

Mission

Utah Animal Adoption Center is a volunteer based, non-profit organization dedicated to reducing pet overpopulation, eliminating euthanasia of healthy adoptable animals, and preventing animal suffering in Utah. We work to accomplish these goals through rescues and adoptions of horses, cats and dogs; low-cost spaying and neutering and humane education.

How We Help Horses in Utah

Utah Animal Adoption Center, a Utah charity established in 1983 not affiliated with any other group by similar name, is Utah's oldest and largest no-kill rescue and adoption program for cats and dogs, annually placing about 1,600 animals.

In 2003, volunteers who recognized the plight of unwanted horses in Utah began rescuing, rehabbing and adopting unwanted horses from auctions, feed lots, animal-control agencies who release some to us, and from owners who can no longer care for their horses who turn them over to us and entrust us to care and place them in loving, LIFETIME homes. Indeed we are one of only two rescue organizations that help horses in Utah, a state overpopulated with unwanted horses. The initial goal was to save up to 4 horses a year. Not a tremendous dent in the problem, but it would make a difference to those horses saved. We have far exceeded that goal. Currently, there are 32 horses in the program and a waiting list of more to come in, as horses are adopted out. Approximately 50 horses are rescued by our program annually, making Utah Animal Adoption Center Horse Rescue and Adoptions the largest horse rescue organization in Utah.

Approximately 80,000 horses are slaughtered in the U.S. or shipped to Canada or Mexico for slaughter. As you may be already aware, recent legislation preventing the slaughter of horses for human consumption in the United States will go into effect in Spring 2006. We applaud the legislation, but realize that we will have many more calls regarding horses in crisis and we need to be prepared for that. We estimate that our daily census will increase by as many as 10-15 additional horses.

Utah Animal Adoption Center Horse Rescue and Adoptions is run entirely by volunteers and is funded entirely by private donations, separately from Utah Animal Adoption Center's small-animal program. Volunteers are responsible for transportation of horses, retraining, rehabilitation, public relations, fund raising, graphic design, feed delivery and anything else that 32 horses need to be happy and healthy while awaiting their forever homes. We do not have a horse facility; all horses are in foster homes stretching along the Wasatch Front over a 100 mile

distance. This works out very well as the horses get daily, individualized attention. Volunteers, including the foster homes, contribute over 30,000 hours of their time annually.

Horses come to the program from all over Utah as well as Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Idaho and Wyoming. The horses come with a variety of physical, emotional and mental issues. We use veterinary dentists, veterinary chiropractors and other veterinarians, as well as farriers trained in "Natural Balance" to address the physical concerns of the horse. We use natural horsemanship to address the emotional and mental issues. The love provided by the foster homes is often the first time our horses have ever experienced a soft voice and gentle touch. Sometimes it's even the first time the horse has experienced being fed and watered on a regular basis. Great discrimination is used in approving new lifetime homes for our horses, to insure they will be loved and well cared for the rest of their lives.

Income comes from adoption fees and donations, and pays for feed, medications, supplements, veterinary care, farrier care and supplies. Funding received by the program goes only to direct horse care; no money is used to pay for salaries or facility overhead.

Due to the tremendous success of the program, and the anticipated increase in horses coming to rescue, we are in need of additional funding support to provide the care needed to save over 65 horses in 2006 and to increase our daily census from 32 to 45+ horses. Each additional horse in the program requires, on average, \$1,000 in veterinary and farrier care, feed, and supplements.