



EMPOWERING  
HORSE CHARITIES  
OF AMERICA

**EQUUS**  
FOUNDATION



**The EQUUS Foundation, Inc.**

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Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Photos courtesy of charities on the carrots4acause network.

A tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charity  
for horses and horse people!



HELPING HORSES  
*heal people*

Horses have a way of  
making us feel everything from  
excitement to joy to tranquility.

No other animal can make us feel  
the breadth of emotions  
that our equine partners do.



## Who We Are

The EQUUS Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life of horses, promoting the use of horses to enrich the lives of those in need and educating the public about the horse's unique ability to empower, teach and heal.

Our goal is to build a more informed and compassionate America that values the magical and powerful bond we have with horses – a bond that has existed for centuries and is stronger now than ever before - given the evidence offered by millions of people who are connected to horses today.

The EQUUS Foundation funds a broad range of programs, most of which are directly involved with horse rescue and welfare, or are providing equine assisted activities and therapies (EAAT) to the public, and require extensive evaluation to determine which ones will receive the limited

funds available for grant awards. Only 501(c)(3) public charities and government entities are eligible to apply for grants.

The merits of each grant request and the quality of the applicant organization, including its management and financial practices, are carefully evaluated. The selection of the grant recipients by the Board of Directors is based on the amount of funds raised over the course of the year and a set of guidelines designed to ensure that the donations we receive make the greatest possible impact.

The EQUUS Foundation also operates an alliance with national organizations that are involved in equine community to stimulate advocacy and volunteerism on behalf of horses and to address equine-related issues of common concern.

## A Brief History

What started as a local effort is now a nationwide campaign on behalf of horses, with The EQUUS Foundation emerging as the primary organization in the equine community solely focused on both horse welfare and the horse-human connection.

The Foundation was established in 2002 to award the donations raised at the Fairfield County Hunt Club June Horse Show in Westport, Connecticut, to several local horse charities instead of just one

The first grants were awarded in 2003 to seven locally-based charities. In 2005, the Foundation sponsored another event, this time in Wellington, Florida, which allowed us to award grants to charities in other parts of the country.

Since that time, nearly \$2 million in grants have been awarded to hundreds of charities.

## Give However You Can

carrots4acause



Our primary goal is to provide financial support to every worthy charity; however, on the average, less than half receive grant awards.

In an effort to discover other ways to help, we conducted a survey of the applicants in 2009. The charities responded that second to financial support is the need for volunteers.

We launched carrots4acause in 2010 to bring together interested individuals with equestrian and horse-related organizations across America and build a support base of equine enthusiasts and advocates.

Join our network of equine enthusiasts. Get connected to, and get involved with, all things equine-related.

## CHAMPIONS

### An Equine Service Program

CHAMPIONS is our equine service volunteer program to reward individuals who volunteer for organizations on the carrots4acause network. Volunteers who log in 24 or more hours during the calendar year are recognized as CHAMPIONS and eligible to participate in CHAMPIONS programs.

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

## Best in America

The EQUUS Foundation was awarded the "Best in America" seal by the Independent Charities of America in 2009.

This Seal is awarded to charities that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, and program and cost effectiveness. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or 5 percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded the "Best in America" seal.



## Give Whatever You Can

The EQUUS Foundation raises its funds from its signature events, our Horse Whisperers named grant program, and the generous support of individual donors, corporate sponsors, and foundations who share our vision.

AMERICA'S FAVORITE  
**EQUESTRIAN**

America's Favorite Equestrian is an innovative program to honor our equestrian heroes and support our equine heroes, sponsored by The EQUUS Foundation and the United States Equestrian Federation.



## Humanitarian Award

Nominate someone you know who has made the quality of life of our equine partners paramount.

The recipient has the opportunity to select a horse-related charity of his or her choice to receive a \$5,000 EQUUS Foundation grant.

The award is presented at the Pegasus Awards Dinner during the annual meeting of the United States Equestrian Federation.