

Harmony Acres Equestrian Center of Fruita, Colorado is Verified by Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries



February 16, 2018, (Fruita, CO) – The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries, awarded Verified status to Harmony Acres Equestrian Center as of February 13, 2018.

Verification means that Harmony Acres Equestrian Center meets the criteria of a true equine sanctuary/rescue and is providing humane and responsible care of the animals. To be awarded Verified status, an organization must meet GFAS's rigorous and peer-reviewed animal care standards which are confirmed by a site visit and they must also adhere to a demanding set of ethical and operational principles. The verification status also provides a clear and trusted means for the public, donors and grantors to recognize Harmony Acres Equestrian Center as an exceptional organization.

“We are proud to announce the recent Verification of Harmony Acres Equestrian Center,” said Valerie Taylor, GFAS Program Director-Equine. “The work being done by Harmony Acres to provide a lifetime sanctuary home for animals is so commendable. The group’s staff, Board, and volunteers are tremendously dedicated to creating and utilizing long-term strategies to ensure organizational sustainability for the future, providing great benefit to the animals residing in their care and beyond.”

“We are very excited to receive Verification from the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries of our commitment to the highest standards of care for our horses and other animals,” said Christina Douglass, Executive Director of Harmony Acres Equestrian Center. “With support from Global Federation and our many incredible sponsors and volunteers, we look forward to continuing to offer a safe landing for animals large and small, while also enhancing the lives of individuals through therapeutic interaction with our four-legged residents.”

The GFAS Equine Accreditation Program is made possible by a generous grant from The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® and the Kenneth Scott Charitable Trust.

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, rescues, and rehabilitation centers worldwide. The goal of GFAS in working with and assisting these animal care facilities 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 often hidden exploitation of animals for human entertainment and financial profit. The GFAS Board of Directors guides the organization’s work in a collaborative manner. While the board includes those in top leadership at The Humane Society of the United States, International Fund for Animal Welfare, and American Anti-Vivisection Society, all board members serve as individuals dedicated to animal sanctuaries. www.sanctuaryfederation.org.



About Harmony Acres Equestrian Center

Harmony Acres Equestrian Center is an animal sanctuary and therapy center, which offers a unique environment for the healing and growth of individuals in our community. Our animal sanctuary cares for over 40 animals, large and small, while our programming offers the opportunity for individuals to experience the healing benefits of animals through programs such as therapeutic riding, animal-assisted mental health therapy, and positive activities for youth. For more information, visit <https://www.harmonyacresec.org/>.

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>.