



# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

MOUNTAIN VALLEY HORSE RESCUE

*Dear Friends and Supporters,*

At Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, 2019 was a year of great accomplishments and inevitable change, but most of all: confirmation, stability and support of our Mission.

Your donations of time, machinery and equipment, tack, hay, artwork, silent auction items and funding have been key to 2019's successful results. The Board and Staff of MVHR thank you and so do the horses, ponies, donkeys and mules whose lives are made so much more secure. As we often say, MVHR's capacity may only make a small impact on the overall issues of equines in need, but for each equine we support and help together, his or her life is changed forever.

### **Stability & Consistency, Innovation, Mission & Values**

It cannot be said enough: Your support makes the difference in MVHR's success. This was clearly demonstrated in 2019 by our ability to consistently deliver MVHR's mission and values through our ongoing and innovative programs. Financial stability, highly effective staff, expert contractors (including vet, trainers and farriers) and new and long-term volunteers support this acknowledgement.

### **Accomplishments**

Over the breadth of 2019, MVHR cared for a total of 36 individual equines. We ended 2019 with 25 rescue equines in our care.

Eight horses found their forever people, our Summer Day Camps were full, training hours were increased for the horses, and critical ranch maintenance was accomplished.

Six hardy volunteers stepped up to a new opportunity – the 60 Day Challenge – an intense equine training developed by Plan 4 Progress (a program sponsored by the Forever Foundation and national animal rescue organizations) and supported by MVHR's trainers. The success of these volunteers with six of our Rescues resulted in all of those horses being engaged in the Summer Day Camps – the first time Summer Day Camp included only Rescue horses! And the horses all moved closer to being ready for adoption.

In September, MVHR's Annual Hay Day included an Adoption Open House, featuring these six horses, and on that day, two started their paths to new homes.

Mini Horse Heroes, our half-day, horse-oriented, early

childhood education program was a hit with 3-5 year olds and their parents. For 2020, in response to helpful feedback, the program will shift from weekdays to Saturdays.

All five sessions of MVHR's 2nd annual Summer Day Camp program filled up in less than two weeks! Sixty children, ages 8-14, in groups of 12, enjoyed four days out at the Rescue: working in teams on games, mucking, grooming, saddling and riding. Ten campers received scholarship aid. The underpinning theme of MVHR's Day Camp experience is R.E.S.P.E.C.T.: Responsibility, Empowerment, Stewardship, Perseverance, Empathy, Cooperation and Trust.

Six High School Rescue Club members participated in a year-long program, increasing horsemanship skills and equine knowledge, contributing to the care and upkeep of the ranch and herd, assisting with summer camp counseling, and developing leadership skills. Each also completed an MVHR outreach and fundraising project.

MVHR's 115 acres on the Colorado River has been managed well in 2019: there is water for irrigation and thirsty horses, training space (limited, but busy), shelter enclosures and fencing for herd management and safety, electricity and heat repairs to keep the water treatment system from freezing, and the ATV's were kept running.

Donors, In-kind Providers, the Volunteer Maintenance team, Volunteer craftspeople, and a grant from the Yampa Valley Community Foundation, all helped to accomplish the following:

- Completed a Pasture Management Plan
- Purchased a large horse trailer
- Hay donated to the Ranch was delivered on donated trucks and flatbeds
- Better footing in round pen and training arena
- Irrigation equipment improvements
- Curtains installed in the cabin to help retain heat
- Fortified walls & doors for the quarantine stalls
- Purchased a second manure spreader

And the Stack Yard is done!

Over 35 volunteers worked weekend after weekend, with Larry Cavanaugh at the helm, to complete this critical facility to protect that precious commodity – hay. As soon as final touches are done, there will be a dedication plaque mounted on the stack yard, recognizing the individuals and businesses who contributed to this success.

## In Memoriam

One of the hardest decisions we face is to recognize when it is time to euthanize. With a clear, heartfelt and practical policy to support these decisions, and the advice of our veterinarian, the decision to help a horse go on a good day, rather than wait for a really bad day, was made three times this year: Gabby the Mool, Buddy (#2), and Brownie.

## Staff & Board Changes

Shana Devins continues as our steadfast and capable Executive Director. Amy Ben-Horin, Programs and Volunteer Coordinator for two years, left MVHR to move to Western Colorado where her husband works. Amy established all of our youth education, outreach and Day Camp programs and curricula for MVHR, as well as initiating the reorganization of volunteer training and support.

Fortune smiled on MVHR as Kensie Redden came on board as Program Coordinator, and Steph Busley, Volunteer Coordinator; both part-time. These capable professionals are building on Amy's foundational work.

After five years as President of the Board of Directors, Larry Cavanaugh stepped down. But he and his dedicated volunteer wife, Janet, are both still involved with several critical projects. Cookie Murphy-Pettee became President. Other Board officers are Leslie Robertson, Vice President; Marleen Bosch Hopkins, Treasurer, and Nancy Lindbloom, Secretary. Kathryn Middleton is our Sustainability Coordinator. After a brief hiatus, Greta Campanale was welcomed back and has taken on the role of Development Advisor.

## 2020 – Building on Success, Keeping Hope Alive

Most of all, we will continue to stay true to MVHR's Mission and Values. In 2020, we hope to continue to increase the number of equines we help, be they horses, donkeys, mules or ponies. All of our specific goals help to facilitate that objective. 2020 plans include:

- Provide 7 Summer Day Camps –with at least 14 scholarships
- Move Mini Horse Heroes to the weekend to better meet the needs of working parents
- Further develop and train volunteers to higher skill levels in equine care and horsemanship
- Offer bequests as a giving option

- Build on our Events: Summer Brunches in both Eagle County and the Yampa Valley, Pony Rides at the Beaver Creek Rodeo, Hay Day & Adoption Open House in September, and Holiday for the Horses at The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch

## Completing the Ranch – the MVHR Capital Campaign

With your continued help and success in growing new Capital funding sources, progress will continue on building and completing the infrastructure and facilities critical to MVHR's success at the Ranch.

The completion of the Stack Yard checked off a key improvement on MVHR's Capital Plan. Our remaining major projects, for an estimated \$2 million, include the following:

- Caretaker Residence – assuring full-time care for and oversight of the horses (and temporary space for volunteer emergencies, like a major snow storm)
- Indoor Arena - allowing year-round training space, which directly enhances adoptions; and including a classroom for humans, better tack facilities, improved outdoor lighting and indoor stalls
- A Big Truck for hauling horses and hay (new or gently used!)
- A permanent Round Pen for horse training and human education
- Implementing the Pasture Management Plan and Irrigation Improvements

## Thanks to You

We can't say it enough! The horses, donkeys, mules and ponies who come to MVHR will continue to count on current and new support from donors and volunteers to improve the quality of their lives and to help find new forever homes. This is true no matter the size of your gifts of money, tack, time and more. If we don't express our gratitude enough to you in person, in emails, or in newsletters, we are saying it as emphatically and warmly as possible now.

*With Sincere Thanks,*

*Mountain Valley Horse Rescue Board of Directors*

# 2019 BY THE NUMBERS



Number of equines helped by MVHR in 2019



Number of adoptions



Number of intakes



1,538

Volunteer days logged



\$62,082

Value of committed volunteer time



560

Youth Program Participants

## INCOME

Fundraising	161,058
Programs/ Equine Care	174,534
Operational	21,663
Capital Campaign Contributions	111,317
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$486,573</b>

## EXPENSES

Fundraising	30,511
Programs/ Equine Care	161,266
Operational	94,894
Capital Campaign Expenses & Loan Payments	260,575
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$547,246</b>

MVHR has received several grants which are reported within the Fundraising Income section. Detailed financial reports and IRS form 990 are available at [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org). Guidestar has awarded MVHR with the Platinum Seal of Transparency for financial reporting. Financial reports are also available through [www.coloradogives.org](http://www.coloradogives.org) or by contacting our Executive Director, Shana Devins.

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

The following list of donors is a compilation of those people and organizations who contributed to Mountain Valley Horse Rescue between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. We have carefully reviewed this list for accuracy and consideration of those who wish to remain anonymous. If you find an error or omission, please accept our apologies and contact us at (970) 653-0185.

## Rescue Heroes - \$10,000 and above

Alexandra Mastriana Solal  
Bob & Rosie Tutag  
Debra Levitetz & Sascha de Gregori  
Jim Aull  
Kaufman Family Foundation  
Mike & Pam Mycoskie  
Raymond F. Bryan Estate  
Steve Lucido

## Equine Advocates - \$5,000 to \$9,000

Dick & Marcy Woodrow  
Kitchen Collage  
Mary Wolf  
Russell Molina  
The Precourt Foundation  
Vail Valley Surgery Center

## Wranglers - \$2,500 to \$4,999

Citywide Banks  
Judy LaSpada  
Karen Kribs  
The Ritz-Carlton, Bachelor Gulch

## Ranch Hands - \$1,000 to \$2,499

10th Mountain Whiskey & Spirit Company  
Barbara Wright  
Ben McGuffin  
Brooke A. & Carol Peterson Advised Fund  
at Aspen Community Foundation  
C E Dekko Trust  
Cookie Murphy-Pettee  
Diane Anderson  
Dick Cleveland & Kathy Langenwalter  
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Doug & Michele McNeill  
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Mary J. B. Work Fund of the Community  
Foundation of Northern Colorado  
Matt Cosgriff  
Nancy & Jon Tellor  
Pat Hammon  
Paulette DiGiannantonio  
Rebecca & David Faeder  
Robert J Larson  
Sue Arford  
The Fraser Family Charitable Fund  
The WinMax Foundation/Doe Browning  
Thomas H Fox

## Stable Mates - \$500 to 999

Alan & Joanna Wallenstein  
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Anne Hintz  
Anne Rozzell  
Colorado Mtn News Media  
Connie Welch  
Courtney St. John  
Darlene Daugherty  
Dean & Victoria Sandvik

Don Ingle  
Donna DuHadway  
Eagle Sinclair E.E. Inc  
Ed Oyler  
Equus Foundation  
Ewing Trucking & Construction  
George Broadbent  
Greta & Mike Campanale  
GSB Family Foundation, Jeff & Kelli Bailey  
Heather O'Malley  
Indiana Gump Foundation - Cheri & Ed Trousil  
Jamie Stephen  
Janice Cowan  
Jodi Steel  
Joe & Mary Moeller  
John & Shannon LeBlanc  
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Justin Chesney  
Karen Nulle  
Kaylee Little  
Larry & Janet Cavanaugh  
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Rick Udesky  
Robert & Pamela Barker  
Sarah & Peter Millett  
Tania Landauer  
Teri Collett  
Tonazzi Family  
Victoria & Terrell Clampitt

**Pony Pals - \$10 to \$499**

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Adrienne & Chris Rowberry  
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Alice Norton  
Allie Jacobs  
Amy Ben-Horin  
Amy Guercio  
Amy Linden

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Frank Buzzard  
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Gerry Bortz  
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Wylaco

# MVHR MISSION

Mountain Valley Horse Rescue (MVHR)'s Mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome abused, neglected, abandoned, and unwanted equines. MVHR also works to reduce cases of equine abuse and neglect through community education and outreach. MVHR rescued its first horses in 2004, and became a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization in 2005.

# MVHR VALUES

- Every equine is cared for, valued and respected as an individual.
- The welfare and needs of each equine are first and foremost.
- We offer lifetime consultation for adopters of our equines and we will always take back an equine who has been adopted from MVHR.
- Every person with whom MVHR interacts is respected and valued as an individual.
- We value our unique position to be able to teach to and connect people with equine welfare, care issues and skills.
- MVHR actively participates in and contributes to our broader communities.
- We support the Western ranching, farming, cultural and historical roots of our communities.
- The land in our care will be managed, with the intention of long term improvement and sustainability, by employing best practices to balance equine use with 1) wise use of resources, including water and soil; 2) respect and coexistence with wildlife; and 3) maintaining visual appeal.

