



THE WINGS PROGRAMS, INC.

Humans helping horses healing humans

www.wingsprograms.com

Quarterly Newsletter

March 1, 2022



WINGS AWARDED RAVALLI ELECTRIC CO-OP GRANT

Wings was awarded an \$11,200 grant last fall by Ravalli Electric Co-op as part of their Power of Change program. The grant money was used to purchase an indoor arena building that will be used for various equine-assisted therapy programs year-round. The indoor arena will allow

human and equine therapy sessions to be conducted even on windy, rainy and smoky days and will extend our ability to provide services to the community.

“There are so many things we can do now that we can finally purchase the building,” said our Executive Director Debora Lay. “This means everything, and we are so grateful for receiving this donation. We will now be able to meet equine activity needs even more, and we are so excited to be able to offer these services to our community members here in the Bitterroot Valley.”

The footing for the building was completed last fall and the arena was constructed in February. With the addition of protective fencing panels and shade cloth inside the arena, we're now ready to start using the new building!



See Lola's reaction!

What's New?

Look at my pearly whites!



Many of our horses and donkeys will need their yearly dental work done this month. Each equine dental float costs \$80. Your donation will help keep our equines eating well and smiling!

Facebook: Humans Helping Horses
www.wingsprograms.com/donate.html

Social Media

We've been busy adding content to our **Instagram** and **Facebook** pages! Our donation ads have helped bring in funds for many particular needs, such as bedding, blankets and dental care.



Website Changes

We've freshened up the Wings website by adding more horse pictures and putting our Facebook feed on the home page.

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION MARCH 19TH

Do you love horses and donkeys? Are you looking for a way to connect with others while helping your community and enjoy the beauty of Montana? The Wings Program in Corvallis is looking for more volunteers. We have a small core group of dedicated volunteers who need more help. As a volunteer with The Wings Program you will be helping us with rehabilitating and transitioning horses and donkeys to new homes, and supporting the sanctuary equines that are not available for adoption for various reasons.

We have a variety of volunteer needs including daily chores, mucking, feeding, grooming, walking and socializing equines, ranch repair and various projects. **Our next volunteer orientation is Saturday, March 19, 2021 from 10-11:30am.** Come learn about our facility and meet the horses! Please visit our website for more details at www.wingsprograms.com. Click on the volunteer page to fill out a volunteer application and our coordinator will contact you.

If you have volunteered in the past and are interested in getting involved again, or if you have any questions, email our coordinator, Laura Weise, at dooney@bluemarbleimages.com.



WINGS RECEIVES VERIFICATION BY GLOBAL FEDERATION OF ANIMAL SANCTUARIES

The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries, awarded Verified status to the Wings Programs Inc. as of October 25, 2021. Verification means that the Wings Programs meets the criteria of a true equine sanctuary/rescue and is providing humane and responsible care of the animals. To be awarded Verified status, an organization must meet GFAS's rigorous and peer-reviewed animal care standards which are confirmed by a site visit and they must also adhere to a demanding set of ethical and operational principles. The Verification status also provides a clear and trusted means for the public, donors, and grantors to recognize the Wings Programs as an exceptional organization.

“We are thrilled to receive Verification from GFAS. We are a small organization, but we strive to provide excellent care and rehabilitation for our equine residents while also providing equine assisted therapy to our community,” explained Debora Lay, Executive Director and founder of The Wings Programs.

“The Verification status will provide a clear and trusted means for the public, donors, and grantors to recognize Wings Programs Inc as an organization worthy of supporting. Having GFAS Verification shows that we are willing to do what it takes to both maintain our facility and our business plan to ensure the ethical operation and

devoted safety to the horses in our care. We hope to grow and partner with our community to provide the best possible services and care. We are Humans Helping Horses Healing Humans.”



WINGS BECOMES MONTANA SATELLITE ADOPTION CENTER FOR PEACEFUL VALLEY DONKEY RESCUE

The Wings Programs, Inc. has been selected as the Montana satellite adoption center for Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue. This rescue provides a safe and loving environment to all donkeys that have been abused, neglected or abandoned and wild burros under threat of destruction. Peaceful Valley, with its nationwide network of Ranch Facilities and Satellite Adoption Centers, has a mission to improve the plight of the American Donkey.

Wings will begin receiving adoptable donkeys in the April/May timeframe. These donkeys will already be trained to be haltered and led, so will be adoptable right away. The objective of a Satellite Adoption Center is to place donkeys into areas where there is a strong interest in donkeys and more potential for good homes. Satellite Adoption Centers function as volunteer sanctuaries that help facilitate the adoption of donkeys in local communities all around the country. We're excited to part of the program! Visit our [Facebook page](#) for details.



What's New?



Adopted!

Our little donkey family, Mama, Baby and Sissy, were adopted in January. Thank you to our donkey whispering volunteers Terri, Ann and Mary, who spent a lot of time socializing these donkeys so they could be haltered and led, which is a requirement for adoption.

Visit our [Adoptions](#) page on the Wings website to see our other successful adoptions since last summer.

New Board Members!

Wings welcomes new board members Alicia Mara and Laura Weise. They bring a variety of skills to Wings in the areas of fundraising, grant writing, website and social media, strategic planning and more. Visit our new [board member](#) page for more info.