

## **Kindred Souls Animal Sanctuary and Family Crisis Support**

### **A Chappy and Friends Project**

#### **2025 Annual Report**

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#### **A Message of Gratitude**

Dear Friends,

One year ago to the day I answered the call to help a family friend in a medical and financial crisis who needed assistance caring for and placing twenty nine horses, the remainder of her herd of Arabian breeding stock. Over the course of the year, many friends and animal lovers joined me to step in to help as much as they were able. We put together a team of equine and feline caregivers, neighbors, Arabian enthusiasts and family to care for the animals and the owner as her health deteriorated. Over time I saw notices and appeals for similar situations on the internet, and I realized that the situation we were addressing is not all that uncommon. The work we were doing could help a broader segment in the community, but it is hard work and requires resources. In some cases the resources required were too great for members of our little group, and they had to move on. The loss of the skills those volunteers brought to the table made it harder for us to move forward expeditiously, so I decided to start exploring the value of creating a more durable organization to help us bring in volunteers and continue our work at the farm and beyond.

I created a gofundme fundraiser in March, which brought in \$200 in donations. I created merchandise, mostly using AI tools and featuring photos taken around the farm by one of our volunteers, and created an Etsy Store. Throughout the year we periodically received private donations including horse feed, funds required to DNA test and identify horses, halters and lead ropes, and various items needed to keep a herd of 29 horses healthy. Thirteen volunteers donated countless hours to feed the horses, clean water troughs, handle the horses, network to find safe new homes, and load horses on trailers on their way to new lives.

In September I decided to pursue a more formal non-profit status to explore the possibility of making our organization more permanent, and in November we were approved as an official project of Chappy and Friends, a 501(c)3 fiscal sponsorship organization. This gave us access to the Pledge.to fundraising site and allows our donors to receive tax deduction status for their donations to our organization through pledge.to. Our first fundraiser brought in \$110, showing that we can get the donations, but we have a lot of work to do!

Through this whole journey, which has been difficult at times, we have held the welfare of the animals as our North Star and our guiding principle. Throughout the process we were also

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mindful of protecting the dignity and mental well-being of the owner as much as possible. Our focus has been to keep these mares safe and find them homes that understand their value, their bloodlines, and will give them a safe place to live out their days. The mares love people and greeted us every day. They deserve a new beginning. To date we have rehomed twelve horses and as I write this six more are scheduled for vet checks and shipping to their new homes.

The owner thanks us over and over again for protecting her animals and helping her get back on her feet around the house. I know in the depths of my heart that we made a profound difference to this one lady and her animals. If we weren't there to help when she needed us, this year would have been a very difficult one. It doesn't seem like much in the scope of unwanted horses and animals that come across our social media feeds looking for homes every day, but as the starfish inspirational story goes, every small action matters. Our small actions this year have profoundly mattered to this person and her animals. I am grateful to every single donor, volunteer, social media follower and Chappy and Friends for helping us do that. You have made a difference this year, and I look forward to joining with you to expand our impact in 2026!

Thank you for being part of this lifesaving work.

With deepest appreciation,

*Rebecca A Fosha*

**Rebecca Fosha**

**Executive Director**

31 December 2025

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**Mission Statement**

Our mission is to safeguard the welfare of horses and companion animals during family crises by providing resources, temporary support, and coordinated rehoming assistance.

**Background**

We recognize that animals are integral members of the family and that their protection promotes healing and stability for the humans who love them. Through compassionate intervention and community partnerships, we prevent animals from entering shelters or slaughter pipelines, reduce the burden on already taxed animal shelters and rescues, and help families navigate the best possible outcomes for all involved.

**Vision Statement**

We envision a compassionate network where no animal is surrendered or endangered due to temporary hardship, and where every family in crisis has access to humane, practical support that preserves dignity, safety, and the enduring bond between people and their animals.

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**Our Work This Year – By the Numbers**

1 Family helped

29 horses cared for to include feed, water and grooming, deworming, 1 sweet itch case, 2 eye abrasions, rain rot treatments and bot fly removal

12 horses placed in new homes

6 horses awaiting transportation to new homes

6 special needs horses restored to health through specialized nutrition.

5 horses received routine dental care

5 cats received feeding and litter removal services

Over 1000 volunteer hours devoted to animal care, basic farm maintenance and household cleaning and trash removal help

2 fundraising campaigns and 5 financial donors

2 animal charity partners

Unlimited social support and friendship provided to our beneficiary and her family

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## Stories of Impact

### Bella

Bella is the mare featured in our first Chappy and Friends fundraiser. Bella was in poor condition at the beginning of the year when I arrived at the farm for the first time. The herd had plenty of food and water so I knew there was something else going on. She was a part of our special needs horses who received supplemental feed and dental care, but unlike the others she just wasn't putting on weight. I partnered with Traveler's Rest Farm Horse Sanctuary to support further diagnostics and discovered that she has Cushings disease and Lyme disease, two expensive conditions to manage and treat. Her care was well beyond the reach of our little operation and I knew she wouldn't find a new home, so she became a fostered resident of Traveler's Rest and they helped us get her the medication she needs. She is now thriving in her new home and learning new skills through positive reinforcement training. Travelers Rest and other sanctuaries like them are full and didn't have the capacity to help us with all the horses, but this kind of outcome is the vision for what we can do with more resources! Through compassionate intervention, teaming up with other organizations, pooling resources and driving towards our shared vision, Bella was kept safe and protected, and will live out her days with her welfare needs met.



### Ota

Ota's story shows how having a loving home transformed a horse in our care. When I started working with the herd a year ago, many of them would walk away from human contact. Over time many of them warmed up to us and started allowing us to groom them and seeking us for



pets and scratches. Ota was not one of these horses, but she had a family interested in taking her home early on. We used positive reinforcement to teach her to allow us to halter her, but our first attempt at shipping her was too soon, and she wasn't comfortable getting on a trailer. With a six hour journey to her new home, we wanted to make sure she was ready. So we took some time over the summer in addition to all the other work, to make her more comfortable with the halter. We finally got her shipped and when she got to her new home, she took a step back. Overwhelmed by the journey, once she arrived her new owners had trouble haltering her again. It didn't take long

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for her to settle in and she is now easily haltered and blanketed. She loves her new herd, including another Polish Arabian mare, a miniature horse and sheep neighbors. A before and after photo of her face when I first arrived at the farm a year ago, and her face now, shows a dramatic change in the horse grimace scale. A year ago she was worried, today in her new home she is relaxed and calm. The time and care we gave to her set her up for success and ensured she got her happily ever after.

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## **Financial Snapshot**

### **Revenue**

- Donations: \$200
- Grants & Fundraising: \$110
- Merchandise Fundraising (Etsy): \$0

### **Expenses**

- Program Services: \$9354
  - Feed and supplies: \$7012
  - Miscellaneous tack and horse care: \$544
  - Veterinary expenses: \$1798
- Administrative & Operations: \$164.90

**Percentage of funds supporting direct animal care:** [99%]

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## Looking Ahead

In the coming year, we have aim to:

- Find the forever homes for the remaining 11 horses currently in our care, and the 6 cats that will likely need new homes this year.
- Formally establish a sanctuary for any of the 11 horses that do not find loving homes.
- Improve fundraising returns to support the new sanctuary.
- Advocate for positive reinforcement training methods as an important training tool to help horses with minimal handling.
- Conduct long term strategic planning to define where the organization is going, create a 3-5 year plan, develop a decision making framework aligned with our mission and vision, and translate idealistic goals into an actionable plan that fosters growth and financial health.

With your continued support, more animals will remain safe, loved, and protected—no matter the circumstances.

**THANK YOU!**

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## Kindred Souls Equestrian Animal Sanctuary and Family Crisis Support

Website: <https://kindredsoulsequestrian.com/>

Email: KindredSoulsEq@gmail.com

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1375618574357020>

Donate to our cause: <https://www.pledge.to/organizations/82-1515583-031/kindred-souls-animal-sanctuary-and-family-crisis-support>

