



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**LOCAL HORSE RESCUE RECEIVES
GENEROUS ARRANGEMENT OF LAND**

Denver, CO -- Friends of Horses Rescue and Adoption (FOHRAA), who has placed over 350 horses in loving, adoptive homes since January, 2004, has recently become the beneficiary of the land purchase on which they have been operating the rescue for the last year. GreenSprings Sanctuary, a California-based philanthropic organization purchased the 10+-acre property, formerly known as the El Jabel Palomino Mounted Patrol equestrian facility located at Peoria and Arapahoe Road in Englewood, on behalf of the Friends of Horses Rescue and Adoption (FOHRAA). With this new opportunity, FOHRAA will be able to continue to operate as a successful horse rescue while expanding its operations to include horse boarding and educational programs for children.

“It’s a dream come true,” exclaimed Bill Stiffler, who founded the rescue several years ago after he received numerous telephone calls over the years from families looking for good homes for their horses. Stiffler funded the operation himself, before starting the non-profit group Friends of Horses Rescue and Adoption (*FOHRAA*) in 2002 (a 501c3 non-profit organization). FOHRAA rescues, rehabilitates and places into adoptive homes neglected or abused horses including PMU foals, retired racehorses, sound pleasure horses, companion horses and seniors. Most are grade type, although some are registered purebreds.

Plans for several fundraising events are already underway to raise money to make major improvements to the property, which is currently home to approximately 20-30 of the total 60+ horses that are available for adoption. FOHRAA has three other locations in which it keeps horses that may not be ready for adoption just yet or are under veterinary care.

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With this most generous land purchase development, FOHRAA can now proceed with its plans to become not only a rescue operation but a place where kids of all ages and economic status can learn and interact with the horses. Each weekend, volunteers visit the Peoria facility to take care of the horses, feeding and grooming them, while also riding some of them to give them their needed exercise.

“Seeing a kid’s interaction with the horses is an overwhelming experience,” says Donna Steenkamp, a FOHRAA Board Member. “Many of the kids who visit the Rescue come from difficult situations themselves and find it easy to relate to the horse’s own situation. For others, it’s a perfect way to interact and learn how to care for an animal that they may not have the means to ever own themselves.”

The GreenSprings Sanctuary organization will be establishing a Coalition of Animal Rescues with the intent to provide a place where children can receive a more in-depth education into the value and need for the protection of animals. GreenSprings also purchased a 480-acre tract of land in Limon, CO that will be used to grow Alfalfa and hay for the horse rescues as well as house many of the un-adoptable horses several Colorado rescues may have that may be a financial burden to rescue operations.

For more information, please contact Bill Stiffler at FOHRAA at (303) 795-9870 or Donna Steenkamp at (303) 328-3789 or visit the FOHRAA website at www.getahorse.org.

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