



Above: Portland, photo by Karen Wegehenkel

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# Executive Director's Message

In a way, Year Two of the global pandemic was harder than the first, mostly because we were so tired of it. But horses have a way of keeping you honest. There really isn't time for complaints or self-pity when 30 surprisingly expressive horses tell you it's time for breakfast. You just have to roll up your sleeves and get to work.

The things we learned about ourselves in 2020 were proven true over and over again in Year Two. We learned that SAFE is a strong and healthy organization, made up of people who are passionate in their desire to help horses in need find better lives. Those same people continued to show up day after day, not just to do farm chores, but also to learn more about horses and horse care, and become better humans because of it. To make volunteering more rewarding, we created more opportunities for people to safely get more hands on with the horses, through grooming classes, horsemanship clinics, and scheduled horse walking. When a volunteer tells me that SAFE is their sanctuary, I'm delighted, but I'm also not surprised. Horses have a way of transforming the space around them into places of peace, self-reflection, and calm. I'm glad that more people in our community are getting the chance to experience that.

With so much strength and growth, it's no wonder that things started falling more easily into place for us in 2021. Adoptions hit a record high last year. If you're curious as to why, I would say that our hard work in rehabilitating and retraining our horses is really paying off. Horses get a lot of handling and interaction during their education at SAFE. By the time we're ready to offer them for adoption, they've gained confidence and comfort in a world that makes more sense to them. In plain English, they're happy. Adopters gravitate toward

horses that are healthy, happy, and safe to be around. So, in 2021, 30 SAFE horses headed off to new homes and new lives.

With so many adoptions taking place, we had room to intake more horses than usual in 2021. There were a lot of owner surrenders (17 in total), possibility due to the strain of the pandemic on horse owners, along with 11 animal control seizures, one horse returned, and one little crackerjack of a pony filly who was born at SAFE in April. The need for our help was certainly there in 2021, and we are grateful to our donors and supporters who made it possible for us to provide that help.

2021 was another good year for SAFE, and as we move into 2022, we anticipate another year rescuing, rehabilitating, retraining, and rehoming good horses headed toward better lives. For everyone who supports the SAFE horses, we sincerely appreciate that you're with us on this journey! This Annual Report is a summary of all that we did together in 2021 and some of the many things that we can be proud of. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as we have enjoying pulling it together!



Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director SAFE | Save a Forgotten Equine

Hannw

Bonnie and Owen, photo by Oden Photography



Two words that best describe donors and donations at SAFE in 2021 are **strong** and **steady**. We came into the second year of the global pandemic with very strong support from our donors, and that support remained steady throughout the year. Donor retention remained positive, with a 6% increase in number of donors and a 10% increase in total donations for the year. The average gift amount was \$441, and half of the donations made in 2021 were \$90 or less, which shows that our "grassroots" support is still going strong.

\$25,000 and above	Microsoft Employee Giving Program		gard oundation	Estate of Beryl Cochrar	
\$10,000-\$24,999					
Geraldine Cherry Carol Donner Ellison Foundation \$5,000-\$9,999	Jasper Family Fou Ruth Kennedy SK Tiffany Lindan SK		Jane Millar Mary Ann R Svanee's Fo	edeker	
Google Employee Givin Carol Inukai SK Rebecca Johnson	JoAnne & Dwight Barbara Lui Beach	Jackie Dodds Liles JoAnne & Dwight Locke sk Barbara Lui Beachner sk Deborah Meyer sk		Kyle Putnam Sarah & Adam Rosen Judith & Michael Tembreull	
\$2,500 to \$4,999					
Alco Investment Company Steven Alpiner Bainbridge Organic Distiller Don Beaty & Carrie Sjaarda S Bohemian Companies LLC Joel & Katie Conner Leslie DiMaio SK		ner	Jeannie Nords Orcas Island C Lisa Pascualy Joe & Bernice Julia Whitenig Charlotte Yark	ommunity Foundation SK Schick Iht SK	
\$1,000-\$2,499					
Casey Atchinson Charlann Bachmeier SK Sharon Ballantine Capriola Charity Fund Angela Caras Cathi Champion Judy Coe Victoria Corell Susan Coulter SK Sean Cramer SK Judith Crosby SK Nicky de Reuck SK Amy Delachica Deupree Family Fund Theresa Dodge Ashley Farrington Debra Fouts SK Nicole Gerber SK Laura Giorgi	Marcie Gwiazdon Robert & Judith Ham Bonnie Hammond S Dena Hibbard Stephanie Holderree Mary Kathleen Hope Dianne Hurt Lisa Johnson Addie Kingsland Candi & Kerry Kintzle Laura Landau Elizabeth Leech Jeslyn Lin Lara & Tad Lutz Amanda Madorno Trish & Seamas Mark Steve Mayer Sarah McGarr SK Richard & Lisa McMil	ed SK	George Osbor Sheila Otter Marilyn Philip	nunity Foundation one s e & Kristen Gulbran SK of ons SK on Vierling pfer cheis mak	

#### \$500-\$999

Lise Anderheggen-Leif SK Molly Austin Scott Bailey SK **Baker Family Giving Fund** Cassandra Bennett SK Lisa & Paul Bialek Barbara Bigalke Bluetooth SIG, Inc Whitney-Bear Bradsher SK **Bright Funds** William Bushnell Lynda Caughey SK Judy Chavez SK Marianna Clair Margaret Colony SK Sharman Conner SK Donna Coombs SK Ann Daigle SK Kim Daniel SK **Dell Giving** Ha Do **Bruce & Mary Dodds** David Douglas Richard & Jolene Duncan

Sara Eggers SK Lauren & Bryan Engle SK F5 Networks Holly Fleming Deanne Franz **Lindsay Fuller** Lisa Garr SK Sandra Gilbert SK Monique Goodrich Diana Grant SK Virginia Guest SK Lylee Jean Hubbard SK **IBM Corporation Rex Jennings** Mr & Mrs Kappel Jason King & Jenn McCoy Roxanne Moore SK Katie & Ryan Kyler Jane Lagerstrom SK **Lakeside Industries** Cynthia Larned Kellie Lee Larsen Carol Larson Margaret Laverty SK Pamela Lloyd SK

Paige Lyall Rane MacDonough L. Devin MacKrell SK Katherine Mason Virginia McDonald SK James McLaughlin Scott Mead Elizabeth Mitchell Alison Moceri Gwendolyn Moore SK Morgan Stanley Gift Fund Stephanie Norby Lisa O'Brien SK Cathy Olson Karla Parks SK Lindsey Peterson SK Barbra Rigelhof Lawrence Robinson Cynthia Romney Colleen Salmi Kevin Sawicki John Scannell Laura Scholten Marleen Shanks SK Jodi Sisson

Barbara Slack SK Shilpa Srinivasan & Divya Krishnan Jeanne Stine Rebecca Sykes SK Angela Thostrud **Tibbs Productions LLC** Mary Tillman SK Deanna Underwood SK Brandee Warren SK Julie Wartes David Wesche SK Jaree Wolfe Kenneth Wood Beck Wren SK Joan Wright Joan & Robert Yankis Marin Younker SK

#### \$250-\$499

Christina Ambrosini

James Dunkelberger

Jennifer Anderson SK Susan Armstrong SK Phillip Ausen Claire Baddeley **SK** Nancy Bak Smith SK Audrey Baldessari Gwendolyn Banchero SK Mara Battle Barbara Bentley SK Gizela Berreth Cristina Brendicke Julie Brown SK Dave Browne Mary Burton Kim Carter SK Teresa Chiftis Katherine Cole Wendy Colebank Michayla Conrad SK Craig Coombs SK Chelsea Culver SK Amanda Cummins SK LaFay Dillon SK Phyllis Dunmire Jean Eddy SK Mary Eddy SK Sue Eiben Kirsty Ellison SK Samantha Etzel Sara Etzel Nancy Falcone Catie Feinstein

Alicia Follmer SK Jeff Gagne SK Bonnie Gorder-Hinchey SK Elizabeth Grauvogel SK Sally Gregg Joakim Gustavsson Jenny Gvozd SK Julie Hahn Sherry Hansen Barbara Harder Mary Harrelson Francesca Helina SK Daniel Hoolahan Patty Hughes Dejenelle Jacobs Johnson & Johnson Matching Gifts Jule Johnson Karen Johnson Robert Jones SK Alvssa Jumars Rosemarie Kalmeta SK Ilana Kennedy Doug Kenoyer Andrew Kessel Frin Kline-Aleman Michael Kula SK Michele Larson SK Stacie Lee Kate Lefond SK Mark & LeAnn LeMaster Tami Liljebeck SK

**Brenda Ferries** 

Caryn Littler

Ramona Machulak Carolyn Mahran SK Cody Maki Tamara Malone Jill Marcell SK Marsha Martin Carolyn Mayer Crystal McAuliffe Lisa McBain SK Chervl McGarry Liz Lennox Sk Colleen Melendrez SK Jennifer Middour SK Judy Moursund Jan Neuberger Debbie Kinson Shannon Nicholson SK Meghan Nicholson SK Nancy Nolda SK Lori Page SK Roberta Pagon SK Nancy Palmer SK Lauren Paonessa Linda Perrine SK Terry Phelps-Peddy Suzi Puckett Ricky Quinn Kirsten Rachon Blankenship SK

Lindsay Refvem

Katie Ringwood

Cathy and Larry Robinson

Laura Machado de Wright SK

Gretchen Rohde SK Paige Romney Ellyn Rose **Holly Ruiz** Mary Schroder Jacqui Seyer Jeanne Shepard SK Jessica Shippen SK Marie Jainga Nicole Snider SK Maureen Strieb SK Carrie Stewart Debra Suchla T-Mobile Stacy Taylor Karen Turley SK Marilyn Ulicny **US Bank Foundation Team** Jordan Valente Adria Vincent SK **Curtis Walker** Anne Wall Betsy Warren SK Renee Wass SK Brian Wax Josie Weiss **SK** Witt Witt Candie Wolf Curtis Wright SK

Karen Rodrigue

#### \$100-\$249

lean-Claude Abboud SK Lisa Abramovic Susan Abrisz Pamela Adams SK Cheryl Adcock Catherine Adgar-Beal Maureen Ahern Kashan Ahmed Jennifer Albold Lucretia Albulet Ashley Alfredson Steven Alaer Patricia Allen American Family Agents Laura Anderson Sophia Archambault Carol Arkell Stephanie Armstrong Julie Arnevick Jeanne Arredondo Sandy Atchinson Jeanne & John Atkins SK Christy Avery Lisa Backer Stan Baker Alexandra Ballard SK Luisa Bangs Connie Barndt Valerie Barrs-O'Mara Sandra Bartlett SK Robert Basham Mary Bauer Cathi Bauer Sally Barto Vicki Becker Gloria Benson K Benson Luann Berman Lizzie Biagioni SK Heather Bivens Teri Blake Jeannie Blank Rhonda Bleck Chris Block Frica Blue Jeffrey Blyth Amy Bodie Molly Bohm Jess Boman Ruth Boozer Candice Boyd Brian Raymond Charissa Bronsky Stephanie Brown Heather Bunn Cynthia Burbank

Hilda Burton

Rory Caldwell

Lori Calvin

Makayla Caeton SK

Shannon Campbell

Tracy Campion SK Candace Carlson Randy Carothers Vicky Carter Tricia Cate Michelle Chamberlain Alice Chanman Cheryl Cho Chris Clair Nancy Clark Tina Cleaver Susan Cloaston Lisa Cole Arlinda Coleman Janette Coleman Taylor Colson Lisa Conners SK Heather Conradt SK Cook Angela Cooper Costco Employee Giving Susan Costello SK Joe & Linda Cowan Gary Cowart SI Joel Dale Rebecca Davidson Patricia Davis SK Megan Deardorff Steven Denton Barb Dentz Shirley Baschen Dijulio Keith Drebin SK Wendy & Craig Duckering Mary Jo Dugaw Richard & Lisa Dykstra Kaye Eckmann SK Shelby Edwards Dennice Edwards Craig Cheryl Fklund David Flkins Robert Emma SK Susan Ernst Cindy Estrin Navarro Ann Estrin-Wassink Jerri Etchason SK Michael Etezadi Heather Evans-Keliher SK Findlay Kristin Finkbiner Robert Fleck, DVM Joan Fleming Carrie Ford Margaret France Yvette Franz Lyn Frisch Heidi Furseth SK Celia Gainer Jacki Gallacher Berreth

Meribeth Geiger SK Nancy Gervais Jules Gilman Caroline Gilmore Janis Ginestra SK Maggie Gipson SK Girl Scout Troop # 46540 Donna Gleason SK Lisa Glenn Allison Goldie SK Traci & Brad Goodwin SK Erin Gorman Evelyn Gosnell Paulette Green Jim Grua Skye Guidotti SK Jennie Guthrie-Lopez SK Carla Guzzardo Nancy & Jim Haberman Cherie Hall Robert Hanline Brian Hatfield Fllen Hatton Trela Herman Deborah Hermsmeier Patricia & Anthony Hernandez Brian Hillger Lillian Hinett SK Jim & Marilyn Hodgson Cheryl Hoffman Kimi Holstine SK r Amelia Hooper Ryan & Steph Horner Frika Houle Sandra Huber Robert Hughes, Jr. Sara Hummel Brenda Hummel Julie Hunter SK Susann Hussels Randi Hutchens Inglewood Auto Repair Terri Inglis Julie Jenninas Terese Johnson Maria D Johnson Kimberly Johnston Daphne Jones Monte Jordan Melissa Kanias Wilde SK Shari Kauls Megan Kavanagh SK Sandra Kelly SI Andrew Kessel Carol Ketchum Linda Kightlinger Richard Kink Larry Kintzley Anna Kirby

Karl Kirk Tiffany Kirkpatrick Karen Kitterman SK Heather Koch Leah Koerper Chelsea Kopta Nanci Koss Brian Krauss Marcy Kubbs Sarochinee Kulpreecha Daniel Kumberger SK Kasia Kurek-Moore Ruth Laitila James & Amelia Lantz Keith Latta Talia Lauren Karyn Lazarus Julia Lefond Susannah Lewis Deb Lichon Diana Lindahl Kimberly Linden SK Martha Lindley Gabrielle Lindquist SK Vicki Loe Edith Logeman Melodee Loshbaugh Stephanie Lutgring SK John Lydon Alex Lytle Meghan MacKrell SK Maria Malin Jennifer Malocha Megan Manassero SK Joy Mann Linda Marquardt Todd Marsh MaryEllen Marshall Jacob Martinez Rena Mastor Katherin Matolcsv SK Wendy Tyler Marilyn McCartney SK Sean McConnell Linda McDaniel Allison & Kinnon McDonell Chris McMuldroch Louise McNerney Stacy McReynolds SK James Meniketti Barbara Mericle Peggy Miller Hera Minkove Claire Mitchell Nancy Mitrano Shellie Monson SK Andrea Montgomery SK Karen Moore Clea Morehart Jane Morrison Kelly Morrissey

Christy Moss Lori Mueller Rohini Mukand Katherine Murdoch SK Charley & Cathy Murphey Sandi Neidetcher SK Kim Nicholl Sk Marne Norden Jodi Nordstrom Leslie Norton Paula O'Neil Nancylee Oczkowski Kristina Oden Steven & Janet Okerlund Paul Olmstead Lisabeth Olver SK Frederick Pack Mirella Pappe Marli Parker Diane Parry Kati Patnode Tom Pavlik Kerri Pearson Stephanie Perkal SK Lela Perkins Kim Perry Samantha Peters SK Carol Peterson SK Michol Phillips Shelby Phillips Judy Phillips Deb Piecora Catina Piliaris SK Mary Jane Pioli Kim Poe SK Nancy Potash Susan Powers SK Beverly Prater-Harrelson Amy Quackenbush Jenina Quinn Jane Ouirk Robin Quiroga JJ Raitz Jill Rand Balanced Horse Vet Svcs Laura Rexford Gemma Richard SK Roger Rigelhof Gabby Rishel Anastacio Rivera SK Francine Ruley Marika Saarinen Jeannie Sanders SK Ashley Sausen Leah Sawyer Lisa Schildt Michelle Schmidt Sue Salisbury Schmitt Martha Schroeder John Schuler Karen Schwitters

Laurie Sellars SK Sharon Senger SK Jacqui Seyer Stephanie Sharples Sandy Shea Floyd Sheets Leslie Sherman SK Kathleen Sherry Nancy Shimeall **SK** Lori Shufelt SK Frances Sievertsant SK Paul Simon Nikki Skillern David & Kathryn Smith Tara Smith Beth Spector Cisley Spielman Claudia St Clair Susan Staats Starbucks Partner Match Andrea Stearns Jennifer Sterling Toby Sterman SK Abby Stern SK Myria Stevens SK Tray Svendson Amy Swenson SK Jeane Szwarc Mike Tai Marjorie Taylor Alan Teets Donn & Kathleen Terry Rachael & Lon Topaz SK Flissa Torres SK Joanna Tracy SK Judith Tracy Carol Trapp Susan Turner Dan Vaughn Lilly Vida Edith Warring Maureen Welch Joanne W Wheeler SK Laura White Susan Wilbanks Rachel Wilkinson Andrea Williamson Christina Wilsdon SK Colin Winkley Joseph Winn Esther Wong Stacy Woodard Karen Wright Sheri Zimmerman Melinda Zopfi

#### **Business In Kind Donations and Sponsorships**

Five C Farms

SK indicates that the donor is a member of the



SAFEkeepers Club members make automatic monthly

Stacy Garfield

Laura Gates

Jonathan Garrigues

donations to support a particular SAFE horse. These donors provide sustainable support to our horses, and in return, get special recognition and opportunities to meet the horse they sponsor and attend private annual SAFEkeepers functions at our farm in Redmond, Washington.

522 Tattoo Adobe Inc. All The Best Pet Care American Bear Association Bainbridge Organic Distillers The Bare Horse Brown Bear Car Wash Buffalo Industries LLC Cactus Restaurants Candi Kintzley Architectural Photography Card My Yard Woodinville Dirtfish Rally School Double H Studio Eagle Harbor Wine

Betsv Kirbv

Frank Lumber / The Door Store Gardens ALIVE Design George's Gift Horse Saddlery Heritage Distilling Co. Hyatt Regency Bellevue ifeed Inglewood Auto Repair Ivar's Joel Conner Horsemanship Lake Forest Bar & Grill Law Office of Katherine Mason Lill Family Wines

**Edward Jones Investments** 

Oden Photography
Olson's Tack Shop
Ostroms Drug & Gift
Outshined Photography
Pacific Northwest Ballet
Panera Bread
Pilchuck Vet Hospital
QFC
Rainland Farm Equine Clinic
Redmond Ben Franklin
Revel Rouser Events
RiderPilates, LLC
Rocking E Feed

Live Oak Audio Visual

North Country Inn Motel

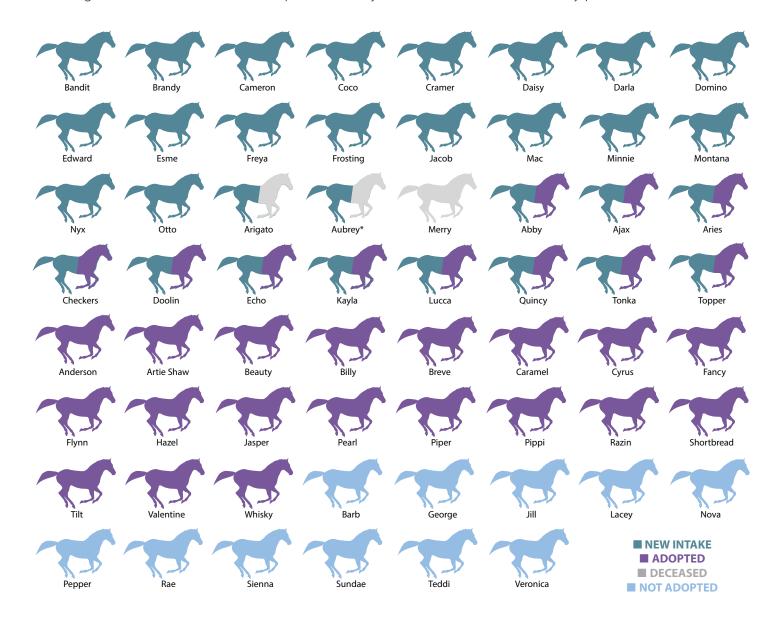
Rosehill Car Wash
Schwartz Brothers Restaurants
Seaweed CBD
Snohomish Co-op
SoulFood Coffee House
Stringfellow Tailored Leatherwork
TEALEAVES
Thruline Coffee Company
Uncommon Creatures
Vulpine Taproom
Warrior Spirit Journey
Western Leathercraft, LLC
Wild Birds Unlimited

# **Intakes and Adoptions**

2021 was a record breaking year for new intakes and adoptions at SAFE. We welcomed 31 new horses to our rescue, including pony filly foal Coco who was born here in April. In order to take these horses in, we first had to place horses into great new homes and we did that 30 times! This number is especially exciting when compared to the 15 horses adopted out in 2020. And it's very



important to note that our high standards for adoption did not change one bit. The same due diligence that has gone into approving adopters since the start was done for every adoption in 2021. SAFE is not about the numbers — we're about responsible rescue and adoptions that last a lifetime. Sticking to our standards while doubling the number of successful adoptions is a major achievement that we are very proud of!





### 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 responsible for feeding, turnout, and stall cleaning. Afternoon shifts 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 facility maintenance, special events, fundraising, marketing, and more. Our volunteer program is critical to our success as a rescue, and it's absolutely true when we say we could not do what we do without our volunteers.



In 2021, SAFE had a total of

298 active volunteers

111 were new in 2021



In 2021, we logged

17,606 volunteer hours

which is the same as 9 full-time employees



**Volunteers saved SAFE** (\$\\$255,111 in payroll costs!



# **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 2021, SAFE took in a larger number of owner surrendered horses than usual, which we were able to do because of an increase in successful adoptions, allowing us to help more horses over the course of the year.

### In 2021, SAFE was contacted by

# 171 horse owners seeking help

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



owner-surrendered horses were taken in and SAFE spent \$11,776 to stabilize and rehabilitate them in their initial year at the rescue

# SAFE provided hay to **82** horses across Washington State at a cost of \$8,277

SAFE spent an additional \$10,973 on Community Outreach Assistance:

- 3 humane euthanizations
- 4 horses provided with veterinary care
- 10 stallions turned into happy geldings
- 19 assisted adoptions.

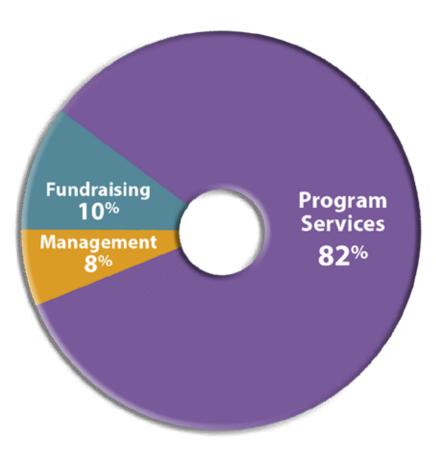
### Revenue

Income in 2021 came from a well diversified revenue stream. Donations from the general public had the largest increase from the previous year. COVID-19 prevented us from holding our normal in-person fundraising events once again, but another virtual Heart of the Horse produced a slight increase in Special Event income. And Corporate Workplace Giving programs remained an important and steady source of income, largely thanks to programs at Microsoft and Boeing that match donations and make contributions based on employee volunteer hours.



# **Expenses**

Finanical stability for SAFE allows us to uphold the promises we make to each horse that we take in. Our annual budget is prepared using historical data and researched projections, and monitored carefully to keep spending on track. In 2021, facing another year of economic uncertainly, we remained conservative when making decisions on special projects and focused on the needs of our horses. As a result, we finished the year with a budget surplus, further strengthening our emergency reserves.



### Statement of Activities

### **OPERATING REVENUE**

**Public Support** 

#### Donations \$360,125 Special Events 175,714 Bequests 30,000 Workplace Giving 93,460 Grants 50,400 **Other Revenue** Adoptions 23,487

#### Total Operating Revenue \$ 736,123

2,936

### Statements of Financial Position

#### **ASSETS**

Current Assets Bank Accounts Accounts Receivable Other Current Assets	\$543,490 0 1,600
<b>Fixed Assets</b> Leasehold Improvements Rescue Assets	7,291 95,555
Other Assets Lease Deposit Lease Last Month Payment	6,833 5,765
Total Assets	\$ 660,534

#### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

**Program Services** 

Miscellaneous Income

#### Rescue Program \$540,553 Community Outreach \$15,849 **Supporting Services** Fundraising 71,958 Management 51,574 **Total Operating Expenses** \$679,934

### LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities Accounts Payable Credit Cards Other Current Liabilities	11,842 29,833 199
<b>Long-Term Liabilities</b> Kubota Tractor Loan	5,094
<b>Equity</b> Retained Earnings Net Income SBA PPP Loan Forgiveness*	463,229 55,792 94,545
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 660,534

<sup>\*</sup>PPP loans received in 2020 and 2021, plus SBA EIDL loan. Forgiven in full in February 2021.



# Accomplishments & Highlights

# **Empowering through Horsemanship**

The important of equine education cannot be overstated. It's not enough to just save their lives — we have to guide our horses down the path toward new and better lives. At SAFE, we do this through horsemanship. There is so much potential for an untrained horse to become dangerous or risky to be around, and rarely does that end well for the horse. We give SAFE horses a foundation of good ground manners, boundaries they can understand, and basic skills that can take them in any direction. This applies to both riding horses and companions. And the results speak for themselves. In 2021, we had a record number of successful adoptions that paved the way toward more intakes and more horses helped. We are committed to our Horsemanship Program, and proud to see it continue to grow. Our dream is that our horses not be seen as somehow "less than" other horses.



Terry works with Doolin on the ground (photos by Kristina Oden)



Sue and Sienna (photo by Kristina Oden)



Lexee and Lacey (photo by Kristina Oden)



Lexee and Lacey (photo by Kristina Oden)

# Anderson's Story

When a horse has been at your rescue for more than six years, you get to know him pretty well. You know that if he turns his head away when you go to bridle him, pause for a moment and he will move back and gently accept the bit. You know that if he pins his ears when you ask for the canter, you probably didn't ask correctly, at least as far as he's concerned. You know he prefers orchard grass to timothy, but will eat both. And you know that if it takes six years to find his perfect adopter, he's worth it. One of the principles of the horsemanship program

at SAFE is that each horse be given the time needed to build a solid education. The same principle applies to our adoption program. We put no limit on the amount of time a horse can stay at SAFE. We believe that there is someone out there for every one of our horses, and that the right person is worth waiting for.

Many potential adopters showed interest in Anderson over the years. But when his perfect person arrived in 2021, there were several characteristics that helped us recognize that Ari was the one for Anderson. She took a good amount of time to get to know him before making a committment to adoption. She rode him at SAFE multiple times, and even participated in a horsemanship clinic with him. But the thing that made Ari a perfect adopter for Anderson was her heathy attitude. She understood that to be the best she could be for Anderson, she would have to contunually grow and improve her own horsemanship skills. And she accepted this challenge with enthusiasm and excitement. Terry Phelps, SAFE's Operations Director, would love to see every adopter start their journey with the same healthy attitude and willingness to learn and grow. It certainly has gotten Anderson's adoption off on the right hoof.





# Accomplishments & Highlights

# Highlights of 2021

There were a lot of wonderful things that happened at SAFE last year — a lot we can look back on and feel good about. Here are just a few of our favorite stories from 2021:

### The Birth of Coco

Here at SAFE, we frown upon backyard breeding and blame it for the continued need for rescue. But when we're called upon to take in a mare that is pregnant, the impending arrival can't help bringing joy and excitement. Sundae was one of seven ponies seized by Animal Control and turned over to SAFE over the winter. Her filly foal Coco came into the world on the evening of April 21, 2021. Everything about Coco was easy. Her birth seemed effortless, she was in perfect health, and everything we taught her, she learned quickly and with ease. Coco was, and still is, a reminder of the magic that horses bring to life.



Above: Coco, 6 months old (photos by Kristina Oden)

### **GFAS Accreditation Achieved!**



In 2021, a long held goal was achieved: SAFE submitted an application to become Accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) and we were awarded Accredited status in early 2022. There are only 209 GFAS organizations worldwide, and the standards set by GFAS are extremely high. We're proud to say that SAFE met

and even exceeded those standards. Before awarding Accreditiation, GFAS scrutinized every aspect of our rescue operation: not just our property and animal care practices, but also how we operate as a nonprofit. GFAS Accreditation shows the world that SAFE is rescuing horses at the highest level. It means we do things right, even when there might be an easier way. It means that we are unquestionably devoted to the well being of the horses that we take in. And it means that when you chose to support our horses by making a tax deductible donation, you can be sure that your gift will be used to change horses' lives.

### A Storybook Ending for Flynn

About half the horses that end up at SAFE come through animal control agencies. We make it our mission to support animal control in our area because they can take action in the worst situations of neglect or abuse. From time to time, we're asked to take a horse that has been seized from its owner because they failed to provide necessary vet care. Errol Flynn was removed from his home because he had an eye infection that had gone untreated for more than a year. Upon his arrival at SAFE, he was immediately examined by our veterinarian, who recommended that the Flynn's eye be removed to relieve the pain that he was suffering. Surgery was a complete success, and Flynn transformed into a happy and comfortable pony who easily adapted to seeing the world through a single eye. Flynn made an instant connection with a young lady who came out to meet him, and she and her family took him home not long after. Flynn is about to start a new role as a therapy horse to help people going through marital separation gain confidence by working with him on the ground.



Flynn and his girl meet for the first time.

# 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.

### 2022 Board of Directors

Trish Markey
Sheila Otter
Ashley Farrington
Belinda Jensen
Joel Conner, Advisory Council
Lisa Pascualy, Advisory Council
Paula O'Neil, Advisory Council

### **Operations Council**

Shar Conner, Alumni Manager
Carrie Gouldin, Marketing Manager
Tiffany Lindan, Community Engagement Manager
Lexee Navarre, Application Manager
Kellie Larson, Outreach Manager
Lisa Schiltz, Herd Health Assistant

### Staff

Bonnie Hammond, Executive Director
Terry Phelps, Operations Director
Kaya Mead, Barn and Facilities Manager
Skye Guidotti, Volunteer and Social Media Manager
Lily Litkowski, Operations Assistant
Trudy Mossup, Barn Staff
Sara Hummel, Barn Staff

and the many dedicated and hardworking SAFE volunteers.