

# Welcome to the SAFE Alumni Community!

As the adopter of a SAFE horse, you are now a member of an elite group of horse owners that call a SAFE horse their own. The SAFE Alumni community is here to support the journey you are starting on. As you're well aware, your horse spent a significant time at SAFE, and a lot of love, care, and education went into getting them ready to go home with you. As you embark on this lifetime journey with your new horse, there are many ways we can help make it as successful as possible.

# **SHARE SUCCESS**

The SAFE Alumni Facebook group is a place to share photos, videos, and updates about your horse. It's a supportive community of people, many of whom knew your horse quite well, and who will be delighted for a glimpse into their new life. We love to see our old friends in their forever homes.

# **FIND ANSWERS**

The SAFE Alumni community is also a great place to get advice from fellow horse owners, as well as SAFE staff and volunteers. There are plenty of people there who love to help, and many who may have already faced whatever issue you're dealing with.

#### **COLLABORATE ON CARE**

For the first several months, as you're getting to know your horse, there are people here at SAFE who already know your horse very well, and who are happy to discuss issues you might face with feeding, vet care, farrier care, or behavior. You are welcome to reach out to us during your transition period, and even afterwards, if we can help.

### STOP SETBACKS

You're taking home a horse that has been well prepared for its new life, and we hope that the transition goes as smoothly as possible. But setbacks can and do happen. It's our goal that your SAFE horse will have a home with you for its lifetime, so if you find yourself struggling with a behavioral or training problem, please communicate with us, because we may be able to help. We're not going to come and take the horse back, and we're not going to judge or criticize you, so you shouldn't worry about that. Just communication with us. You don't have to face serious setbacks alone.

# ANNUAL FOLLOW UP

Part of SAFE's mission is to provide a lifetime of safety to every horse we adopt out. This is why we conduct annual checkups on our adopted horses. It's not because we don't trust you to properly care for your horse—you've already proven yourself to be the best person out there for the horse you're taking home. It's just an opportunity for us to see our old friend and offer support to the two of you. We feel a responsibility to every horse we rescue, and it's important to us, and to our donors and supporters, that we maintain a connection to those horses.

Our very best wishes to you and your new SAFE horse!

Terry Phelps

**SAFE Operations Director** 

Bonnie Hammond
SAFE Executive Director

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