

# 2024 Annual Report

# 20 Years Down and More to Go!

This past year has been one for the records. Freedom Hill Horse Rescue celebrated its 20th anniversary—an incredible milestone! I remember my first visit to a newly formed horse rescue organization in Southern Maryland with my Girl Scout Troop over twenty years ago. FHHR was founded in 2004 by Melody T. to primarily rescue nurse mare foals from the Pregnant Mare Urine (PMU) industry and horses bound for slaughter from auction houses. We have since pivoted to assisting horse owners who need to rehome their horses by offering other options besides auctions. We do this hoping to eliminate the owner to auction to killpen pipeline.

Personally, this year brought a fight against cancer to my door. After a diagnosis of lung cancer, I had months of chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and surgery to remove my left lung. I am happy to say that a year later, I am now a cancer survivor! My husband fought bladder and kidney cancer for most of the year and he can now call himself a cancer survivor too! However, in February, we and many at FHHR lost one of our best friends, supporter, and Blue's mom, Carol B. to a six-year fight against cancer.

In March 2024, we lost our beloved equine artist, Benne, to colic. While 2024 was a year of sadness, it was also a year of resilience and triumph. Through it all, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue was able to continue helping horses in need. In return, our resident horses have helped so many people in need through our Equine-Assisted programs and events, which were organized and led by over 100 dedicated volunteers. Thank you to our visitors and our awesome supporters.

Our extreme gratitude goes out to Alicia S., especially, for her passion and dedication as our Horse Health Care Lead and Assistant Barn Manager throughout my illness and recovery. Our Board Members, Kate S., Beth M., and Terry H., were instrumental in carrying out seamless business as usual at FHHR along with Cathy H., our volunteer coordinator and Barn Supplies/Inventory Manager who kept the flow going with volunteers and barn supplies. My gratitude also extends to our committee leads listed in this Report who have given their time and skills to continue all our events, programs, and administrative endeavors. Finally, thank you to Anna D. for our unwavering social media presence and community outreach.

I look forward to seeing what we can accomplish in our 21st year of helping horses have a better life and making a difference in our community.

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue Board of Directors:
Lori Harrington, President & Treasurer
Kathleen Sheridan, Vice President
Beth Meader, Secretary
Terry Hurley, Board Member & Farm Operations Manager

# Overview of Programs in Fiscal Year 2024

# **Operations:**

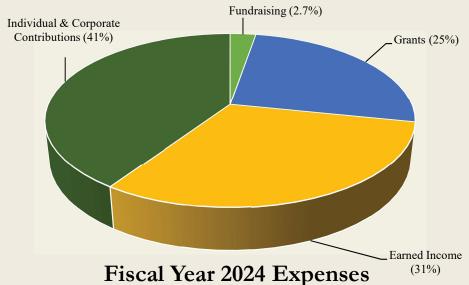
Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that operates out of the beautiful grounds at Hampton Manor in Owings, MD with three pastures (3-4 acres each), 6 paddocks, an outdoor arena, a 10 stall barn, and a 2 stall "small" barn. FHHR also has access to a satellite barn for quarantine of new horses or overflow purposes. FHHR currently cares for eight horses: six program/sanctuary horses and two adoptable horses.

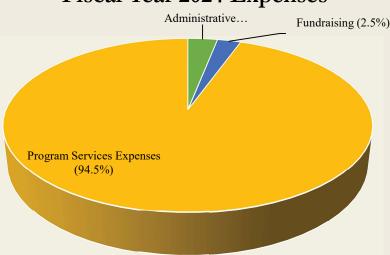
### In 2024, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue...

- hosted 15 events and programs
- had 8 horses under FHHR care
- enlisted over 100 volunteers
- logged over 10,115 volunteer hours
- assisted 12 horses and their owners by finding them new homes

- had 2 horses adopted
- rescued 2 new horses
- had 18 Horse Angel sponsors and 3 horses fostered on-site
- was visited by 500+ visitors at our facility

# Fiscal Year 2024 Revenue







Above: A volunteer introduces visitors to Delilah. Below: Volunteers work together to build an overhang on paddock A's run-in.



# During Our 20th Year of Helping Horses

# Our 20th Anniversary

In 2024, our rescue celebrated its 20th year of helping horses. To date, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue has rescued, rehabilitated, and rehomed over 400 horses. With this milestone past us, we look forward to another 20 years of helping horses and having our horses help people.

On October 12th, we hosted a 20th Anniversary Open House and welcomed visitors from all over! We were grateful that so many people turned out to meet our horses and learn more about the history of FHHR. We were also presented an award in recognition for our 20 years of service to our horses and community by the Agricultural Development Specialist, Caroline, from the Calvert County Government.

We like to once again thank Charlotte, Evie, and Lily from Girl Scout Troop #11009 for making handmade ornaments of each of our horses to hand out during this event. We'd also like to thank everyone who contributed to the \$20 for 20 Years fundraiser. Because of you all, we raised over \$15,000 for our horses! Finally, thank you to the volunteers whose hard work and dedication make it possible for FHHR to continue its mission to help horses in need.













# FHHR Adoptions

In 2024, two FHHR horses found their forever homes! We were contacted this year to help rehome one of the mustangs who came to FHHR in 2011. El Dorado, now known as Apollo, had recently been diagnosed with Cushing's Disease and needed to live on a dry lot. With the help of his last family, we were able to place him in a new home. El Dorado is doing very well and has a new friend, Brom, to hang out with. We are grateful to his former family for reaching out to us and allowing El Dorado to move on to a new home.

After a year of hardwork, FHHR and our friends at Sofia's Oasis for Equines (SOFE) and Southern Maryland Equine Miracles (SMEM) were happy to see Cuba go off to his forever home. Cuba was rescued in 2023 after he had been diagnosed with Kissing Spine disease. FHHR, SOFE, and SMEM collaborated to raise the funds for his surgery, rehabilitate him post-surgery, and train him for his future human companion. After all that hardwork, we are happy that Cuba has fully recovered from surgery and will now live happily with his forever family.

# During Our 20th Year of Helping Horses

# Have You Met Our New Arrivals?

We welcomed two new horses to our barn in 2024. In April, Nora arrived at FHHR. Nora is an 11 year old, OTTB mare who was not thriving at her previous home. Her previous owner made the hard decision to surrender her to FHHR. Since April, Nora has been working with our Horse Health Care Lead, Alicia S., and our trainer, Shaun G., to get her ready for her forever person. As a younger horse, Nora needs quite a bit of training before she can be ridden and handled. She is now able to be led in and out by experienced volunteers and she is slowly getting used to being ridden. Nora is a spunky lady who's the definition of speed. She loves the people she works with most often and enjoys a treat or two whenever she behaves well. Our goal is to have Nora available for adoption within the next year or two after she is fully trained and able to be handled by those with less horse experience.

In addition to Nora, Sir Magic made his way into our barn and hearts this past year. Sir is a 26 year old, OTTB gelding who has a history of racing. Due to his age, he is now a Sanctuary horse at FHHR and will live out his days at our rescue. Sir quickly captured the hearts of many volunteers after he showed himself to be a true lovebug. He's a very friendly gentleman who enjoys working with our volunteers and participating in our events and programs. He especially loves our Reading Days. These days were new this year and in collaboration with Calvert County Public Schools. Children were able to come to FHHR and read to our horses to practice their reading skills in a safe and non-judgemental environment. Sir loved meeting the children and listening to them read to him. We think he will make a great addition to more programs in 2025.

If you haven't gotten a chance to meet these two wonderful horses, we have plenty of opportunities for you to do so in 2025. Stop by one of our Open Houses and Tack Sales if you are interested in meeting them. You can see a list of these dates on our website under the "News & Events" tab. Nora and Sir Magic can't wait to meet you!















# Thank You to Our 2024 Leads & Committees

Everything Freedom Hill Horse Rescue does is made possible by dedicated volunteers. We'd like to thank them all for everything that they do! Below is a list of the 2024 leads and committee members at FHHR.

# Feed Shift Leaders and Co-Leads

Alexis Allen

Shannon Barley (Co-Lead)

Leslie Clark (Co-Lead)

Emma Cummings (Co-Lead)

Erica Davis (Co-Lead)

Lisa Davis (Co-Lead)

Frederique Cattan Dorn

Dave Dupois (Co-Lead)

Jayme Eng

Sharon Fowler (Co-Lead)

Tammie Fraher

Julie Gallion (Co-Lead)

Marcie Gough (Co-Lead)

Danielle Heckart (Co-Lead)

Debbie Holden (Co-Lead)

Cathy Hurley

Kim Levine (Co-Lead)

Anne McDowell (Co-Lead)

Beth Meader

Leah Miller (Co-Lead)

Grace Nessler (Co-Lead)

Ashley Norton (Co-Lead)

Melanie Padgett (Co-Lead)

Ashley Philips (Co-Lead)

Chrissy Rauh (Co-Lead)

Heather Roe

Larry Sanderoff

Lili Sheeline

Kathleen Sheridan

Dot Stein

Linda Stolze (Co-Lead)

Alicia Sullivan

Bill Tucker (Co-Lead)

Shirley Walker (Co-Lead)

Dawn Webb (Co-Lead)

Lana Woodard (Co-Lead)

## Farm Operations Team

Craig Gough

Terry Hurley

Vince Sullivan

## Barn Management Team

Lori Harrington

Cathy Hurley

Terry Hurley

Alicia Sullivan

### Horse Health Care Team

Lori Harrington

Alicia Sullivan

# Educational & Equine Assisted Learning Team

Lori Harrington Karen McMahon

Heather Roe

## Adoptions & Foster Team

Lori Harrington

Kathleen Sheridan

Alicia Sullivan

## Horse Welfare & Horse Owner Assistance Team

Lori Harrington

Kathleen Sheridan

### Volunteer Relations Team

Erica Davis

Lori Harrington

Cathy Hurley

# Administrative Assistance

Team

Cathy Hurley Beth Meader

# Development &

**Communications Team** 

Terri Alder

Tyra Andrews

Anna Darden

Julie Gallion

Diane Hermann

Cathy Hurley

Beth Meader Kat Sheehan

### Financial Management Team

Lisa Davis

Lori Harrington

Beth Meader

Special thanks to all the volunteers who help weekly at feed shifts!

# Honor Roll of Donors

We'd like to extend our thanks to all of those who donated and contributed to Freedom Hill Horse Rescue during the 2024 year. Thank you for continuing to support the rescue horses at FHHR and helping us to fulfill our mission.

#### **Government Grants**

Calvert County Maryland Combined Federal Campaign Maryland Horse Industry Board Maryland Charitable Campaign

## Non-profit Organization Grants Laura Partee in Honor of Pam Sterling

Bernice Barbour Foundation
EQUUS Foundation
Dancers Legacy Foundation
The Help Association of Calvert County
Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries
Strickland Foundation

### **Sponsors**

Chaney Enterprises
Debra Lanham
Deborah Navarro
Ashley & Oriana Williams
William Webb
Josh Wynne

## Corporate Giving

Vaughn Cheese

## **Charitable Giving Funds**

Ameriprise Financial PayPal Giving Fund Pledgeling Foundation

### In Memorium or In Honor

Alexis Allen in Memory of Carol Brady Laura Brady in Memory of Carol Brady Laura Catlett in Memory of Dutiful Sun Victoria Berghel in Honor of Kate Sheridan Catherine Garin in Honor of Old Horse

Catherine Garin in Honor of Old Horse Ned Gee in Memory of Carol Brady Arthur James in Honor of Cathy Hurley Jessia Klenk in Memory of Jeff S. Nod Debra Lanham in Honor of Carol Brady

# In Memorium or In Honor (continued)

Richard Lanham in Honor of
Carol Brady
MedStar Health in Memory of
Carol Brady
Laura Partee in Honor of Pam Sterling
Katie Roger in Honor of Amelia
Persis Sosiak in Memory of Jeff S. Nod
Kathy Whiteside in Memory of
Jeff S. Nod
Michael Quinlan in Honor of
the Sheridans

Rebecca Young in Honor of Bill and Amber Tucker

#### **Fosters**

Emma Cummings - River Anna Darden & Beth Meader - Delilah Lisa & Caitlin Davis - Sissy Danielle Heckart - Badger

## **Horse Angels**

Sandy Carson Leslie Clark Lisa Dorn Janet Enrico Kendra Etheridge Sharon Fowler Anthony Greene Charles Heckart Corrita Johnson Victor Long Heidi May Deborah Navarro Veronica Niblet Miana Patterson Alex & Brandon Postow Alicia Sullivan Marcellyn Stone Melinda Tomaino

#### \$0.01-\$25.00

A Good Start Dec John Balazs Diane Bartlow Denise Bartlow Allison Boda Denise Branco Leslie Clark Debra Coleman Catherine Darden Anne Davenport Katrina Dusek Eileen Flynn Tammy Fraher Diane Herman Sue Hockett Deborah Holden Dawn Jarvis Victoria Kirkpatrick

Leslie Lindner
Anne Mason
Michelle Moody
NCAEL Students
Katharine Parsons
Karen Pyles
Debra Ricci
Katie Roger
Arlene Rosborough
Alexis Sakulich

Rachel Smith Dot Stein Karen White

# Honor Roll of Donors

#### \$25.01 - \$50.00

Teresa Adler

Craig Allen

Shannon Barley

Gregory Bonafede

Kristin Crisafulli

Susan Desenberg

Sarah Dohne

Jenna Guido

Joyce Herman

Jacqueline Hollan

William Jackson

Selina Kaylor

Ruthi Keehner

Corrita Meyers

Melody Parrish

Laura Partee

Heather Roe

Melinda Romaino

Persis Sosiak

Pam Steinle

Alicia Sullivan

Stephanie Vito

Ellen Watters

Kathy Whiteside

#### \$50.01 - \$100.00

Carolyn Boyer

Scott Bradley

Liz Clark

Shirley Doyle

Catherine Garin

Ned Gee

Dot Gingue

Mary Golway

Wes & Yvonne H.

Kelly Harrington

Lori Harrington

Diedre Koskie

Renee Lafayette

Victor Long

Kevin McLoughlin

Alexandra Robinson

Anita Robinson

Bob Rote

Lili Sheeline

Kate Sheridan

Allyson Smith

Gordon Wells III

### \$50.01 - \$100.00

Nancy Wheeler

Rebecca Young

### \$100.01 - \$250.00

Toby Bell

Ruthi Birch

Madison Brady

Laura Brady

Beth Reed Brady

Sandy Carson

Laura Catlett

Dana Cope

Linda Cyr

Lisa Dorn

Anthony Greene

Kevin Harris

Infusion Dessertz

Arthur James

Jessica Klenk

Arleen McGinley

Karen McMahon

Jen Cipponi Potenti

Melinda Tomaino

Emily VanNess

Wendy Weaver

Gail Young

### \$250.01 - \$500.00

4H Heritage Girls

Alexis Allen

Barbara Cunningham

Kendra Etheridge

Paul Frame

Kimberly Levine

Valerie Ormond

Alex & Brandon Postow

Janee Sample

Larry Sanderoff

Sonder Whole Fitness

Kimberly Stillwell

Marcellyn Stone

Wendy Taylor

Michael Wuinlan

### \$500.01 - \$1,000.00

Anna Darden

David Elliot

Janet Enrico

Sharon Fowler

Charles Heckart

Heidi May

Unknown

Josh Wynne

### \$1,000.01 - \$5,000.00

Holly Bard

Carl Burchheister

Victoria Berghel

Emma Cummings

Lisa Davis

Danielle Heckart

Beth Meader



Freedom Hill Horse Rescue is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

Learn more about how you can give back to Freedom Hill Horse Rescue by visiting our website:

fhhr.org

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