



2022 Annual Report

A Heartfelt Thank You

Going into our 19th year, we reflect on the words of Freedom Hill Horse Rescue's founder, Melody Trecartin, and find that they still ring true since our inception in 2004: "Our mission is to support the local horse community and its horses from many unfortunate situations." We strive to educate the public on quality horse care, provide a safe haven for horses in need of a new home and facilitate programs where our horses can help people heal. We love seeing the passion our guests and volunteers have for learning about horses and helping them become the best they can be in their lives. Sharing our love for horses and participating in the learning journey of each volunteer, supporter, donor, board member, committee lead, program participant, visitor and guest is truly inspirational to experience. Each person that walks through the gate to our little piece of heaven on earth, touches our horse's lives.

In the beginning of 2022, we were faced with the biggest challenge to date. The beautiful Hampton Plantation, the property that Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) leases and has called home for the past ten years, was going up for sale. We were not sure of the fate of our organization or where our horses were going to go. After many months of strategizing on a plan to keep FHHR alive and asking our supporters to help us find a way to continue, we were blessed to meet the Postow family. They believed in our mission and fell in love with what we do for horses and for our community. They purchased the property and offered FHHR a twenty-year lease!

Since that time, the 300 year old house and the surrounding property has undergone a remarkable renovation by the Postow family. FHHR was not only able to stay at Hampton Plantation, but we were able to expand and renovate the small barn on the property to host more programs and rescue more horses.

FHHR was able to finish out the year with hosting our two biggest events and a new veterans program as well as take in four new horses. All of this would not have been possible without our generous supporters, our amazing loyal volunteers, our unstoppable board of directors, and our saviors, the Postow family!

It has always been a goal for FHHR to partner veterans with our program horses. And, thanks to the Wounded Warrior Project, our dedicated volunteers and program leads, Karen M and Sarah T, we were able to make that wish come true this year! Our Women's Wellness programs this year were a huge success and we can't wait to host many more of these programs.

We are so grateful to all of you that help us save horses in need and grow our equine assisted learning programs to help people in need as well. We look forward to seeing you at Freedom Hill Horse Rescue in 2023.

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue Board of Directors:

Lori Harrington, President

Kathleen Sheridan, Vice President

Beth Meader, Secretary

Terry Hurley, Board Member and Farm Operations Manager

Overview of Programs in Fiscal Year 2022

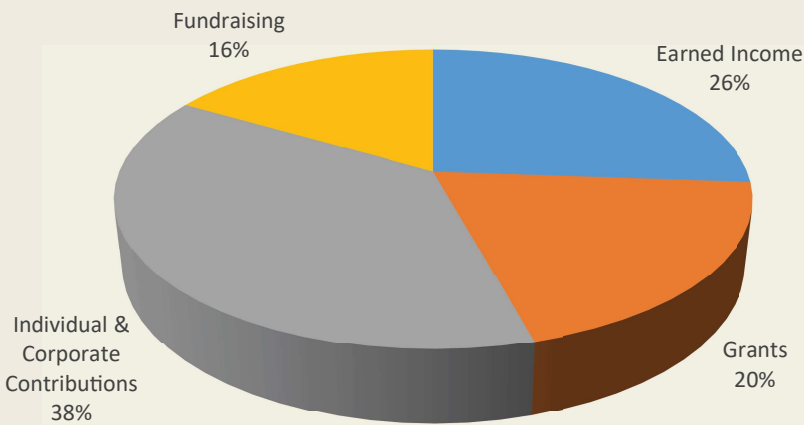
Operations:

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue operates out of the beautiful Hampton Plantation in Owings, MD with three pastures (3-4 acres each), 6 paddocks, an outdoor arena, a 10 stall barn, and a two stall “small” barn. FHHR also has access to a satellite barn for quarantine of new horses or overflow purposes. FHHR currently cares for nine horses: seven program/sanctuary horses and two adoptable horses.

In 2022, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue...

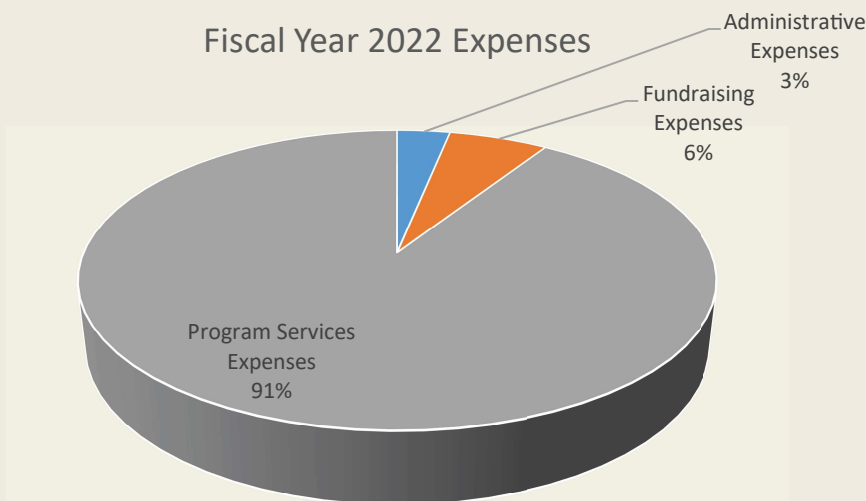
- hosted 21 events and programs
- had 9-11 horses under FHHR care
- enlisted over 100 volunteers
- assisted 12 horses and their owners by finding new homes
- had 1 horse adopted
- rescued 4 new horses
- had 13 Horse Angels sponsors
- was visited by 500+ visitors at our facility

Fiscal Year 2022 Revenue



Above: Girl Scouts attend one of our Horsemanship Badge Day programs

Fiscal Year 2022 Expenses



Below: Visitors enjoy our Easter Hop program



Miracle Mustangs



Mustangs at our satellite barn in 2012

In 2009, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) collaborated with Habitat For Horses and many other horse rescues in the U.S.A. to take two Bureau of Land Management (BLM) mustang mares that had been neglected. There were over 220 horses total at Three Strikes Ranch in Nebraska, some already deceased from starvation. Tessa and Cinder were transported to us in 2009 in pretty bad shape. We worked tirelessly to put weight on them, untangle their manes and tails, get their curled up and badly neglected hooves trimmed, dental work done, vet exams and vaccines done and then a few months later, training. Both mares proved to be very smart, wonderful under saddle and they found their adopters by 2011. We recently received updates on both mares and they are doing well. We would like to thank Pam H for travelling to do a check on Cinder who is in VA now and our many thanks to Makayla for her continued contact over the years and updates on Tessa.

On September 11th, 2011, FHHR was called regarding another herd of mustangs that were severely neglected. This time, they were local. A senior couple adopted three mares and a stallion from BLM and had them in their back yard. They did not know how to properly care for them and they had received little to no handling. A family member contacted us for help. Our first visit is documented on the video entitled *The Evil Face of Equine Starvation* on our YouTube Channel. Link to video: <https://youtu.be/A0fbemUPXSI>. The stallion, El Dorado, had mated with all three of the mares while they were in the small backyard. Takoda, one of the mares, gave birth to Apple, and the other mare gave birth to Maverick and then passed away from starvation before we were contacted. The third mare, Liberty was pregnant when FHHR took her into our care. Takoda was skin and bones and nursing both her foal, Apple and the orphaned colt, Maverick. They all had been eating bark off of the trees to try and sustain their hunger. They all had bellies full of parasites and were very weak. We took all five surviving mustangs in and nursed them back to health and got them the veterinarian, farrier and dental help they needed. Eventually, they were all adopted into wonderful homes. Some of the mustangs already had names on their BLM papers. The rest, FHHR gave them their names befitting the rescue date of September 11th and NYC.



Tessa and Cinder at intake



Cinder today



Tessa and her adopter today

Miracle Mustangs (continued)

Liberty gave birth to Freedom a couple months later at our satellite barn. He was adopted immediately by our trainer, who had worked with all five of our mustangs and loved their personalities. He proved to be a fantastic mount and would follow his adopter everywhere while he was training other horses. Because of that, his name was changed to Shadow. Born as a black colt, he grew into an absolutely gorgeous handsome dappled gray gelding. Some of the mustangs have been readopted over the years and their names have also changed. El Dorado is now called Apollo and Takoda is lovingly referred to as Taco. As always, FHHR assisted in these transitions to ensure that these beloved horses remain in loving homes.



Takoda and Apple when they arrived at FHHR

Mustangs are generally a very loyal and hardy breed and are happy to work for their person. All of these mustangs have grown into fabulous horses and are phenomenal success stories for Freedom Hill Horse Rescue. All were trained from the ground up by Crandells Horse Works. We would like to give our heartfelt gratitude to the Crandells for the hard work over the years with all the horses they have trained for FHHR, especially all these mustangs. We would also like to thank all of the adopters of these horses for giving them the love and care they so deserved. We hope you enjoy taking a trip down memory lane with us and continue to follow the stories of our Mustangs and other FHHR alumni on our social media and through our newsletters.



Takoda, aka Taco, with friends



Apple today



Freedom/Shadow and his adopter today



El Dorado, aka Apollo, now

Meet Our Newest FHHR Horses!



Benne & Itty

Benne is a 24 year old, 16.2hh, Hanoverian chestnut gelding. Benne was dearly loved by his previous owner who passed and he was entrusted to us to be cared for and live out his retirement years. He is trained in level I dressage and has won numerous awards! This sweet boy has Cushings which is managed by medication and will remain a sanctuary horse. Currently in refreshment groundwork training for possible FHHR programs horse in the future.

Horse Angel Sponsors: Rob H. and Julie/Michael R.



Itty Bit is a 14 year old registered Appaloosa who has won many top awards in his day in reining, cow cutting and rodeo. He is well trained and good on trails. He has a big goofy personality and loves attention. He is currently recovering from suffering a neurological event, possibly a virus, we are not entirely sure. He has lingering partial facial paralysis and ocular paralysis in one eye. He has come a long way since last August and each day improves and continues to be a strong fighter to survive and recover.

Foster (On-Site): Alicia S.



Tuffy (Jewel) & Indy

A beautiful 22 year old, 15hh, OTTB dark bay mare. She is currently in under saddle and groundwork refreshment training. Tuffy, aka Jewel, has a wonderful personality, although a little guarded, she really wants to find her person. She was previously a trail riding horse. She will be available for adoption in the coming months.

Foster (On-Site): Kathleen S.



A stunning 12 year old, 16hh, OTTB chestnut mare. She is currently in groundwork and under-saddle refreshment training. Indy is eager to please and loves scratches! Secretariat, Seattle Slew and Native Dancer are in her pedigree. She will be available for adoption in the coming months.

Foster (On-Site): Linda S.

Support from Our Community

A Future for Our Horses

In 2022, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue was informed that Hampton Plantation, the home of FHHR for over 10 years, was to be sold. With limited time to prepare and no where for FHHR and our horses to go, we had to reach out to the public for help at that precarious time. Our supports helped raise over \$9,000.

As the year went on, we were lucky to meet the Postow family. They were very supportive of our mission at FHHR and were eager to have our organization and horses stay on the property. They offered us a twenty-year lease which was signed by our President, Lori Harrington, on September 19th, 2022. After months of worrying, our horses and organization will now be at Hampton Plantation for the next twenty years.

The money raised for moving our horses and organization was then used to refurbish and renovate the small barn and paddocks. This money was integral in us being able to rescue more horses and keep them at our main location. The small barn is now home to Tuffy, aka Jewel, and Itty!



Above: President Lori Harrington signs the 20-year lease alongside the Postow family
Below: FHHR Board members and the Postows smile for a picture with the newly signed lease



Volunteers at this year's Fall Clean-Up Day, take a break for a group portrait

The Fantastic FHHR Volunteers

At Freedom Hill Horse Rescue, our volunteers are at the heart of all that we do. From events and programs, to horse training and daily care, these dedicated volunteers keep FHHR going! It is because of their love for our rescue horses that we were able to accomplish our goals during 2022.

FHHR has over 100 volunteers! Volunteers perform various tasks at FHHR from helping at weekly feed shifts to writing grants and raising funds for our horses. We even have volunteers who take care of our barns and grounds as well as volunteers who plan our yearly events. Last year, our volunteers logged over 10,000 hours helping our horses.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at Freedom Hill Horse Rescue, head to our website to learn how to attend a Volunteer Orientation! Or stop by one of our Open Houses to speak to a current volunteer and learn about their time at FHHR!

Events From 2022

Spirits & Steeds 2022

This year's Spirits & Steeds was the best installment of our annual beer, wine, and spirits festival to date! Despite the cold weather, our arena was packed with visitors young and old. We were excited to have such a great turn out for our largest event for the year and are grateful to all of the vendors who made the Spirits & Steeds market a success.

This year, Spirits & Steeds raised a record amount of money for our horses. We made over our \$10,000 fundraiser goal for the first time since the first Spirits & Steeds in 2018. Thank you to all of our visitors, sponsors, vendors, and volunteers for making this happen.

Save the date for Spirits & Steeds 2023 on October 14th from 1-6pm!



The Spirits & Steeds Market (left) was the largest market we have ever had for this event. The Family Fun Area (right) was a huge success thanks to our volunteers!



Artist Evelyn Dorn stands next to her portrait of Indy which she donated for auction at Spirits & Steeds



Visitors have their portraits taken with our dressed up horses at Holiday Photos with Horses and Holiday Market

Holiday Photos with Horses & Holiday Market

One of Freedom Hill Horse Rescue's more popular events, Holiday Photos with Horses was back again for 2022. Our horses welcomed back families, kids, couples and more to this holiday celebration. Santa even took a break from his busy schedule to take pictures and hand out stuffed animals to the kids. Thank you to our photographers who volunteered their time that day and took wonderful photographs.

Over 30 local artisans and crafters made up the Holiday Market. With their help, we were able to spread holiday cheer and offer a unique shopping opportunity for over 300 visitors.

Save the date for Holiday Photos with Horses & Holiday Market 2023 on November 18th from 10 am to 3 pm!

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 2021 year. Thank you for continuing to support the rescue horses at FHHR and helping us to fulfill our mission.

Government Grants

Combined Federal Campaign
Maryland Charitable Campaign
Calvert County Maryland

Non-profit Organization Grants

Bernice Barbour Foundation
Dancers Legacy Foundation
EQUUS
The Help Association
Joseph Robert Foundation

Restaurant Fundraisers

Chesapeake Grill
Sweet Frog Enterprises, LLC
Mod Pizza
Panda Express

Sponsors

Alice Long-4 White Socks Equine
Body Work
Caldwell Banker
Calvert Dentistry
Double W of Maryland
Dunkirk Dental Associates
Jefferson Patterson Park
Linda O'Brien Realty
Northern High School PAVA Group
Prince Frederick Ford
R&P Staffing
Riverscape Group
Sheet Metal Workers Local 100
Smeco
Waterleaf Baking Co.
Wells Fargo Advisors
Wounded Warriors Project

Corporate Giving

Amazon Smile
Chaney Enterprises
Kendra Scott
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Fosters

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Anna Darden
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Horse Angels

Sandy Carson
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Nancy Wheeler
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\$500-\$999

Carol Brady

\$1,000 and over

Anne Bradshaw
David Elliot
Cathy & Terry Hurley
Christina Romano
Kathleen Sheridan
William Webb

Thank you for allowing us to use your photographs: Cassie Ackerman Photography, Anna Darden, Lisa Davis, Linda Stolze, Alicia Sullivan, Sarah Tilley

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

<https://www.freedomhillhorse.com/how-to-help.html>

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