ask ourselves “What was this person *thinking* when they decided to breed this mare, or when they decided not to geld this stallion?” Careless overbreeding of horses is a serious problem, and one of the primary reasons that rescue organizations like SAFE are necessary. Humans make poor decisions, and horses end up suffering for them.

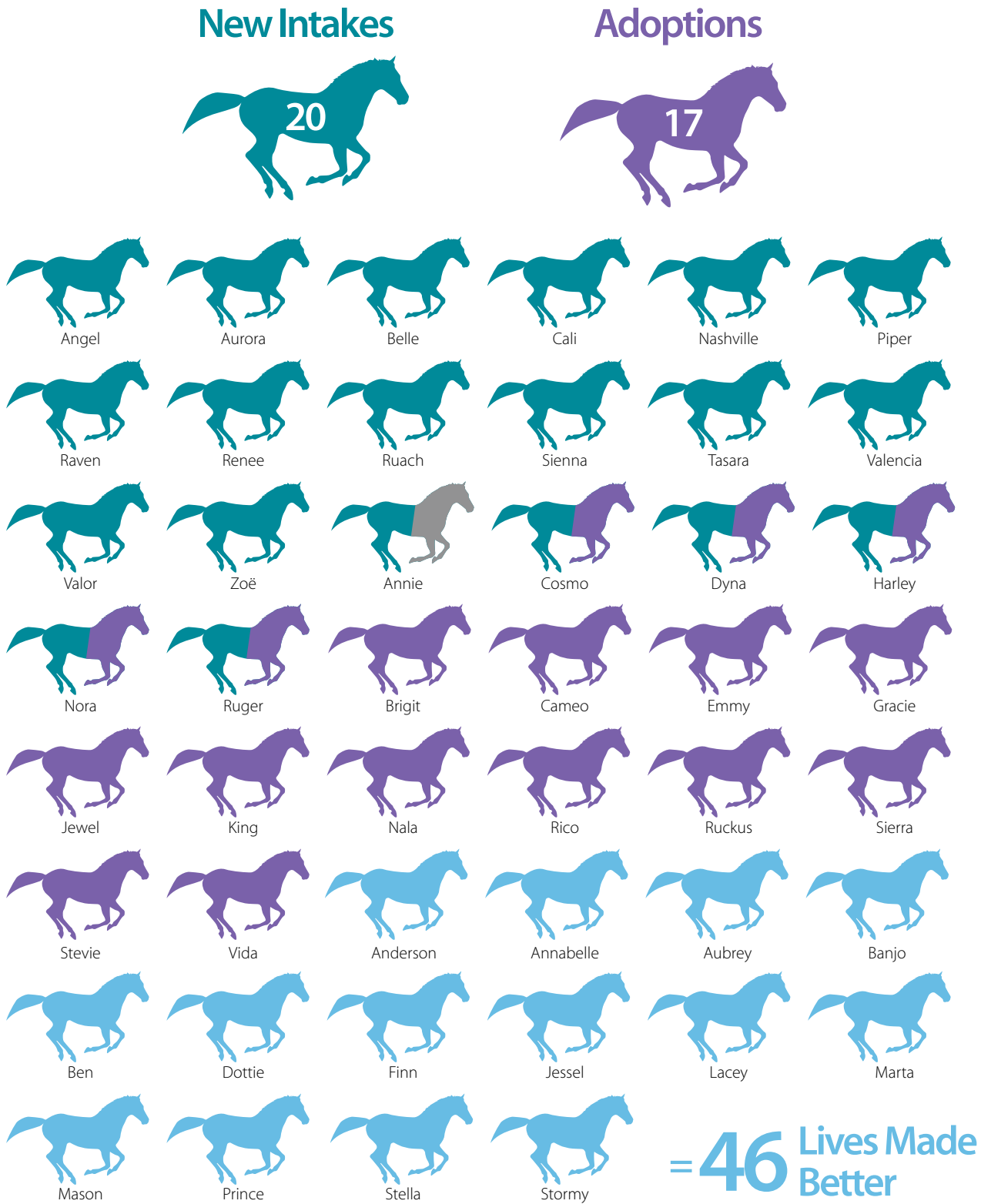
Valor is a handsome young Quarter Horse who really should not exist. His owner was already struggling to care for too many horses with too little money when she allowed her mare to become pregnant again. When we met him, Valor was a three year old stallion— young enough to still look like a baby, but plenty old enough to sire unwanted babies of his own.

Fortunately, this cycle of unwanted pregnancies and unlucky foals came to an end with Valor. He is now a very happy gelding who has learned how much life has to offer beyond procreation. His world can now include *friends*—not just humans but other horses as well! He can now know the safety and security of being part of a herd, the joy that comes from equine interaction and play, and the peace of sharing a meal or snoozing in the sun. A wonderful life awaits this fine young man.



## Program Milestones

Here is the distribution of horses SAFE cared for in 2017. In addition to our 20 intakes and 17 successful adoptions, there were 14 horses who were rescued prior to 2017 who remained in our care at the end of the year. Two horses (Nora and Sierra) were returned to SAFE by their adopters but found new and better homes before the end of the year. And sadly, we lost a sweet mare named Annie, who passed away four days after being rescued.



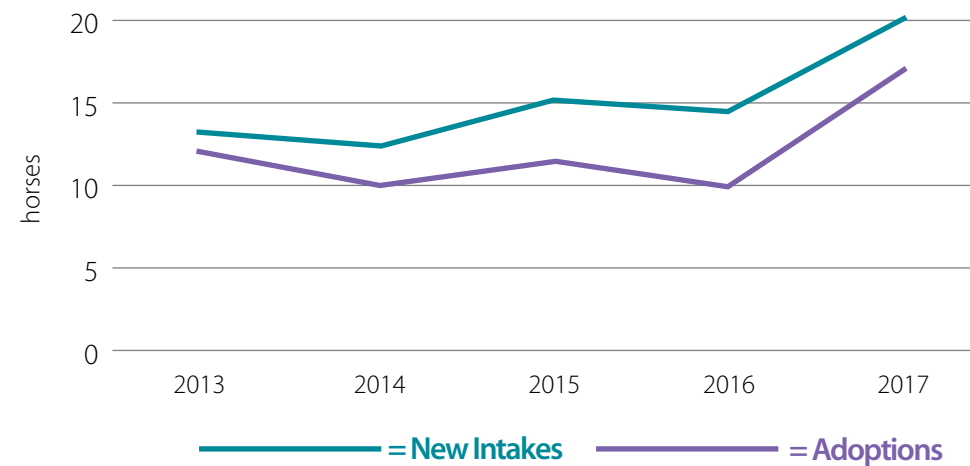




## Program Milestones

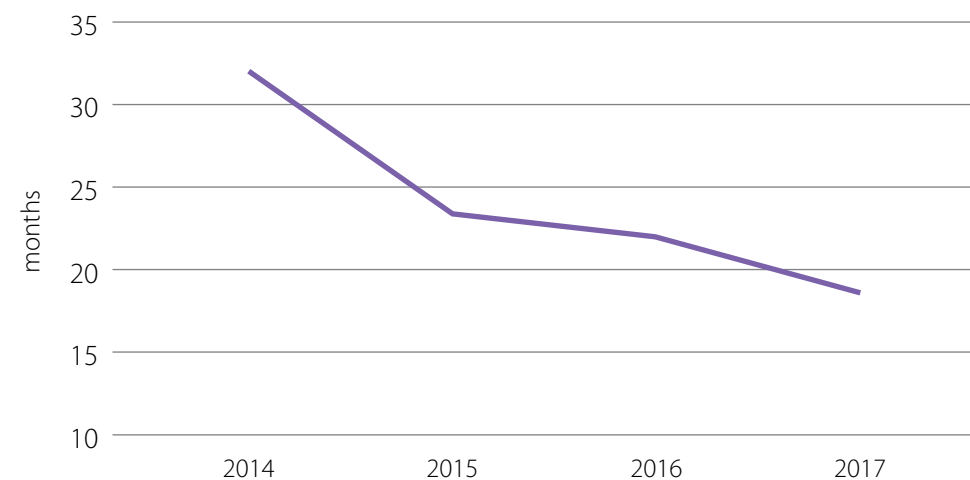
2017 was a record-breaking year for successful adoptions. Typically we place about twelve horses per year, which then opens up space for twelve new intakes. In 2017, seventeen SAFE horses caught the eye and then the heart of a perfect adopter. Why the upturn in adoption numbers? Our Training Program and our Volunteer Rider Program are producing well-started horses that are rewarding to work with. Our Adoption Team is becoming more savvy at matching the right horse to the right adopter. And our Marketing Team is helping to spread the word to our community that SAFE horses are so much more than just “rescue horses.”

### Intakes and Adoptions by Year



As our methods develop and improve, we are moving horses to their forever homes faster than in previous years. Mind you, the average stay for a SAFE horse in 2017 was still 18 months. We have not abandoned our high standards of quality that each potential adopter must meet. And we continue to allow each horse to tell us when they are ready to move on to the next stage of their lives. Nevertheless, we’re becoming more efficient and more productive when it comes to finding homes for our horses, and we expect this trend to continue in 2018.

### Average Length of Stay



**“Angel has already come a long way in trusting us. Each day we build a better relationship with her and while there may be small setbacks along the way, there are wonderful days ahead.”**

Terry Phelps-Peddy,  
SAFE Operations Director



photography donated by Jessica Farren Photography

## Angel's Story

At the age of 27, Angel's life story is written on her body, on her face, and in her eyes. She doesn't trust people, and it's no wonder since people have really never given her a reason to trust them. SAFE took this neglected mare from her owner with the intention of placing her into our Hospice Program, to show her a few weeks of kindness before letting her pass on in peace. But it seems that Angel had other ideas! Once in our care, she was seen by our veterinarian who discovered that with some corrective farrier work to her neglected hooves, Angel could be made comfortable again. In a short time, Angel found sweet relief.... and gained a bounce in her step that we never expected to see! We monitor her carefully to make sure that she remains pain free and comfortable, but for now, she feels good. She spends her days watching over her little band of mares, with whom she is unquestionably the boss. Angel knows that age is nothing but a number!



## 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 2017, SAFE received  
**121 phone calls**  
and **318 e-mails**

from horse owners wanting:

- help with vet care
- help with hay or grain
- help with euthanization.

But most just wanted SAFE  
to take their horse(s).

We could only  
take in



of these horses,  
mostly due to lack of space.

Most of the horse owners who contacted us  
were offered counseling, with an emphasis on  
safe rehoming and owner responsibility.

In 2017, SAFE spent  
**\$11,785 for vet care**  
to stabilize and rehabilitate  
the 15 owner surrendered horses.

In 2017, SAFE provided another  
**\$3,800 in outreach services**  
to horse owners in need, which included:  
✓ **4 humane euthanizations**  
✓ **2 stallions gelded**  
✓ **2 emergency vet calls**  
and ✓ **62 bales of hay!**

We also gave away **17 horse blankets**  
and rainsheets through our Blanket Bank.



## Balance Sheet

### Balance Sheet

Because the sustainability of this organization is a major priority for us, we have worked hard to ensure that we continue to generate profits year to year, to increase our reserves and maintain six months of operating expenses in savings. Having achieved that goal, we are now concentrating on growing cash and investments in advance of a future capital campaign that will allow us to purchase our own property in the near future.

	12/31/16	12/31/17	Change
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Investments	205,215	361,593	156,378
Fixed Assets, net	70,316	103,281	32,965
Lease Deposits	20,025	13,298	(6,727)
Total Assets	295,556	478,172	182,616
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>			
Accounts Payable	-	14,512	14,512
Loan Payable	13,213	7,276	(5,937)
Total Liabilities	13,213	21,788	8,576
Retained Earnings	160,619	282,343	121,725
Net Income	121,724	174,040	52,316
Total Liabilities and Equity	295,556	478,172	182,616

### Statement of Cash Flow

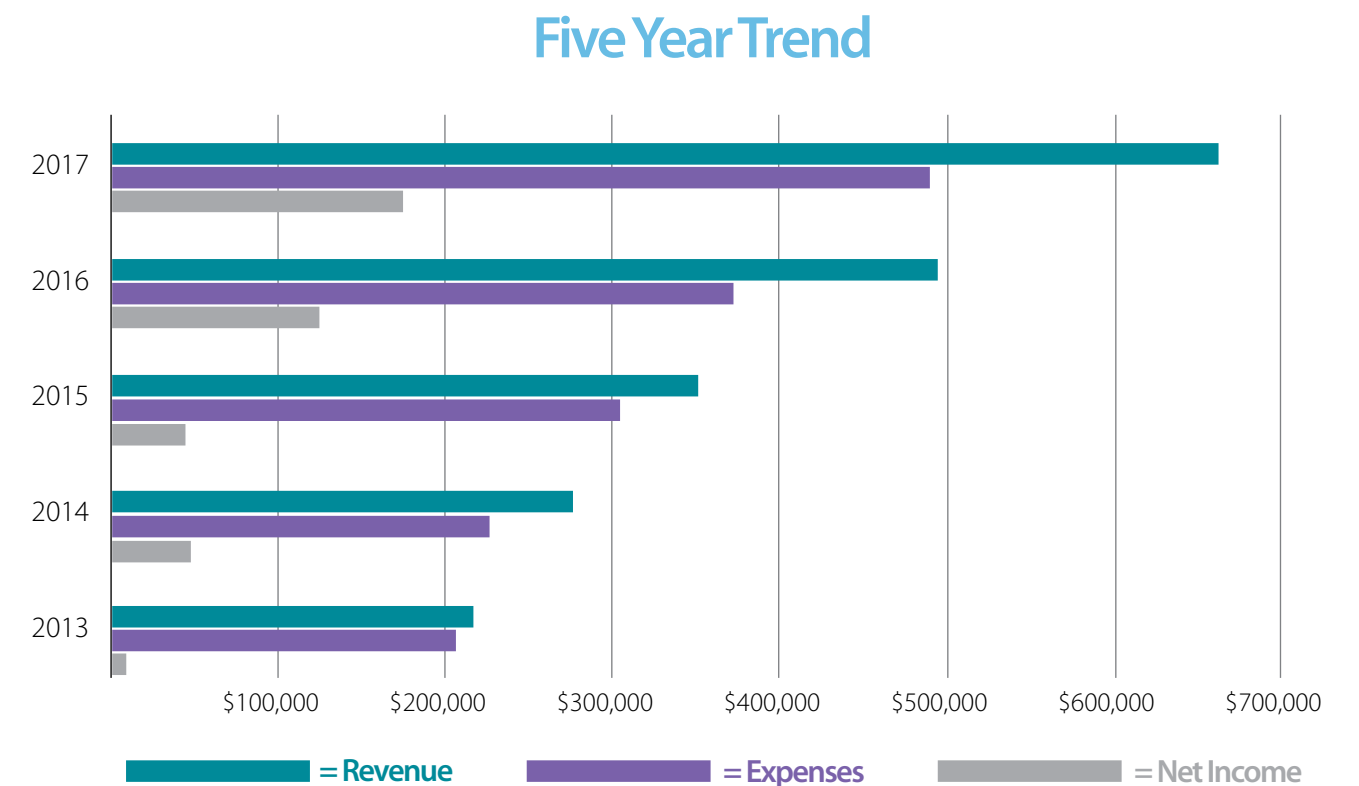
Net Income	\$174,040
Capital Expenditures	(32,965)
Change in Working Capital and Loan	15,303
Change in Cash and Investments	\$156,378



## Five Year Trend

### Growth

SAFE has shown a steady growth pattern over the past five years, with budgeted expenses increasing at an average rate of 20% per year. Because revenue goals have consistently exceeded expectations, we have been able to set surplus funds aside for emergency use, operational reserves, and capital improvement.





# Financial Summary

## Revenue

SAFE's revenue in 2017 was well diversified across many different donation streams, with a healthy emphasis on donations from the general public. We received an unexpected bequest in 2017 from the estate of Shirley Coffey, as well as several grants and foundation gifts. The remainder of our 2017 revenue came from a sustainable array of sources, including targeted fundraisers, special events, and corporate workplace giving programs.

### Donations

General Donations	\$122,194
Planned Giving and Bequests	\$101,000
Workplace Giving Programs	\$92,025
Grants and Foundation Gifts	\$88,000
Monthly Sponsorships	\$35,320
Fall Into Winter Feed Drive	\$28,906
GiveBIG Community Fundraiser	\$8,556

**Total Donations** \$476,001

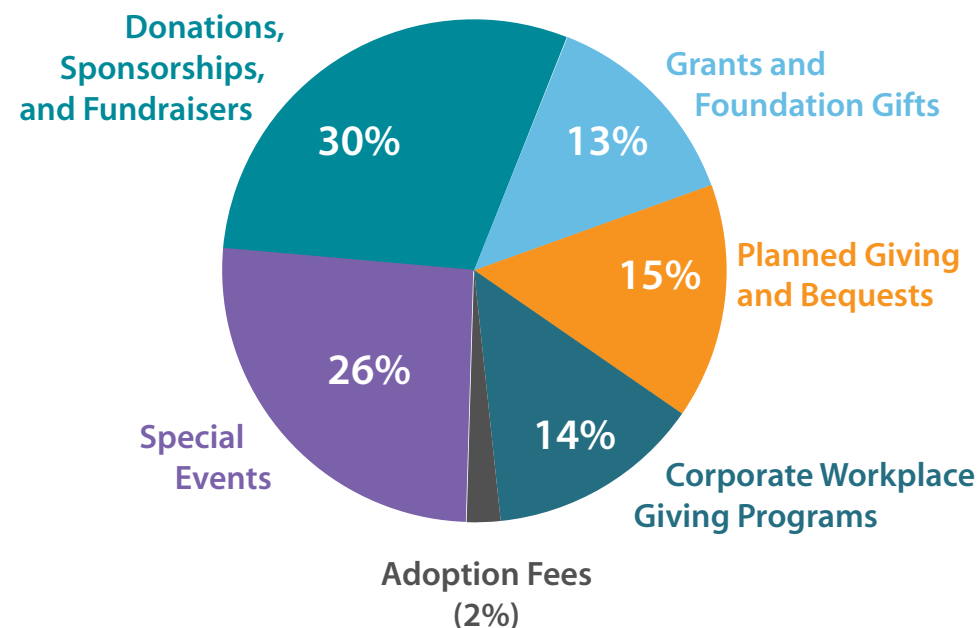
### Special Events, net of costs

Heart of the Horse	\$119,731
Benefit Horse Show	\$31,574
Other SAFE Events	\$19,822

**Total Special Events** \$171,127

**Adoption Fees** \$14,482

**Total Income** \$661,610



## Expenses

In 2017, the bulk of SAFE's expenses were related to our facility, which is a crucial element for an organization that houses as many as 30 rescued equines at any given time. While our move to the new farm in 2017 did not represent a substantial increase in lease from our former location, the costs to maintain a facility of this size were significantly increased. We also chose to invest in improvements to benefit our horses and our volunteers.

### Rescue Expenses

Facility Lease and Maintenance	\$157,941
Veterinary and Farrier Care	\$41,955
Hay, Grain, and Supplements	\$35,719
Training Program	\$19,423
Vehicles, Fuel, and Depreciation	\$13,700
Other Expenses	\$11,886

**Total Rescue Expenses** \$280,624

### Payroll

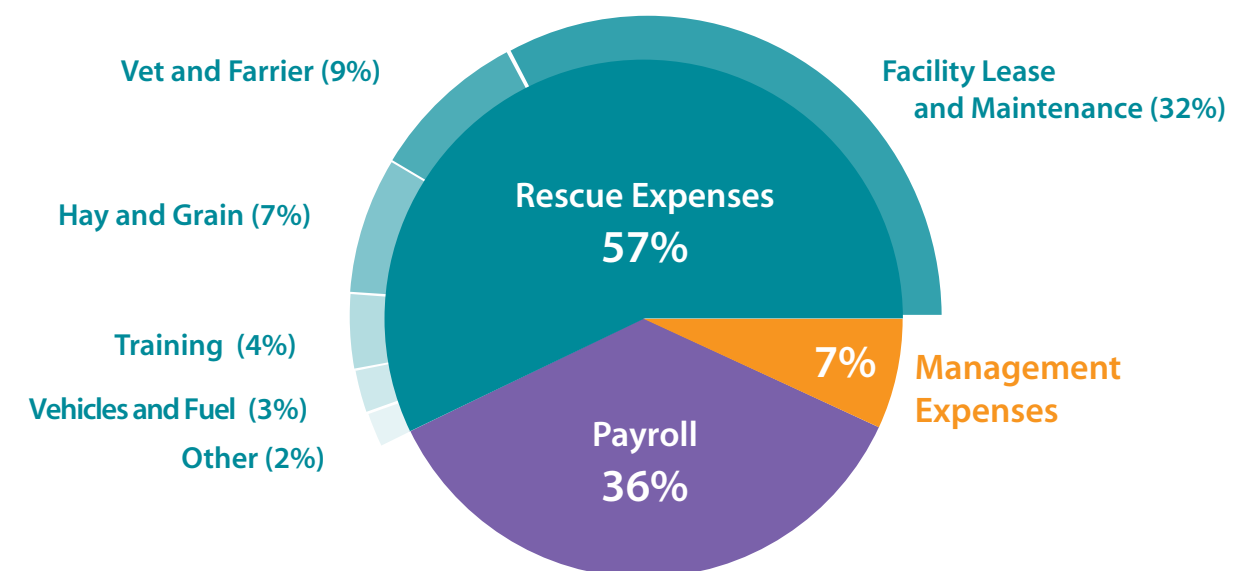
\$174,158

### Management Expenses

Organizational Expenses	\$10,756
Banking Expenses	\$9,532
Office Expenses	\$7,609
Staff and Volunteer Expenses	\$4,891

**Total Management Expenses** \$32,788

**Total Expenses** \$487,570



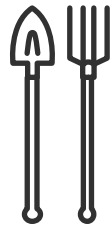




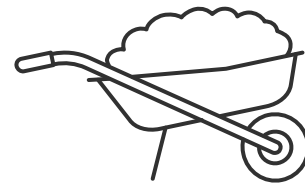
## Volunteer Statistics

### Volunteers: the Heart of SAFE

With only four 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 manned by 4–6 volunteers who are responsible for feeding, turnout, and stall cleaning. Afternoon shifts consist of 3–5 individuals who bring horses in for the night and clean their paddocks. And 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 special events, fundraising, marketing, and more. Our volunteer program is something we are extremely proud of.



In 2017, SAFE had a total of  
**204 active volunteers**  
84 were new in 2017



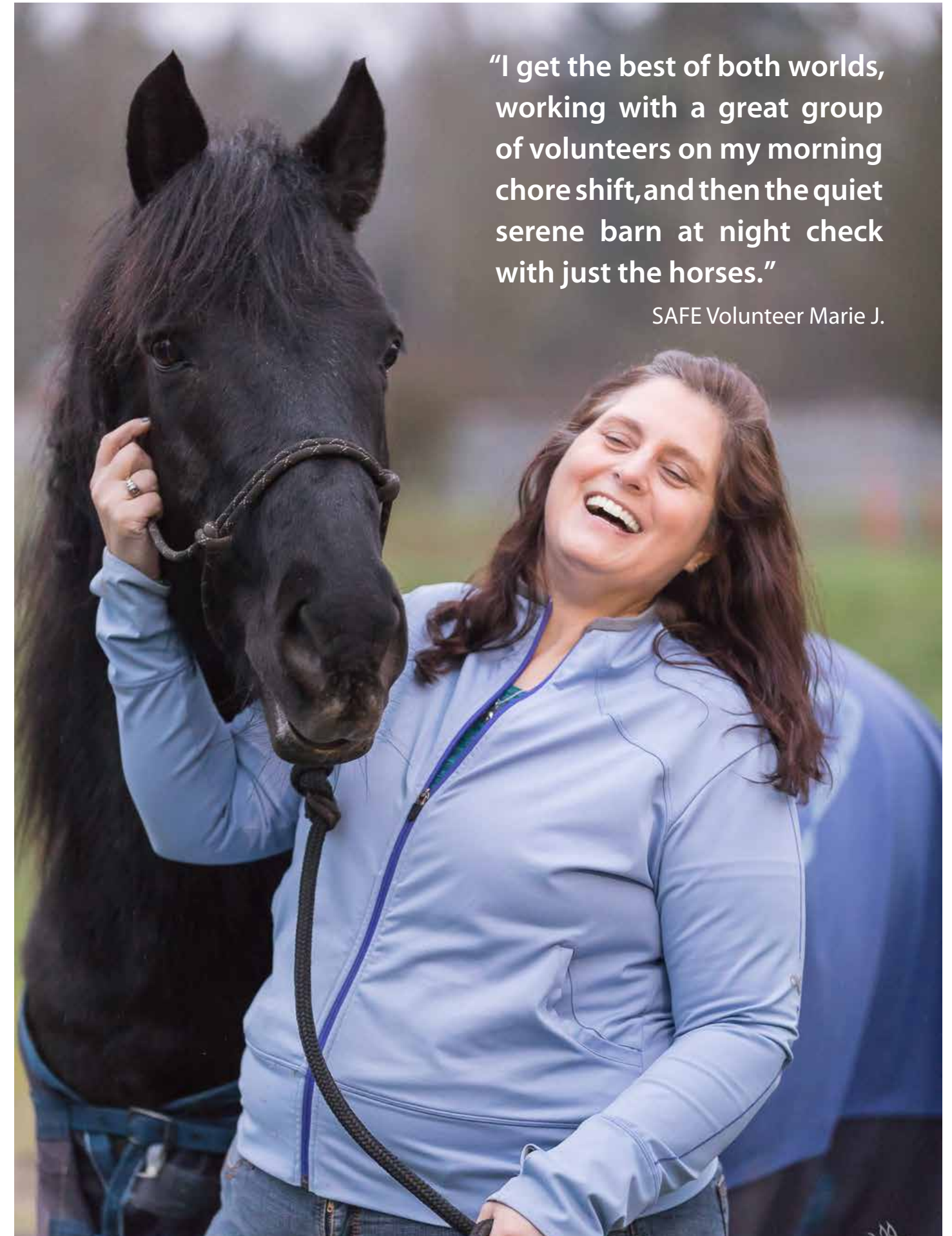
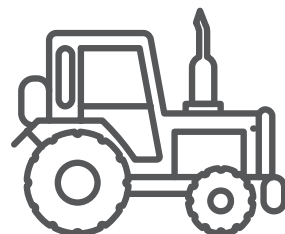
In 2017, we logged  
**19,147 volunteer hours**

That's the equivalent of

**9.5 full time employees**



and **\$210,617 in payroll**  
at minimum wage.



"I get the best of both worlds,  
working with a great group  
of volunteers on my morning  
chore shift, and then the quiet  
serene barn at night check  
with just the horses."

SAFE Volunteer Marie J.





## Other Accomplishments

### Finding a New Home

In February 2017, we moved from our 3-acre facility in Woodinille to a new home just 10 minutes down the road. This 11 acre horse facility includes a 30 stall barn with an indoor arena, a second large covered arena, a large outdoor arena, and a covered round pen, as well as paddocks and pastures that allow for year round daily turnout for the entire herd. In February 2017, SAFE signed a five-year lease on the property, located in Redmond WA, a suburban city east of Seattle that is home to Microsoft and other tech companies. In addition to the convenient location, the farm has a lovely feel of space and privacy. We're surrounded on two sides by large equestrian properties, and adjacent to a forested Redmond city park that features a perimeter riding trail. This farm is the perfect home for our rehabilitation and training programs. Our volunteers love it too!







## Other Accomplishments

### ASPCA Help a Horse Day

On April 23, 2017, SAFE participated in the ASPCA's Help a Horse Day, a nationwide competition of equine rescues and sanctuaries to raise awareness about rescue. Events were judged on creativity, effort, attendance, media coverage, and more. SAFE invited the community to join us for The End Hunger Games, which featured thirteen "Districts," each devoted to a specific stage of the work that we do. At each informative and interactive District, visitors learned about a facet of the rescue process, from intake and rehab, through diet and training, and all the way through to adoption. Over 400 people came to The End Hunger Games, and SAFE was selected as one of the 10 prize winners out of the more than 170 rescues that competed. We received a \$5,000 prize from the ASPCA to further our Community Outreach Program.





## Stormy's Story

Stormy was seized by Animal Control in 2017 and removed from a life of abuse and neglect. To be ill-treated and uncared for is a nightmare for any animal, but for Stormy, it was made worse by the fact that she's blind. Stormy is an Appaloosa, a breed that is prone to developing uveitis and glaucoma later in life. Sadly, Stormy faced these issues without the benefit of vet care, and by the time help came, she was completely and irreversibly blind.

But in spite of her handicap, this remarkable mare lives a normal life here at SAFE. Stormy spends her days in a large pasture with her good friend Mason, who provides her with both companionship and comfort. At night, she's tucked into a warm and cozy stall where she can listen to the sounds of the horses around her. And several times each week, she is led into the arena by another good friend named Melinda who has used clicker training to teach Stormy to respond to voice commands and successfully navigate obstacles and complete simple patterns. The trust that Stormy has for Melinda is so beautiful. The work they do together has made this mare brighter and more engaged with the world around her.



photography donated by Jessica Farren Photography



**“Working with Stormy has truly been one of the most rewarding things I’ve gotten to do at SAFE. I really love this horse.”**

SAFE Volunteer Rider Melinda C.

## Ruger's Story

He was a champion, in both the reining world and the breeding shed. So to find him in such pitiful condition—starved, filthy, standing in ankle-deep mud—evoked many emotions in us. Anger and sadness that a horse could be so mistreated. Disbelief and confusion that such a valuable animal could end up in such a bad situation. And gratitude and relief that he ended up in SAFE's care.

Provided with good veterinary and farrier care, and a steady, healthy supply of food, Ruger transformed back into the stunning horse he was meant to be. At that point, we began to consider what Ruger's future would look like. The foremost authority on that question was Ruger himself. He made it pretty clear to us that he no longer wanted to be a riding horse, that he'd had just about enough of that life. We honored that decision and began searching for a permanent home for him where he could live out his life as a companion.

Ruger generated a lot of interest from potential adopters, many of whom had figured out who he used to be and were eager to find out what he could still do in the show ring. But we opted to wait for an adopter to come along who was more concerned about what they could do for Ruger than what he could do for them.

Someone who wouldn't mind feeding him a mash every day since his missing teeth make it hard to chew hay. Someone who would ensure he gets the best farrier care possible to keep him comfortable on his tender hooves. And most of all, someone who would love him for who he is now...not just who he was in his past life.

Ruger's perfect adopter turned out to be a SAFE volunteer who cared for him during his rehabilitation and grew to admire his quiet courage and his handsome exterior. Now known as Koa, he leads a peaceful existence with a tiny herd of horses and ponies and an adopter who respects him completely. Koa's future is secure to be just what he wants it to be.

**“Koa means strength and courage in Hawaiian. Which is something this dear boy has definitely shown us.”**

SAFE Volunteer and Adopter Barb G.



photography donated by Jessica Farren Photography



# 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.

## 2017 Board of Directors

W. Andy Carrel, Google  
Richard Duncan, F5 Networks, Inc.  
Barbara Ferderer, freelance graphic designer  
Barbara Gordon, Microsoft, retired  
Maeve Harris, artist  
Sheridan Jones, Microsoft  
Jeannette Parrett, Mt. Rainier Equine Vet  
Joseph Schick, Branded Entertainment Network  
Deanna Thronson, The Allen Institute

## Operations Council

Shar Conner, Alumni Program Manager  
Jolene Duncan, Outreach Manager  
Lisa Garr, Marketing Manager  
Tiffany Lindan, Community Engagement Manager  
Laura McCorkle, Foster Coordinator  
Melinda Merryman, Herd Health Manager  
Jane Millar, Volunteer Manager  
Jeanne Stine, Facilities Manager

## Staff Members

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director  
Terry Phelps, Operations Director  
Lori McMasters, Barn Manager  
Ian LeFay, Weekend Barn Manager

and the many dedicated and  
hardworking SAFE volunteers.