

THE EQUUS FOUNDATION, INC.



**H**orse Charities of America  
elping Horses | Horses Helping People

A 501 (c) (3)  
national  
charitable  
foundation



Dedicated  
to providing  
homes and  
useful lives  
for horses.



## How Horses Help

Horses have existed for 50 million years, predating man. Once the partnership between man and horse was forged, no other animal has matched the contributions that horses have made to civilization.

Even though we no longer depend on horses for travel and work, it is in how horses continue to serve the public that horses make a significant impact on our lives.

The benefits of human-animal interaction are well-known, but developing a bond with a horse is physically and mentally challenging.

Riding and caring for horses produces many emotional and cognitive benefits: empowerment, motivation, problem-solving, decision-making, memory, improvements in attention span, language skills, self-esteem, self-expression, the ability to follow direction, and the willingness to face challenges.

Learning to ride involves body awareness, balance, eye-hand coordination, muscle control, patience, focus and concentration. The physical benefits of riding include enhanced spinal stimulation, sensory integration, motor, respiratory and postural control, balance, dexterity, coordination, endurance, fitness, and muscle strength and tone.

The relationship builds independence, trust, cooperation, patience, empathy for others, and hope – not only for the participants but for their families and caregivers. It gives people, especially people facing often insurmountable challenges, a chance to succeed that is rarely available to them.

Horses are heroes to millions of people. They enrich our lives and empower us - whether we come from a privileged background or a disadvantaged one.

**Help us find useful lives for horses  
and transform the way horses are  
treated and perceived.**

# Horses

 enrich the  
lives of millions of people of all ages  
every day, especially children.

Horses are  
uniquely  
capable  
of  
empowering  
and healing  
us.



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THE EQUUS FOUNDATION, INC.

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## Who We Are

Charities are born from the passions of people united by a common interest – and The EQUUS Foundation is no exception. It was the belief that horses have a positive impact in our everyday lives that led to the birth of The EQUUS Foundation in August 2002.

The EQUUS Foundation was established as an IRS tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) charity to raise public awareness of the value of horses in society through education and grant awards. Our Tax Identification Number is 42-1547242.

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors representing a cross-section of the equestrian community, including supporters, participants, and professionals.

We serve horse charities by:

- Educating the public about horses;
- Providing fundraising support through the award of grants;
- Offering insight on management and financial practices of these charities through a thorough review of their operations;
- Providing a network of interested individuals for volunteer recruitment.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have awarded over \$1.3 million in grants since our first awards in 2003.



Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Donors can rest assured that due diligence has been undertaken to insure that their dollars are well spent. Grant recipients must meet stringent eligibility criteria and undergo a thorough review of their operations.

## Who We Help

The EQUUS Foundation awards grants in three mission areas: charities that promote horse health and welfare, charities that involve horses in providing services to the public, and charities that advance the equestrian sport.



### Helping Horses . . .

Horse Welfare grants are awarded for programs that foster horse health and welfare, including horse rescue, rehabilitation, adoption, foster care, and retirement. Equine ambulance services as well as veterinary education and research are also funded.

### Advancing the Sport . . .

Grants are also awarded to promote the equestrian sport, including funding for scholarships, awards, land conservation, youth programs, public education programs and relief to equestrians suffering from life threatening illness, catastrophic accidents or injuries.

### Horses Helping People . . .

What is most significant, however, is in providing horses with homes and useful lives, people benefit, especially children. Horses have the unique capability of enriching and empowering our lives.

By bonding with these gentle giants, either through therapeutic riding or equine-assisted activities, individuals with physical, emotional, behavioral, and learning disabilities, life-threatening or other serious illnesses, and underserved, economically-disadvantaged youth learn to take control of their lives and become more capable of facing life's challenges.

## How You Can Help

### carrots4acause

Register on our website and take our pledge to find a home for every horse!

carrots4acause is our campaign to create a more compassionate America that values the role of the horse in our everyday lives.



We want to involve as many people as possible to expand national involvement and investment in equestrian and horse-related charities. Together, we can transform the way horses are treated and perceived.

### Volunteer

Contact us - we need your help, or visit the Grants section on our website. Contact these charities and volunteer your time.

### Donate

Every \$1 makes a difference in the lives of horses and the people who benefit from them.

### Attend an Event

We raise most of our funds from event participation. Visit our website for details.

### Become a Horse Whisperer!



For those who wish to leave a lasting legacy, Horse Whisperers is a Named Grant Program where donors who make multi-year pledges may have a grant named in honor of a family member, friend, associate, or in the memory of a loved one or a loved equine companion.