



TMR Rescue Inc.

2024 Year-End Newsletter

Cover featuring Jerry the Donkey



TMR Rescue, Inc.
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If you would like to update your mailing information or unsubscribe to our yearly mailer, please email Fundraising@TMRRescue.com

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Our Mission

We are deeply committed to the rescue, rehabilitation, and rehoming of equines, fostering a sanctuary where dignity and care are paramount for every donkey, horse, mule, and pony we shelter.

We offer these gracious animals a second chance at life, nurture their recovery, and ensure their safe transition to loving homes. Our expansive 200-acre sanctuary serves as a testament to our dedication, managed by a team whose passion for equine welfare knows no bounds.



Interested in more frequent updates? Join our digital mailer list and get a monthly email! Subscribe on our website or send this back with your donation!

Email address: _____



Hoof trim



Progress Towards
Sustainable Future
Initiative



A mother and
unborn baby rescued
from slaughter



Currently priced
round bale



Castration for
adoption

Donate Today

Please enclose this form in the envelope provided with your donation.

- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Check (Payable to: TMR Rescue, Inc.)
- ☐ Credit or Debit— Donate online or fill out the following:

How much would you like to donate: _____

Card Number: _____

CVC: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Billing Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Donate Online:



Your information is never shared. Thank you!

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

VOLUNTEERS

JOHNNY STRAITZ

ANIMAL SPONSORS

HONORABLE MENTIONS

◆ ANGELLA V PHOTOGRAPHY ◆
BADASS COFFEE ◆ BARN MANAGER ◆
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VETERINARY EQUINE HOSPITAL ◆
DEEPROOTS ◆ LARRY LITTLE ◆
LONEPINT BREWERY ◆ PLASTIX PLUS
◆ PYRANHA ◆ RESCUE
DISINFECTANT ◆ RIDING WAREHOUSE
◆ SWEET BRIBERY CREAMERY ◆
WHITEHALL ICE HOUSE & CAFE ◆



Important 2025 Dates

April 19th—Annual Egg Hunt

November 1st— Benny the
Donkey's 10th Birthday Bash



See our online calendar for all the
upcoming Donkey Walks, Donkeys n'
Donuts, as well as our scheduled
outreach events!



Our Letter To You

Whether you are new to following TMR Rescue, or you've been a supporter since our nonprofit birth in 2013, we consider you all family.

As you may know, **our founder is the primary financial supporter** of our facility, covering nearly 80% of our yearly funds for the last 12 years. The economic crisis in the last four years has not been kind to any of our supporters, and we need your help.

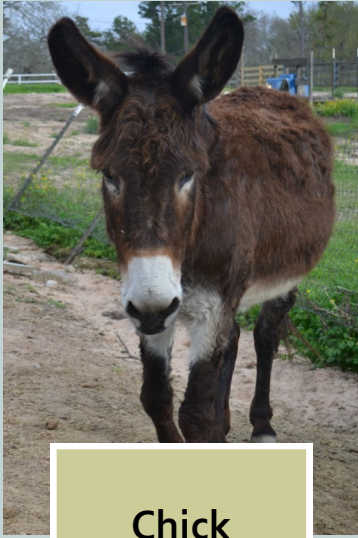
It is time for change.

We are working towards a **more sustainable future**. Our operation costs nearly one million dollars a year and we are looking to cut those costs by a third. This is an impossibility without your support. Learn more about this initiative in our "Help Us Grow" story.

We rely on all our adopters, donors, staff, and volunteers as we push through the next year.

Donating today will help save and ensure our future.

Thank you



Chick

The Kill Pen Crisis

Thousands of equine all over the U.S. are frequently transferred from owner to owner and often end up in kill pens. Whether due to age, health issues, or simply because they are done with them they end up at auction. From there, they await slaughter at a holding area known as a kill pen.

Imagine being held, awaiting transport to Canada or Mexico where the slaughter of equine to be used for meat is legal. In sickly and dirty conditions, there is no segregation between males versus females, old versus young, or sick versus healthy. It is cramped and only the absolute bare minimum of care is received.

It is only in cases where a price is agreed upon that they can leave alive. This is a catch-22 and causes a moral dilemma to those that rescue animals from kill pens. In essence this system forces financially supporting an operation we disagree with in order to save lives.

In February, another organization reached out to TMR Rescue to help rescue a few kill pen animals.



Cisco, Hades, and Max

Jerry's Legacy — How one donkey could save the lives of over 1,000 fellow equine



It is with heavy hearts we had to share the passing of Jerry, a cherished member of our rescue family and the first donkey Johnny rescued. Jerry left behind a legacy of compassion, strength, and service to 1,077 equines he helped rescue throughout his life.

For over 20 years with us, Jerry played a crucial role in our mission to save and care for equines in need. His journey began when he was rescued from auction in 2004, and from that moment he was a companion to our founder, Johnny Straitz, as well as countless staff and volunteers.

Although Jerry is no longer with us, he lives on in the work we continue to do every day. We are committed to carry out his legacy and continue to help equine in need to find loving homes and no longer need to worry about the neglectful or abusive lives they come from.



From Struggle to Strength: Newborn Donkey finds home with Veterinary Hospital Technician



Baby Abner was born to Evelyn, one of the three confiscated donkeys brought in by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department in May of 2023. Evelyn's pregnancy was a surprise to staff at TMR Rescue until she started showing signs in early 2024. Gestation for donkeys is 11-14 months, so Evelyn was likely bred just before her arrival.

Evelyn was clearly a first time mom and rejected Abner — refusing to let him nurse and repeatedly rolling over and crushing him. This caused major inflammation and infections in his joints and deprived him of nutrients. Dr. Chozick at Brazos Valley Equine Hospital (BVEH) and TMR staff took Abner's care day by day for almost a month.

His time at BVEH allowed a bond to develop between him and one particular vet tech. Elise fell in love with Abner, naming and adopting him. No longer rejected, now he is treasured and loved.



Where are they now and what it took:

Chick— Chick was the most socialized and trusting. As a result, she was easily adopted and went to her new home over the summer.

Cisco & Hades— Successfully sponsored, these two are now living on our vast 57 acre pasture with many other boys.

Juliette & Olive— Surprise! Juliette was pregnant! We had our eyes on her from the very beginning. Not only did she come in obviously pregnant, but she came in with a respiratory infection— no doubt from the kill pen. She gave birth just a little over a month of her arrival to a healthy baby girl. Juliette and Olive have been adopted and are now enjoying their lives at their new home.

Max— The youngest, Max was estimated to be around 4 years old. We have him on our list to be gelded this month in hopes of his adoption next year.

Valerie— This sweet girl required immediate farrier work. Her "slippers" were trimmed and she is now up for adoption, awaiting the perfect home!



**Juliette
&
Olive**



Valerie

Help Us Grow – Our \$150,000 plan for a sustainable future

Feeding 320 horses, donkeys, mules, and ponies comes at a significant cost. Our operations budget reaches over one million dollars a year, and nearly a third of that is hay costs for our animals.

Due to economic shifts the last four years, our donor pool has dwindled, and we have not been immune to the struggles. The cost of hay in Texas frequently fluctuates throughout the year and has been steadily rising. We need a solution.



The Solution: Growing Our Own

After careful planning and consideration, we've developed an exciting new initiative: **growing our own hay**. By starting with reallocating 20+ acres we currently own, as well as purchasing equipment and other necessary materials, we'll be able to offset the cost of hay for 2026. This gives us a start with room to expand. Ultimately our long term goal is to completely **eliminate the need to purchase hay** from other parties.

The initial costs required for our plan will be **\$150,000**. This will include the price of the machinery, labor needed, materials to prepare the area, and the planting of the field. We also plan to have an irrigation system set up to help us get through the hardest parts of the summer and push through the hay shortages that we typically face in the winter months.

How you can help

We need you— our family.

With your generosity, we know we can make this dream a reality. Every donation, no matter the size, will bring us one step closer to self-sufficiency and long-term sustainability.

Together, we can continue to change lives.

You can make a difference today. Here's how:

- Donate now: Fill out the donation form on the last page of this newsletter and send it back to us.
- Donate often: Set up a recurring monthly gift to help sustain the project throughout the year.
- Tell others: Share our campaign with your friends, family, and coworkers. Spread the word to help us increase our dwindled donor pool!

