

Horse Helpers of the High Country in Zionville, North Carolina is Accredited by Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries



November 14, 2019 (Zionville, NC) - The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries, awarded Accredited status to Horse Helpers of the High Country (HHHC) as of October 31, 2019.

Accreditation signifies that Horse Helpers of the High Country meets GFAS's rigorous and peer-reviewed equine care standards which are confirmed by a comprehensive site visit. Accreditation also signifies adherence to standards addressing the sustainability of the organization, ethical principles, finances, staffing, education outreach, security and safety and other operational aspects.

"We are proud to announce the transition from Verified to Accredited status for Horse Helpers of the High Country," said Daryl Tropea, Ph.D., GFAS Program Director-Equine. "Since the time of this group's original Verification with GFAS, they have worked hard to develop tools toward greater organizational sustainability and improved capacity building. This organization is highly respected as the central recipient for animals (equine and others) seized by law enforcement from several counties in North Carolina. In addition, their many volunteers learn horse husbandry skills while helping to rehabilitate and prepare their equine for new homes."

"We are excited to be recognized as one of GFAS' Accredited equine rescues," said Amy Hudnall, President of Horse Helpers of the High Country. She continued, "Achieving accreditation was no easy accomplishment, but it ensures that Horse Helpers is incorporating best practices and following the due diligence all equine deserve upon entering a rescue organization's care."

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 Horse Helpers of the High Country

Horse Helpers of the High Country, incorporated in 2004 as a nonprofit 501(c)3 corporation, serves the northwestern corner of North Carolina, including Avery, Ashe and Watauga Counties as well as Johnson County, Tennessee. Sick, abused, and abandoned horses seized by law enforcement and animal control and those surrendered by their owners are provided treatment, rehabilitation and a loving home. Their mission is to be a voice for and to protect all equine through equine rescue, education, and advocacy, and to establish and inspire positive human-animal bonds. For more information, visit www.horsehelpersnc.org or call 828-773-5508.