UNITED HORSE COALITION
EDUCATE. ADVOCATE. COLLABORATE.

CONTACT:
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www.unitedhorsecoalition.org
TERMINONLOGY Changing the way we talk about “unwanted” horses.

- AT-RISK: An equine that has an increased possibility of experiencing a situation of neglect, abuse, or general poor welfare.

- IN TRANSITION: Any equine that is currently in transition from one home, vocation, opportunity or owner to the next.
WHAT DOES AN AT-RISK HORSE LOOK LIKE?

Avalanche, 12 yo Appaloosa stallion
Takoda, 5 yo Mustang mare
Jack, 16 yo Appendix QH gelding
Toby, 2 mos Orphan foal
WHAT DOES AN AT-RISK HORSE LOOK LIKE?

- Old
- Incurably Lame
- Medical Issues
- Behavioral Problems
- Unattractive or wrong color
- Not athletic enough
- Is Dangerous to themselves or others
- Fails to meet owner’s expectations
- Costs too much to keep
- Normal, healthy horses too!

Two Socks, 7yo OTTB
United Horse Coalition came about through the Unwanted Horse Summit in 2005

Key stakeholders came together to start a dialogue on the issue.

Purpose was to develop consensus on the most effective ways to address the issue of horses at-risk or in transition.

In June 2006 the UHC was folded into the American Horse Council
WHO IS THE UHC?

- A broad alliance of diverse equine organizations within the Horse Industry.
- Inclusive member base = wide range of knowledge and experience, excellent opportunity for collaboration to drive positive change within the equine industry.
- Provide information and important resources for:
  - Current horse owners
  - Prospective horse owners
  - Breeders
  - Sellers
  - And other horse organizations
Members:
- Industry Partners
- Rescues
- Sanctuaries
- State Horse Councils
- Associations
- Equine Businesses
- Foundations
- And more!

Levels of Membership:
- Full Membership
- Associate Membership
- Supporting Membership
- Non-Profit Membership
The UHC Currently consists of 241 member organizations

- 6 Full Members
- 4 Associate Members
- 6 Supportive Members
- 225 Non-Profit Members
Associate Members

Supportive Members

- Arabian Horse Association
- Kentucky Horse Council
- Maryland Horse Breeders Association
- Retired Racehorse Project
- Standardbred Transition Alliance
- United States Dressage Federation
- United States Equestrian Federation
- United States Hunter Jumper Association
- United States Polo Association
NON-PROFIT MEMBERS

- 13 Hands Rescue
- 41 Horse At A Time Draft Horse Rescue
- A Little Bit Of Heaven Inc.
- A Place For Peanut Inc.
- All About Equine Animal Rescue Inc
- Allegiance Ranch and Equine Rescue Inc.
- America's Equine Sanctuary
- Angel Wings Equine Rescue (Risa Ways Ranch)
- Animal Rescue Foundation
- Animal Services & Assitance Program
- Arabian Horse Rescue & Education
- Beauty's Haven Farm and Equine Rescue, Inc.
- Believe Ranch and Rescue
- Beyond The Roses Equine Rescue and Retirement
- Big Hearts Horse Rescue
- Blue Bonnet Equine Humane Society
- Blue Rose Ranch, Inc
- Bodega Meadows Horse Sanctuary
- Boots To Grasses Therapeutic Horsemanship Program
- Borderlands Horse Sanctuary
- Broken Road Horse Rescue
- Brook Hill Retirement Center for Horses, Inc.
- By His Grace Equine Rescue
- CANTER Michigan
- CANTER USA
- Cape Fear Equine Rescue Inc
- Caribbean Thoroughbred Aftercare Inc
- Carolina Equine Rescue & Assistance
- Central Oregon Equine Rescue
- Central Pennsylvania Horse Rescue
- Changing Fates Rescue of Delaware Inc
- Coastal Arabians and Equine Rescue Inc
- Florida Thoroughbred Retirement and Adoptive Care Inc
- Friends, Florence, and Friends Equine Rescue
- Full Circle Equine Rehabilitation Center
- Gated Advocate Intervention Team
- God's Cavalry Rescue Ministry Services
- Goldspeed Horse Hotel Inc
- Great Escape Mustang Sanctuary
- Grey Oaks Equine Sanctuary
- Grunewald Farm Inc
- Guardian Hearts Equine Defenders
- Guardian Oak Growth by Giving
- Happy Endings Animal Rescue Sanctuary
- Happy Tails Haven
- Harmony and Hope Horse Haven
- Harmony Horsemanship & Equestrian Therapy Fund
- Harmony New Beginnings Animal Rescue
- Harly's Haven Inc
- Freedom Home Inc
- Healing Hearts With Horses
- Healing Horses One Child At A Time Inc
- Heart and Hooves Rescue and Sanctuary
- Horse Haven Inc
- Helping Hearts Equine Rescue
- History Hill Farm
- Hidden Acres Rescue For Thoroughbreds
- Hidden Point Farm Rescue Rehab Rehome
- Homeward Horse and Hound of Mississippi
- Hooved Animal Humane Society
- Hooved Companion Project
- HOPES Acres Rescue
- Hope For Horses, Inc
- Hope for Horses Inc
- Hope's Castaways Equine Rescue Limited
- New England Equine Rescue-North, Inc
- New Freedom Farm Inc
- New Hampshire SPCA
- New Vocations Racehorse Adoption Program
- Newfoundland Pony Conservancy Center
- Next Step Horse Rescue (Equine 888 Horse Rescue)
- North Shore Horse Rescue and Sanctuary
- Old Ideal Special Trails
- Painted Nails Rescue Corporation
- PA Racehorse Rehoming, Rehabilitation & Rescue (PARR)
- Panhandle Safe Haven Equine Rescue Inc
- Pasture Pals Equine Rescue
- Peaceful Acres Horses Inc
- Peaceful Ridge Rescue
- Pine Meadow Horse Rescue & Sanctuary
- Pil's Horse All Breed Rescue
- Pleasure Acre Equine and Feline Rescue
- Porthkolan Equestrian Rescue League
- RACE Fund, Inc
- Racer Placers Inc
- Randy's Rescue NFP
- Redwings Horse Rescue & Sanctuary
- Refuge Farms Inc
- Remedy Ranch Rescue
- Reviv Inc
- Right Way Rescue Incorporated
- Rising Star Horse Rescue
- Rising Sun Riding Ranch
- Rancher Ranch Draft Horse Rescue
- RVR Horse Rescue Inc.
- Goodfrield Resuce Inc
NON-PROFIT MEMBERS

- Collar to Halo Forever Home Sanctuary
- Colorado Horse Rescue
- Coyote Hills Equine Rescue and Therapeutic Riding
- Cradler Box Palace – Farm Animal Shelter
- Creekside Farm and Equestrian Rescue
- Cross Cutsers Rescue
- Crossroads Animal Rescue (CARE)
- DaBall Acres Hobby and Rescue Farm
- Dairy Chain LTD
- Daisy Girls Rescue
- Days End Farm Horse Rescue
- Dreamhorse Equine Sanctuary
- Diamond B's Last Chance Rescue Ranch
- Draft Gratitude
- Drake Second Chance Ranch
- Dream Catcher Therapy Center, Inc.
- Dreamcatcher Horse Ranch Rescue Center
- Dreamcatcher PMU Rescue & Rehabilitation
- Easy R Equine Rescue
- End of the Trail Rescue, Inc.
- EPWMA Safe Haven
- Equestrian Inc Thoroughbred Rescue
- Equestrian Advocacy of Louisiana
- Equestrian Outreach, Inc.
- Equestrian Rescue
- Equine Rescue and Adoption Foundation
- Equine Rescue League
- Equine Rescue of Aiken
- Equine Rescue Outlawed
- Equine Rescue Resource Inc.
- Horse Haven of Tennessee Inc
- Horse Heaven Rescue
- Horse Heaven Rescue Wild Horse Challenge
- Horse North Inc.
- Horse Protection Association of Florida, Inc
- Horses 4 Heroes Inc
- Horizon Healing Horses
- Horses Lives Matter Equine Sanctuary
- Horses of Parnitha, etc.
- Iron Horse Sanctuary Inc
- Janice Feary's Ranch
- Kentucky Equine Adoption Center
- Last Chance Corral
- Lasting Impressions Rescue and Rehabilitation
- Leap of Faith Equine Rescue and Sanctuary
- Leelanau Mae Horse Rescue
- Life Horse Inc
- Lifeline Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation
- Lipizzan Rescue Foundation
- Little Hooves Rescue Incorporated
- Long Ear Rescue
- Lucky 7 Farms
- Lucky Orphans Horse Rescue
- Lucky Star Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation
- M & M Acres NFP
- Morse State Society for the Protection of Animals
- Mustang Life Center
- Maryland Horse Industry Foundation
- McDonalby Farm Rescue Team
- Marrow Haven Horse Rescue
- MG Equine Rescue & Therapy
- Midwest Horse Welfare Foundation, Inc.
- Safe From Slaughter Equine Rescue
- Safe Haven Equine Rescue
- Salindra Farms
- S&P Stables and Horse Rescue
- Save A Forgotten Equine (SAFE)
- Save Them All Horse Rescue
- Save Your Ass Long Ear Rescue
- Second Slide Inc
- Serenity Farm Equine Sanctuary
- Savian Sisters Sanctuary
- Skagit Animals in Need
- Silver Canyon Equine
- South Florida SPCA
- Southern Maryland Equine Miracles Ltd
- Southern Redhead Farms Rescue
- Spirit Acres Inc
- Stable Companions
- Starlight Gail Inc
- Sully’s Heart Inc
- Summer Brook Farm Inc
- Sunshine Horses Inc
- Tara Farm Rescue
- The American Saddlebred Legacy Foundation
- The Horsemistretch Thoroughbred Rescue
- The Hooed Companion Project
- The Mustang Acres Farm
- The Piggabut Project
- The Santana Center
- The Warrors of the Rainbow Horse Sanctuary Inc
- The Wings Programs, Inc
- This Old Horse Inc
- Thoroughbred Athletes Inc
NON-PROFIT MEMBERS

- Equine Spirit Sanctuary
- Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary
- Equine Welfare Network Inc
- Equine Viel Being Rescue Inc
- Escalante Springs Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation
- Faith N Friends Horse Rescue and Sanctuary
- February Star Sanctuary
- Feel Better Farm Equine and Farm Animal Sanctuary
- Ferry County Equine Rescue Team
- Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program
- Fleet Of Angels
- Forget Me Not Horse Rescue and Sanctuary
- F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Horse Rescue
- Mile High Rescue
- Misfit Acres Inc
- Misfit Island Inc.
- Missouri Forget Me Not Horse Rescue and Sanctuary
- Mountain Oasis Animal Sanctuary
- Mountain Valley Horse Rescue
- Mountainview Horse Rescue
- Mustang & Wild Horse Rescue of GA Inc
- Mustangs MEND, Inc.
- Nassau County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- National Riding Stables Horse Rescue
- National Thoroughbred Welfare Organization
- Thoroughbred Charities of America
- Travellers Rest Farm Sanctuary
- Triple R Equine Ranch Inc
- Twisted Tails Inc
- Unbridled Thoroughbred Foundation
- United Pegasus Foundation
- US Horse Welfare And Rescue
- Voice For Horses Rescue Network
- Walk In Faith Animal Rescue
- West Virginia Horse Network, Inc.
- Wild At Heart Horse Rescue
- Wild Horse Rescue Center
- Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
- Win Place Home
- Wings Programs Inc
- Woerth It Hollow Inc
- Yavapai Humane Society
- Z&R Horse Rescue, a part of Zois’ Animal Rescue
GOALS OF THE UNITED HORSE COALITION:

THE UHC IS COMMITTED TO HELPING HORSES AT-RISK, OR IN TRANSITION BY:

- Educating current and future horse owners on Responsible Ownership, proper care and breeding, and options available before a horse reaches a state of being at-risk.
- Raising awareness about the issue of horses at-risk, and its impact on the horse industry.
- Reducing the number of horses at-risk and working toward eliminating the problem.
- Ensuring that horses are treated humanely and with dignity.
GOALS OF THE UNITED HORSE COALITION:

THE UHC IS COMMITTED TO HELPING HORSES AT-RISK, OR IN TRANSITION BY:

- Facilitating the exchange of information on adoption, care, and alternative careers
- Providing information on end-of-life decisions, including veterinary decisions, euthanasia, and disposal.
- Explaining the issue through presentations at industry gatherings, including horse association meetings, conferences, symposiums, and horse fairs.
WHAT DO WE DO?

Through industry collaboration, the UHC promotes education and options for at-risk and transitioning horses.

- Educational Materials on Responsible Horse Ownership.
- UHC Resource Database
- The Equine Welfare Data Collective
Prevention is a great way to keep horses from becoming At-Risk in the first place. Helping owners make responsible decisions, by providing responsible choices.
WHAT ARE OUR RESOURCES?

Resources for Current Owners:
- Facilities that accept horses
- Questions to ask before surrendering/retiring a horse
- Feed and hay safety net programs
- Castration programs and clinics
- Funding for Veterinary Care
- Euthanasia programs and clinics
- Information on helping owners with end of life decisions
- Racing Aftercare, placement, and training
- Other programs

Resources for Prospective Owners:
- Owning Responsibly
- Finding “The Right Horse”
- Basic Horse Care and Costs
- Alternatives to buying a horse
- Is horse ownership right for me?
- And other information

Resources for Rescues and Sanctuaries:
- Guidelines for Rescues
- Accreditation
- Matching programs for horses and adopters
- Non-Profit Management
- Fundraising
- Equine Welfare Grants
- USTA Financial Assistance
- Other programs
For a list of Rescues and Sanctuaries, select “All Resources” and search by state.

What type of resources or assistance program are you in need of?

- All Resources

State

- All States

UHC would like to encourage those who have found the Equine Resource Database to be helpful to become a UHC Member by clicking [here] or consider making a donation [here] to help support and continue the important work being done to help at-risk horses and those in transition.
User can search by different filter parameters, including by state, breed specific resources national programs, or local programs.

UHC Members can help define filters that would be most useful!
Being sent to:

- All known equine welfare organizations nationwide
- 4H Groups
- Extension Specialists
- Veterinary Colleges and Universities
- State Horse Councils
- State Horse Specialists
- State Veterinarians/DAR
- Municipal Groups that assist with equines
- Equine Industry Orgs
COVID-19 RESOURCES

Resources specifically for:

- Horse Owners
- Equine Non-Profits
- Equine Businesses
- Equine Industry Employees
- Section for State Specific Resources

GENERAL INFORMATION ON COVID-19/CORONAVIRUS

(AS IT PERTAINS TO HUMANS)

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (coronavirus.gov)
Center for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 (cdc.gov)
COVID-19 CDC Youtube Informational Videos (CDC Youtube Channel)
The Coronavirus Explained & What You Should Do (Video)

(AS IT PERTAINS TO EQUINES)

Coronavirus Resources – Equine Disease Communication Center
Equine Coronavirus and Covid-19: No evidence of horse-human spread (HorseTalk.co.nz)
Equine Coronavirus vs. COVID-19: Two Distinctly Different Diseases (Palm Beach Equine Clinic)
Can Your Animals Get Coronavirus? (UCDAVIS)
Coronavirus Updates (UCDAVIS)

Are your horses ready for you to be quarantined? (theshow.com)
COVID-19 and Best Practices for Your Equestrian Activities (eventingnation.com)

SAFETY NET PROGRAMS FOR OWNERS

If you are in need of safety net programs for your horse (such as feed or veterinary assistance), click here to be directed to the UHC. Resources available for horses at-risk or in transition.

Horse Owner Help During COVID-19 (horse.com)
UHC EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS:

OWN RESPONSIBLY

An informational booklet for current and potential horse owners from the United Horse Coalition.

ESTATE PLANNING FOR YOUR HORSE:

The following information is intended to be a general guide for estate planning as it applies to your horses. The UHC recommends contacting a knowledgeable attorney to guide you through the estate planning process.

Without a will, your horses will not become the property of your heirs, and those family members may have no interest, or even the required knowledge, to inherit and care for your horses.

Some owners might just elect to have their horse sold at either a private sale or a disposal sale of an auction. However, some owners may also be wary of this as once a horse leaves an auction, its fate can sometimes be unknown and the horse may end up in the wrong hands. Additionally, horses that are retired or have special needs might be more difficult to sell or place in a good new home.

How do I protect my horses if they outlive me?

One of the first things to consider when estate planning is “who” and “what” you choose to inherit and care for your horses. Of course, “who” can be anyone you choose, but the “what” is your responsibility to ensure that your horses are cared for appropriately. In most cases, these responsibilities include:

1. Weighing the costs and benefits of adopting a horse
2. Understanding the responsibilities and care requirements of the horse
3. Determining the proper and legal methods of verifying ownership
4. Identifying and retaining a professional to handle the horse’s legal needs

Another consideration is “how” you plan to care for your horses. There are two options: hiring the horse in a will or creating a trust for the horse.

Hiring the Horse in a Will

A will is a legal document that allows you to leave property to certain individuals or organizations. Many owners will have the simplest option of a will to take care of their horses, but if this isn’t an option that can be approved by the courts, it is advisable to consider the following:

1. Identification of the horse
2. Clearly stated language of the will
3. Specific instructions for the care of the horse
4. Establishment of a guardianship

Creating a Trust for the Horse

A trust is an entity that allows you to control the distribution of assets while you are alive and after your death. A trust can also ensure that the horse is properly cared for after your death. Consider the following:

1. Identification of the horse
2. Clearly stated language of the will
3. Specific instructions for the care of the horse
4. Establishment of a guardianship

Additional note:

While probate assets are tied up during administration, the executor has a fiduciary responsibility to take care of the estate assets which would include making sure that the horses that are part of the estate are cared for.

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**TIPS FOR LESSON BARNs DURING COVID-19**

Loss of lesson income is devastating not only for lesson barns, but also the horses in the program. In addition to the tips below, check out our Cost Saving Tips for Barns during COVID-19 and other resources at [www.unitedhorsecoalition.org](http://www.unitedhorsecoalition.org).

- Your clients love and care about the horses in your program - ask them to become involved and sponsor their favorite lesson horse!
- Apply for feed assistance - examples of available programs in your area can be found at [www.unitedhorsecoalition.org](http://www.unitedhorsecoalition.org).
- Seek Small Business Loans through the CARES act, or Economic Injury Disaster Loans. More information at: sba.gov → Coronavirus Relief Options.
- Keep your community engaged! Host a Live Stream story time with a horse, or virtual lesson program such as “How to groom?”
- Check if your veterinarian or farrier offers payment plans.
- Lease out your lesson horses off farm temporarily, or within your own barn if safe to do so.
- Sell gift cards or vouchers for future riding lessons.
- T-Shirt Fundraiser with funny barn related catch phrases. (Everyone loves a good pun!)

Offer a social distancing drive through your farm “neigh”-borhood to visit the horses, or a “picnic at the farm” option for a household.

Get creative and share your ideas with others!

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**STAY SAFE, STAY HOME!**

Rescues and shelters are stressed for resources during the COVID-19 crisis. Reduce costs to help you keep your horse as long as possible before seeking surrender options.

- Turn out as long as possible. It is much less labor intensive, will save money on bedding, and will help keep your horse sane and exercised!
- If your climate requires outdoor shelter, lease a shed temporarily to allow for 24/7 turnout.
- Consider turning out normally solitary horses with others if appropriate herd dynamics can be arranged and hay and water access safely managed.
- Increase hay consumption and decrease grain and supplements where possible. Hay cubes, hay extenders, and other pelleted forages are a nutritious and potentially less expensive option. Talk to your veterinarian before making any changes.
- Try round bales in place of traditional square bales to reduce labor as long as it will be consumed in a timely manner to prevent mold and waste.
- If your horse is shod, discuss with your veterinarian and farrier the possibility of pulling shoes temporarily.

At this critical time, community collaboration is essential. Reach out to others to get ideas and share resources!

[www.unitedhorsecoalition.org](http://www.unitedhorsecoalition.org)

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**TIPS FOR ADOPTING A HORSE DURING COVID-19**

Many rescues are still adopting during COVID-19. By adopting you save two lives - the horse you adopt, and the horse that is able to take its place at the rescue. Most rescues want to ensure the best possible match between horse and a new adopter, leading to a greater chance of a long-term home for the horse. They may also provide ongoing education and assistance to an adopter as the horse transitions into the new home.

Here are some tips on adopting your new partner:

- Check out online listings such as A Home For Every Horse, My Right Horse, and Petfinder.com.
- Call in advance to learn their adoption process - many follow social distancing recommendations and are by appointment only.
- Research the rescue - are they a registered 501(c)3 or nonprofit? Do they have any accreditations? Do they follow the AARL Care Guidelines for Equine Rescue? Will they take back the horse if you can no longer keep it?
- Have a list of references in case the rescue requires them — usually a farrier, a trainer, and/or a veterinarian.
- Take a video of you riding to send to the rescue so they can facilitate a good match. In return, request a video of the horse’s ground manners and recent work under saddle (if applicable).
- If you cannot meet the horse, ask if the rescue has a foster to adopt option — this allows you to get to know the horse better before finalizing an adoption, and opens up resources for the Rescue.
- Complete adoption paperwork in advance to minimize face to face interaction and exposure.
- Check out [www.unitedhorsecoalition.org](http://www.unitedhorsecoalition.org) to learn how to Own Responsibly, and find a rescue local to you.
- Adopt a new horse today!
“JOIN THE EFFORT” BOOKLET

- Going through an update for 2021
- Also known as “Best Practices: How Your Organization Can Help.”
- A culmination of industry activities and programs available to help at-risk horses and promote Responsible Ownership
- Booklet is a living document and is meant to change and be updated as new programs and initiatives are developed.
- Revised copy will be sent to UHC Members for revisions/additions.
NEW OWNER PACKET (COMING 2021)

- Packet filled with Responsible Ownership materials also available on our website
- Available for distribution anywhere a horse changes ownership
  - Adoption facilities
  - Sales Barns
  - Breeding Barns
  - Auctions
- Could also include provisions like buy back agreements, first right of refusal contracts, Full Circle programs etc.
TRANSFORMING OUR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS / INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY

- Replicating our educational materials into other types of mediums
- Video’s, educational modules, 1-page graphics, etc.
- Allows for a wider range of options to share this important information
- Makes the information less dry, and more palatable for the general public and horse owners.
Equine Welfare Data Collective

Program Manager
Emily Stearns
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Mission

Provide rescues, sanctuaries, municipal facilities, funding agencies, certifying agencies, and all others involved in the equine community with the data necessary to evaluate and guide actions that support equines at-risk and in transition.
Accomplishments

• Database of over 1000 equine welfare orgs
• Data from 30% of equine welfare population
• 2 published reports
• Ambassador program
• Intern program
How it works

unitedhorsecoalition.org/submit-data/
Estimated Daily Max. Cap: 47,194

(95% CI, Std. Err. 4,664
L 95% 38,017 U 56,370
Accounting for outliers)
Animal Shelter Software Education

Webinar 1
Review of software geared to organizations that provide shelter/rescue support or sanctuary/retirement services.

Webinar 2
Review of software geared to organizations that provide primarily safety net and direct placement services.

Webinar 3
Fundraising and volunteer management.

All webinars recorded and available online
WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP AT-RISK HORSES

• Own Responsibly
• Have contingency plans in place for your horse
• Include your horse in your Estate Planning
• Breed Responsibly
• Join the UHC Ambassador Program
• Volunteer at rescues or rehoming facilities
• Donate to UHC or your local rescue – or help raise funds.
• Share UHC materials on Responsible Ownership
BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

Let’s work at the root of the problem together – before a horse becomes at-risk.

Learn the facts and share them with other horse owners and breeders, clubs and organizations.

Help the UHC spread the word to “Own Responsibly”
Thank you for listening!
Feel free to contact UHC with any questions.

UHC@horsecouncil.org
www.unitedhorsecoalition.org