



VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2026

# THE STABLE DOOR

Official Newsletter of the Virginia Partnership for Horses

## Welcome Diamonds in the Rough Equine Rescue!



*Baby Maverick enjoying some time in the sun with his mama, who was rescued from a large equine neglect case in Suffolk County last year. She was starving and skeletal when she came into the rescue and beat the odds by giving birth to a healthy foal 11 months later.*

safely rehome all of their service horses.

In their tenure, they have created a robust and close-knit network of volunteers, fosters and adopters, all of who care deeply for the equines in their charge.

We are so excited that this wonderful organization has joined the Virginia Partnership for Horses and look forward to networking and collaborating with them to achieve our collective goal of making Virginia a safe haven for all equines!

Founded in 2010, Diamonds in the Rough Equine Rescue is one of Virginia's first Equine Rescue organizations. It started when founder, Sonja Reuter, heard about a neglected pony tied to a lawnmower. She intervened and the owner let her take the pony to safety. That small act of mercy lit a fire that still burns today.

Twenty-five years later, DITR is now Accredited through the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries and routinely assists animal control with dire situations and accepts owner surrendered horses that have no where else to go. They also work closely with the VA Beach mounted patrol, and



*Gigantic Jackson arrives safely to DITR to enjoy his retirement from duties as a mounted patrol officer.*

## March Events



### Hearts for Horses

Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue  
**MARCH 14**  
Keswick, VA

### New Volunteer Orientation

Hope 4 Horses  
**MARCH 14**  
Fredericksburg, VA

### Ag Day in Winchester

Shenandoah Valley Equine  
Rescue Network  
**MARCH 29**  
Winchester, VA



Full Calendar of Events

# Finding the Right Rescue

We are so grateful for all 24 of our Equine Rescue and Sanctuary Partners and have enjoyed getting to network and know each of them a better over the past two years.

With so many admirable equine welfare groups to choose from across the state, it can be challenging to know where to begin—especially with the "elephant in the barn" of disreputable organizations.

Whether you are looking to volunteer, adopt, foster, or simply want to ensure your donation goes to a reputable cause, there are straightforward ways to investigate the rescue or welfare group you feel most called to.

The easiest way to start is by checking a group's Accreditations and Affiliations. These third-party organizations are dedicated to promoting the best equine welfare interests. A list of recognized Accreditors and Affiliates, along with the Virginia groups they endorse, is available on our website.

After thorough research, the next best step is to engage directly with the group. Spend some time on the ground by volunteering or attending one of their events. While social media is a convenient way to get to know a rescue, it cannot replace the authenticity of real time spent with the horses and their dedicated team members.

It genuinely does take a village to provide stewardship and care to those that need us most, and your efforts make a difference. Thank you for taking the time to care about Virginia horses in need ❤️



Scarlett 8yo  
TB mare



Lacey 23yo QH mare



Eli 12yo Palomino  
Paint Gelding



Tuey 25yo  
OTTB gelding



Lady 16yo  
TB mare

## Horses Needing Direct Placement Homes



Jazzy 6yo  
OTTB Mare

www.PartnershipForHorses.com