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Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary Receives Equine Verification from Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries

October 6, 2011 (Huntingdon, PA) – Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary, a nonprofit horse rescue organization, has achieved GFAS verification and has met all the requirements of a true sanctuary by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS). The verification means Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary meets the comprehensive and rigorous definition of a true equine sanctuary/rescue and is providing humane and responsible care of the animals according to the guidelines of GFAS, which is the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries.

The verification status also provides a clear and trusted means for public, donors and government agencies to recognize Cozee Valee as a credible sanctuary that adheres to the true mission of providing safe haven and humane care for homeless horses.

"We are very pleased to announce CVRS as a verified GFAS sanctuary. It is a wonderful example of outstanding care that an equine rescue should provide to the horses in its care and also to the local community," said Jeannine Alexander, Deputy Director of GFAS.

Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary rescues horses that have been abused, neglected and abandoned and those bound for slaughter for human consumption.

"CVRS is proud to be verified by GFAS as their federation holds the facilities they verify and accredit to the highest possible standards to ensure all of the animals in a rescues care are top priority and are being housed in safe facilities and environments," said Beth Hearn, President of Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary.

Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary was awarded a compliance grant by GFAS to help make recommended improvements to meet Accreditation/Verification Standards. Compliance grant funding is made possible through a grant from PetSmart Charities®.

The GFAS Equine Accreditation Program is made possible by generous grants from PetSmart Charities® and The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®.

About Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries

Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the sole purpose of strengthening and supporting the work of animal sanctuaries in the United States and abroad. The goal of GFAS in working with and assisting sanctuaries is to ensure they are supported, honored, recognized and rewarded for meeting important criteria in providing care to the animals in residence. GFAS was founded in 2007 by animal protection leaders from a number of different organizations in response to virtually unchecked and hidden animal exploitation of animals for human entertainment and financial profit. These founding leaders sit on the GFAS Board of Directors to continue guiding the organization's work in a collaborative manner. They represent top leadership from Born Free USA, The

Humane Society of the United States, World Society for the Protection of Animals, American Anti-Vivisection Society, and International Fund for Animal Welfare.

For additional information on Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, visit www.sanctuaryfederation.org.

About Cozee Valee Rescue & Sanctuary

Cozee Valee Rescue & Sanctuary is a 501(c)3 non-profit all volunteer facility. The majority of the equines rescued by CVRS are ponies that have been rescued from abusive and / or neglectful situations. CVRS works tirelessly to rescue, retrain and rehome the ponies in their care and provide the best possible environment for these recovering equines. CVRS is making strides in the world of equine rescue; helping possibly the most defenseless of all, once loved ponies who have outgrown their usefulness in one family make the transition from homeless horse to cherished family member once again. For more information about Cozee Valee Rescue and Sanctuary please visit - <http://www.cvrescue.org/>

About PetSmart Charities®

Established in 1994, PetSmart Charities, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues, and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. The largest funder of animal welfare efforts in North America, PetSmart Charities® has provided more than \$134 million in grants and programs benefiting animal welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of more than 4.7 million pets through its in-store adoption program. To learn more about how PetSmart Charities is working toward its vision of a lifelong, loving home for every pet, visit petsmartcharities.org or call 1-800-423-PETS (7387).

About the ASPCA®

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) is the first humane organization established in the Americas and serves as the nation's leading voice for animal welfare. One million supporters strong, the ASPCA's mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, the ASPCA is a national leader in the areas of anti-cruelty, community outreach and animal health services. The ASPCA, which is headquartered in New York City, offers a wide range of programs, including a mobile clinic outreach initiative, its own humane law enforcement team, and a groundbreaking veterinary forensics team and mobile animal CSI unit. For more information, please visit www.asPCA.org. To become a fan of the ASPCA on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/asPCA>. To follow the ASPCA on Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com/asPCA>.