



SAFE | Save a
Forgotten
Equine

2020 Annual Report



Executive Director's Message

2020 was a pretty good year for SAFE.

I could not have predicted I'd be writing these words at the beginning of the global pandemic when lockdowns started and the world began to change dramatically. We didn't know how these changes would affect people's lives and their livelihoods, much less what they might mean for a nonprofit organization that rescues horses. It was a scary time for all of us.

But for the horses? Coronavirus meant nothing to them. All they knew was that the sun kept rising every morning, which meant breakfast was on its way. Changing the way we cared for them was never an option. At the beginning of the pandemic, that was our focus: keeping the horses fed, healthy, and safe. There was a beautiful simplicity in that, and I credit our horses with keeping us sane and focused during a difficult time.



Executive Director, Quarantine Style

For many years, SAFE has had funds set aside for emergencies. If donations slowed or stopped, we had the money in hand to continue caring for our horses. But in the end, we did not have to spend a penny from our emergency fund in 2020. Our donors were there for our horses all year long. I choose to believe that this goes further than just donor loyalty. I think people needed things to feel good about in 2020. Helping horses feels good!

Our volunteers were there for the horses as well. Although we worried early on about not having enough help, those fears were completely unfounded. Again, I think volunteering gave people something to feel good about. Volunteers adapted quickly to mask wearing and social distancing, and with the majority of the work being performed outdoors, we didn't have a single person get sick because they chose to help out at SAFE.

Once we were sure that 2020 wasn't going to be *strictly* about survival, we could look around our community to see where we could help. We created a Hay Bank to help horse owners impacted by job slowdowns and layoffs, and purchased hay for more than 200 horses across Washington state. By the summer, we were once again showing horses for adoption and placing them into good homes, which made it possible for us to start intaking new horses again. We were back to doing what we do best: making lives better for horses facing neglect.

2020 wasn't without tragedy for SAFE. We said goodbye to nine horses who lost their fight to overcome neglect and abuse. Three of these were set free immediately after being rescued, but the rest were horses we knew well and loved dearly. Valor, a young gelding who suffered a major impaction colic, seemingly out of the blue. Slim, who had battled a coffin bone infection for more than a year. Amelia, who struggled with digestive issues caused by past neglect, and who could not be kept colic free. Buddy and Callista, older horses who left us too soon, and Wind, who one day just stopped running. These horses will never be forgotten. In their memory, we continue to pursue our mission, to help horses who need us most.

The lesson we learned in 2020 is that SAFE is a strong and healthy organization, made up of people who are passionate in their desire to help horses find better lives. This Annual Report is a reflection of that strength and passion. On behalf of all of us, horses and humans, thank you for being part of SAFE.

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director
SAFE | Save a Forgotten Equine

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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on the cover: Zoe makes a friend, photo donated by Sundee Rickey



2020 Top Donors

Despite the economic pressures of 2020, SAFE was able to meet our revenue goals, thanks to our loyal donor base. Support from our major donors early in the year meant that we never had to dip into our reserves to care for our horses. The number of first time donors decreased by 34% in 2020, but the overall number of gifts received remained nearly equal to the number received in 2019. We are grateful to everyone who made it possible for us to carry on our mission during tough economic times.

\$100,000 and above

The Estate of Janet Jester

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Microsoft Employee Giving Program

Milgard Family Foundation

\$10,000-\$24,999

Geraldine Cherry
Carol Donner
Anne Gittinger

Jasper Family Foundation
Tiffany Lindan
Jane Millar

Mary Ann Redeker
Svane's Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

William Carrel
Ellison Foundation
Google Employee Giving

Ruth Kennedy
JoAnne & Dwight Locke
Deborah Meyer

Don Miller & Sue Miner
Roanne Sones

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Alco Investment Company
Barbara Lui Beachner
Grange Supply
Robert & Judith Hammond

Humane Society of the United States
Jackie Liles
Janice Misner & Riley Parker
Jeannie Nordstrom

Omaha Community Foundation
Lisa Pascualy
Sarah & Adam Rosen
Judith & Michael Tembreull

\$1,000-\$2,499

Kerry Anderson
Casey Atchinson
Charlann Bachmeier
Keith & Kelly Barnes
Blackbaud Giving Fund
Boeing Employee Gift Program
Cathi Champion
Lynn Clark
Joel & Katie Conner
Craig Coombs
Victoria Corell
Sean Cramer
Nicolette de Reuck
Leslie DiMaio
Richard & Jolene Duncan
Torrey Edwards
Sara Eggers
Equus Foundation, Inc.
F5 Networks
Ashley Farrington
Debra Fouts
Deanne Franz

Nicole Gerber
Bonnie Hammond
Marcella Heckman
Stephanie Holderreed
Mary Kathleen Hope
Lylee Jean Hubbard
Intel Employee Giving
Rex Jennings
Laurel Kelly & John Sims
Candi & Kerry Kintzley
Lake Washington Saddle Club
Elizabeth Leech
Geree Lewis
Julie Lindquist
Lara Lutz
Susanne Meslans
Elizabeth Mitchell
Karen Moore
Molly Nordstrom
Terry Phelps-Peddy
Rebecca Pohlman
Suzi Puckett

Kyle Putnam
Nancy Pyron
Dee Quiggle
Lawrence Robinson
Sam Roehl
Cynthia Romney
Molly Sanders
Sarah Sanford
Lisa Schildt
Dianne Schultheis
Jodi Sisson
Stephen & Linda Skinner
Stacy Taylor
Phoebe Trocano
US Bank Foundation Team
Brandee Warren
Kathy Wehle & Theresa Haynie
Mark Werner
Joan & Robert Yankis
Charlotte Yarkoni

\$500-\$999

Catherine Adgar-Beal
Sophia Archambault
AT&T Employee Giving
Scott Bailey
Jessica & Jason Barile
Erin Belzer
Lisa & Paul Bialek
Lynda Caughey
Christian Chabot
Cheryl Cho
Judy Coe
Margaret Colony
Elizabeth Crain
Judith Crosby
Ann Daigle
Pirjo DeHart
John Dietz
Shirley DiJulio
Bruce & Mary Dodds
Theresa Dodge
Shannon Donohue
James Dunkelberger
Olive Edwards
Ashley Flowers
Don Floyd
Beth Glosten
Diana Grant
Paulette Green
Sally Gregg
Virginia Guest
Marcie Gwiazdon
Dena Hibbard

Francesca Helina
Christine Hemnes
Daniel Hoolahan
Carol Inukai
Andrea Jessee
Linda Johnson
Sheridan Jones
Katy Katorski
Daniel Kleiner
Jane Lagerstrom
Laura Landau
Margaret Laverty
Mark & LeAnn LeMaster
Stacy Lewis
Pamela Lloyd
Chris Lucurell
Randy Lundeen
Billee Lyall
L. Devin MacKrell
Marsha Martin
Katherine Mason
Jan & Rob Mathis
Scott Mead
Milliman
Bruce & Rebecka Milne
Laura Monahan
Gwendolyn Moore
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
Linda Morris
Martha Moseley
Jenny Mscichowski
Ani O'Hara

Sheila Otter
Nancy Palmer
Lindsey Peterson
PlayStation Cares
Janet Preston
Julia Prien
Michael Riggins
Dan Rike & Jennifer Vierling
J. M. Riley Co.
Kelly Rollin
Paige Romney
Salesforce
Colleen Salmi
Joe & Bernice Schick
Marleen Shanks
Debi Shatos
Barbara Slack
Amie Smith
Krishnan Srinivasan
Jeanne Stine
Maureen Strieb
Ben Thompson
Angela Thostrud
Rachael & Lon Topaz
Lorrie Truess
Deanna Underwood
Cedarbrook Vet Care
Julie Wartes
Kimberly Watson
David Wesche
Yukon Ranch
Robert Zimmerman

\$250-\$499

All Seasons Vacation Rentals
Coby Allred
Altria Group
Christina Ambrosini
Deborah Anderson
Jennifer Anderson
Claire Baddeley
Sharon Ballantine
Gwendolyn Banchemo
Naomi Benton
Elisabeth Best
Ruth Boozer
Candice Boyd
Whitney-Bear Bradsher
Dave Browne
Sarah Carr
Kim Carter
Lisa Cavallari
Joni Cervenka
Judy Chavez
Natasha Chornesky
Wendy Colebank
Catherine Collins
Sharman Conner
Michayla Conrad
Donna Coombs
Susan Costello
Digital Insurance, LLC
LaFay Dillon
Sharon Doty
Jennifer Duncan
Mary Eddy
Robert Emma

Lauren & Bryan Engle
Beth Erkel
Nancy Falcone
Kathleen Fiander
Kristin Finkbiner
Five C Farms
Lisa Garr
Sandra Gilbert
Caroline Gilmore
Bonnie Gorder-Hinchey
Carrie Gouldin
Heidi Green
Kristen Gulbran
Victoria Guy
Marrissa Hellesen
Patricia & Anthony Hernandez
Home Depot Employee Giving
Patty Hughes
Robin Hunt
Imperial Sovereign Court of Seattle
Dejenelle Jacobs
Sandra James
Julie Jennings
Camille Johnson
Rosemarie Kalmeta
Kerry Kneeland
Kroger/ Fred Meyer
Jennifer & Ken Langhelfm
Kellie Lee Larsen
Julia Lefond
Liz Lennox
Tami Liljebeck
Steven M

Zoe & Christina Macbeth
Laura Machado de Wright
Carolyn Mahran
Julie Manheim
Trish & Seamus Markey
Lisa McBain
Caren McMillen
Colleen Melendrez
Jennifer Middour
Paul Miller
Alison Mocerri
Derek Monner
Virginia Morris
Julie Morton
Sandi Neidetcher
Jan Neuberger
Shannon Nicholson
None Will Perish Foundation
Lisa O'Brien
Cathy Olson
Lisabeth Olver
Lori Page
Jeannette Parrett
Diane Parry
Stephanie Perkal
Linda Perrine
Christian Piccini
Jane Plut
Eleanor Pollnow
Beverly Prater-Harrelson
Raymond James Global Account
Sundee Rickey
Karen Rodrigue

The COVID-19 Hay Bank was made possible by

the Estate of Janet Jester
Humane Society of the United States
Lake Washington Saddle Club

Kelly Adams	Barb Lui Beachner
Casey Atchinson	Carolyn Mahran
Brigitte Beasley	Nancy Marshall
Rhonda Bleck	Katherine Mason
Carol Bohn	JL May
Nicole Brandenburg	Caren McMillen
Julie Brown	Susanne Meslans
Angela Caras	Samantha Metcalf
Jessica Connolly	Jane Millar
Keli Covin	Jan Misner
Rebecca Cypher	Sara Montgomery-Hawk
Jennifer Duncan	Karen Moore
Jessica Farren	Patricia Murphy
Florence Fleming	Ani O'Hara
Letha Fourdogs	Adrienne Ozeki
Heidi Furseth	Lisa Pascualy
Evelyn Geiger	Barb Peterson
Deborah Giddings	Kyle Putnam
Susan Graham	Lindsay Refvem
Virginia Guest	Nancy Reilly
Samantha Guizarro	Sundee Rickey
Kristie Gunderson Dorey	Darla Sampson
Carla Guzzardo	Molly Sanders
Bob & Judy Hammond	Yvonne Sauter
Kristy Hollier	Laura Scholten
Lm Efos Hollingsworth	Tracey Schwartz
Julie Jennings	Beth Seyer
Karen Johnson	Marleen Shanks
Kalee Kajune	Barb Shaub
Elizabeth Kane	Natasha Stephensen
Sheila Keller	Deb Strickland
Candi Kintzley	Andrea Teitsma
Marilyn Knutson	Kit Topaz
Rita Laine	Marilyn Ulicny
Kellie Larsen	Julie Valdez
Liz Leech	Bryony White
Kathy Bell Levang	Susan Wilbanks
Pamela Lloyd	



Best Friends Forever

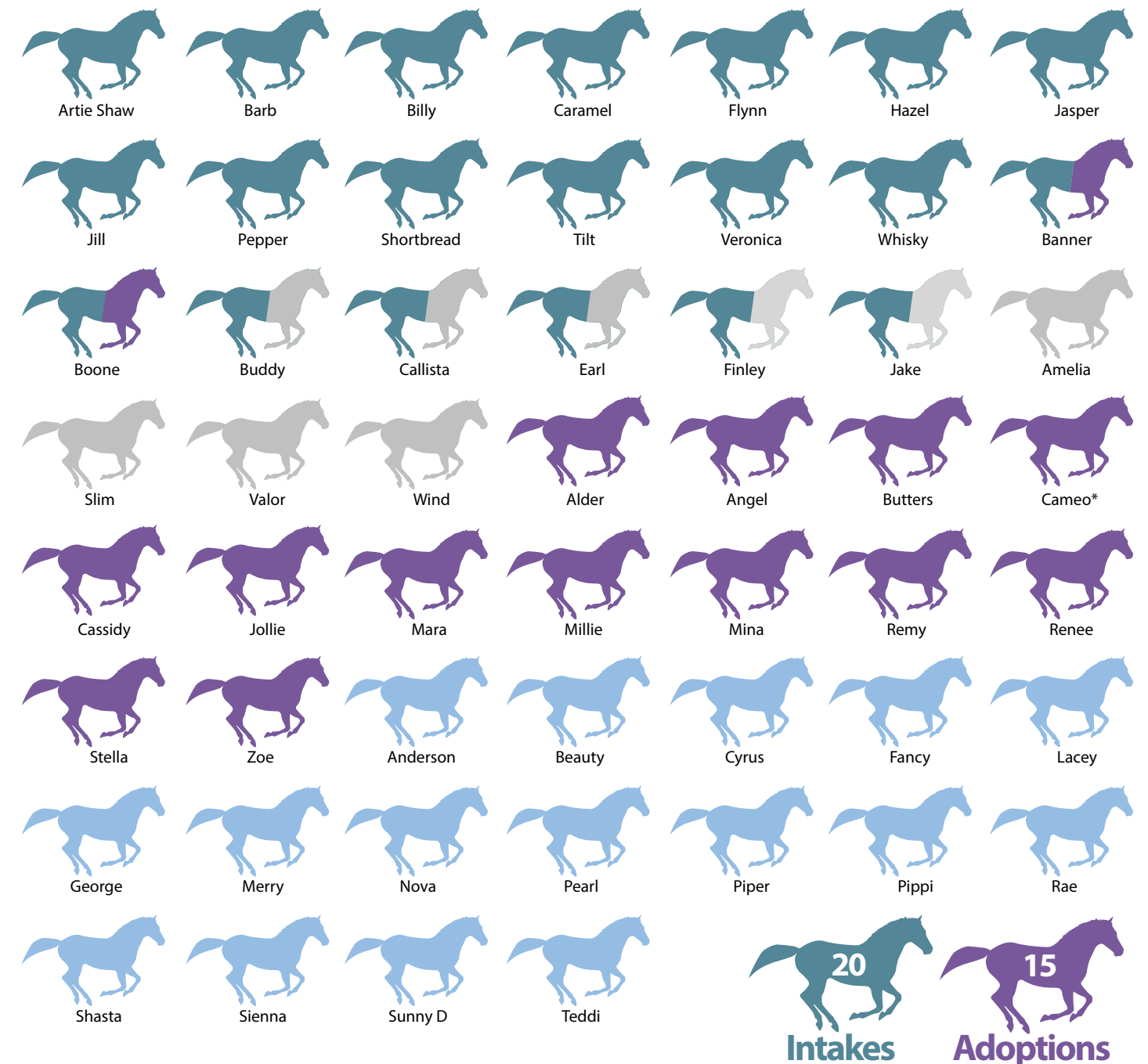
When two horses are rescued together, we can't always guarantee that they will also find a new home together. But separating Angel and Renee was something that simply wouldn't happen. These two older mares were rescued from a Quarter Horse breeding program that should have been shut down years earlier had the owner been able to accept her changing fortunes. Renee and Angel were among seven horses that SAFE rescued from this situation. While they had much in common, they were both individuals in how they interacted with humans. Renee was sweet, gentle, and friendly to everyone she met, while Angel preferred her space and challenged anyone to catch her at the end of the day. The two mares acted as honorary "aunties" to younger horses at SAFE, and taught our fillies how to behave like sensible horses after weaning. Angel and Renee could have spent the rest of their lives at SAFE, but the perfect adopter found them when the time was right. Angel and Renee have new friends now, but they stay side by side, best friends until the end!



Program Milestones

Intakes and Adoptions

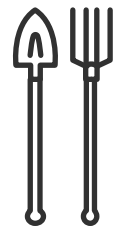
With the intake of nine horses from the Fall City 40 at the start of the year, SAFE was unable to accept new horses for a few months. Adoptions were also put on hold in early 2020 due to COVID. Once we figured out how to safely show horses to potential adopters, however, we resumed placing horses into great new homes and brought our herd count back to normal. 2020 had more than its share of heartbreak, with the loss of nine horses: three that couldn't be saved, three we tried to save and lost, and three we had to say goodbye to far too soon. 2020 was a challenging year, but we are proud and grateful to not only have survived the pandemic but grown stronger because of it.



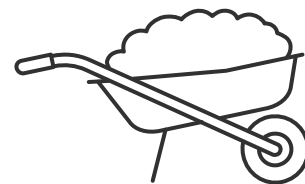


Volunteers: the Heart of SAFE

With only five full time 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 volunteers who are responsible for feeding, turnout, and stall cleaning. Afternoon shifts consist of individuals who bring horses in for the night and clean their paddocks. 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 2020, SAFE had a total of **171 active volunteers**
69 were new in 2020

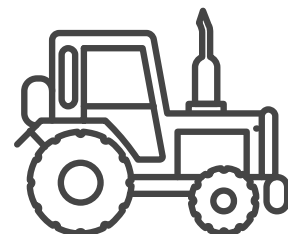


In 2020, we logged **18,308 volunteer hours**

That's the equivalent of more than **9 full time employees**



and **\$247,128 in payroll**
at minimum wage.



Extending 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 2020, SAFE was contacted by

226 horse owners seeking help

Most of these horse owners were offered counseling, with an emphasis on **safe rehoming** and **owner responsibility**.

76 of these horse owners needed help because of COVID-19 job loss

SAFE provided hay to **237 horses** across Washington State at a cost of **\$23,732**

SAFE took **11** owner surrendered horses and spent **\$4,437** to stabilize and rehabilitate them in their initial year at SAFE

SAFE provided **\$53,711** in Community Outreach, including: **8 humane euthanizations, 11 stallions gelded, 4 other surgeries, 14 assisted adoptions, and over 50 waterproof blankets given away for free.**



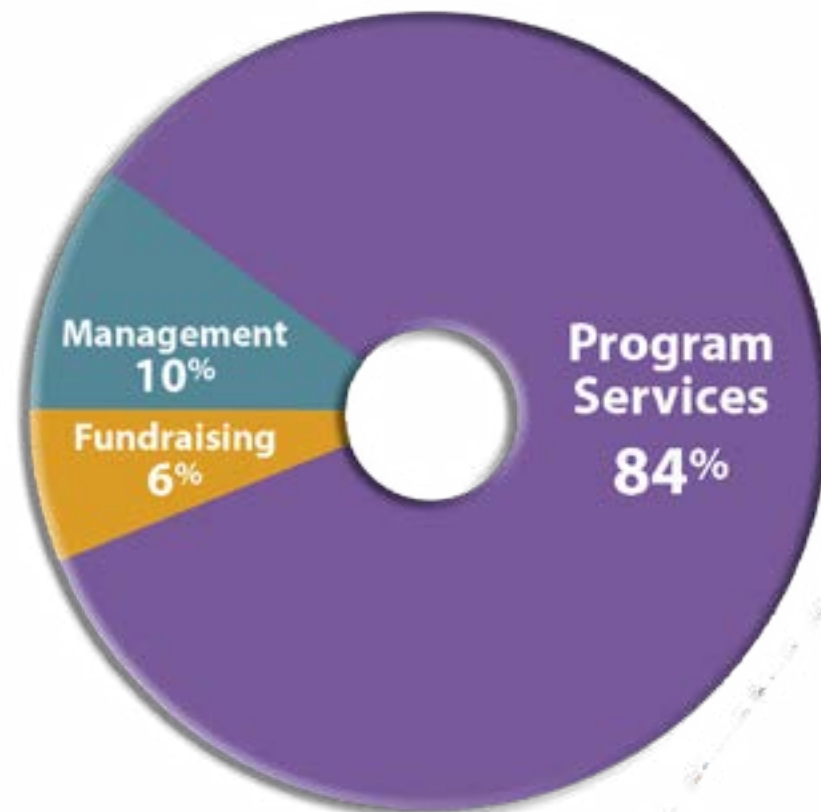
Revenue

A well diversified revenue stream is crucial to nonprofit success, and 2020 demonstrated why that's true. COVID prevented SAFE from holding our annual Heart of the Horse fundraiser or our Benefit Horse show. Although we quickly reimagined Heart of the Horse as a virtual event, our Special Event income still dropped from 31% in 2019 to 21% in 2020. But thanks to a generous bequest and increases in other areas of revenue, we finished 2020 with a surplus of just over \$100,000.



Expenses

When we created the budget for 2020, no one could have predicted what the coming year would actually entail. Fortunately, we had no plans for excessive spending in 2020; just our usual focus on good old fashioned horse care. Adhering to our budget kept our heads above water during uncertain times, and at no point in the year were our horses in danger of going without anything they needed. We maintained staffing levels with the help of an SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan.



Statement of Activities

OPERATING REVENUE

Public Support	
Donations	\$290,420
Special Events	151,032
Bequests	100,000
Workplace Giving	96,996
Grants	76,000
Other Revenue	
Adoptions	19,809
Miscellaneous Income	4,242
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 738,499

OPERATING EXPENSES

Program Services	
Rescue Program	\$500,656
Community Outreach	31,359
Supporting Services	
Fundraising	39,255
Management	64,482
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 635,752

Statements of Financial Position

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash Accounts	\$282,182
Investment Accounts	144,909
Accounts Receivable	0
Fixed Assets	
Leasehold Improvements	7,291
Rescue Assets	95,555
Other Assets	
Lease Deposit	6,833
Lease Last Month Payment	5,765
Total Assets	\$ 542,536

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$1,545
Credit Cards	15,929
Long-Term Liabilities	
Kubota Tractor Loan	9,494
SBA-EIDL	8,000
SBA-PPP Loan	44,875
Equity	
Retained Earnings	359,947
Net Income	102,747
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 542,536



Accomplishments

Empowering through Horsemanship

Neglect can be more than withholding food, water, or vet care from a horse. A horse that is left to go through life without a proper education is at serious risk of ending up in a bad situation. Which is why SAFE puts such a strong emphasis on our Horsemanship Program. It's not enough to simply save lives; we feel it's our duty to give each horse we rescue the chance at a better life through education. SAFE Operations Director Terry Phelps has created a training program at SAFE that provides each horse with the foundation they need to safely and successfully navigate their world. COVID did not slow down SAFE's horsemanship program in 2020. Although we couldn't open our clinics up to the public, we were still able to invite horseman Joel Conner to the farm four times over the course of the year to work with our horses in training. The work we are doing through our Horsemanship Program continues to have a huge impact on our ability to adopt horses into great new homes.

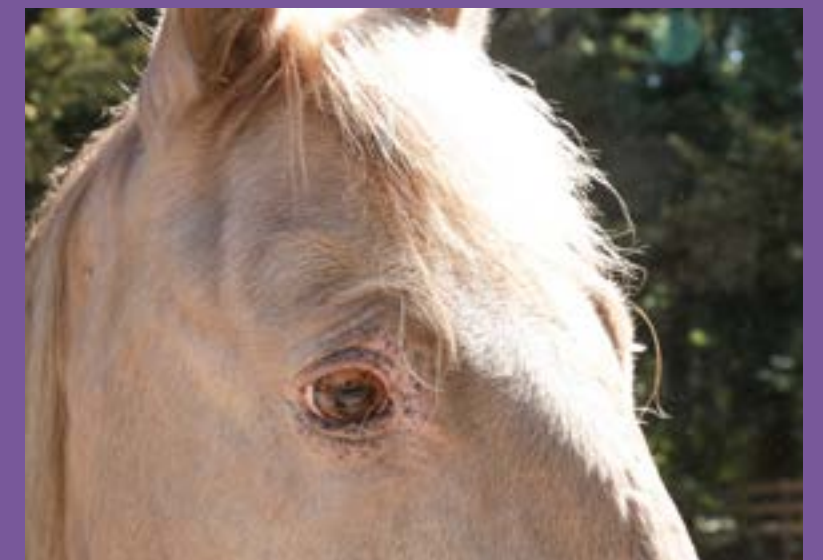


Clockwise from top:
• Terry & Piper
• Casey & Fancy and Kaya & Alder
• Joel & Pepper
• Terry & Piper (first ride)
Photos donated by Kristina Oden



Jasper's Story

Looking at Jasper, a tall handsome Tennessee Walking Horse gelding with a stunning champagne coat, it's so easy to picture him leading a parade, or loping around an arena with his rider carrying a billowing American flag. When Jasper arrived at SAFE in early 2020, we knew he was troubled, but we felt fairly confident that we could help him become a solid riding horse. But the fear he showed even when approached in his paddock made it plain that he'd been subjected to some harsh treatment in the past. And after we started doing groundwork with him, we realized beyond a doubt that he'd been treated very roughly by prior trainers and riders. Jasper was particularly bothered when being saddled. His fear and discomfort were achingly clear. We could keep trying to make Jasper back into a riding horse...but why put him through that? So Jasper is now offered as a companion, a role he is perfectly and happily suited for. He's still worked in hand at SAFE, and thanks to our horsemanship volunteers, he's gained a ton of trust and confidence. Yes, it would be easier to find Jasper a home if he could be ridden, but we're going to do what's best for him. It may take a little longer, but we'd rather see him happy here with us until his perfect home is found.





Fall City 40: Year Two

Our biggest story in 2019 was the successful rescue of the horses we called the Fall City 40. At the start of 2020, SAFE had found homes for all but 9 of these neglected and feral horses. Although it did mean exceeding our limit of no more than 30 horses in our rescue program at one time, there were no other options for these horses, so we opted to keep them ourselves. All of them desperately needed the education that SAFE's horsemanship program could provide and fundraising for the Fall City 40 had been very successful, so we felt we could responsibly exceed our cap for a short time.

Thus began a bright new phase of life for nine horses who had previously known only neglect. Each of the horses took to domestication at their own speed, but all of them made remarkable progress over the year. George was the first of the group to be started as a riding horse; his kind and inquisitive nature made gentling easy, especially with the help of patient volunteers. Artie Shaw, former stallion and band leader, had more difficulty accepting human contact, but after making friends with another gelding, he finally seemed able to let down his guard and relax. Some of the mares adapted quickly to their new lives, while others, like Veronica and Caramel, needed more individualized attention. By early 2021, Barb and Jill would be successfully started under saddle, and Pepper would be close behind. Later in 2021, Tilt and Artie would be adopted into companion homes, putting a close to the saga of the Fall City 40.



(above) the Fall City 40 were badly in need of grooming (photo by Kristina Oden)



(below) Veronica getting her teeth floated by Dr Lewis



Clockwise from top:
• Jill ambles over to say hello! (photo donated by Kristina Oden)
• Artie showing good manners with volunteer Sue
• George under saddle with Casey

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.

2020 Board of Directors

Daniel Rike, President
Deanna Thronson, Vice President
W. Andy Carrel, Secretary
Wendy Colebank, Treasurer
Barbara Ferderer, Past President
Ani O'Hara
Jennifer Vierling

Operations Council

Casey Atchison, Horsemanship Manager
Shar Conner, Alumni Manager
Carrie Gouldin, Marketing Manager
Tiffany Lindan, Community Engagement Manager
Lexee Navarre, Application Manager
Jeanne Stine, Facilities Special Projects Manager

Staff

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director
Terry Phelps, Operations Director
Melinda Couvillion, Herd Health Manager
Kit Topaz, Development Manager
Lori McMaster, Barn Manager
Skye Guidotti, Barn Staff
Samantha Jacobsen, Barn Staff
Julien Dreher, Barn Staff

and the many dedicated and
hardworking SAFE volunteers.