

Neigh & Bray



SPRING
2026

For everyone who has a horse, loves horses, or cares for horses through the long winter months, spring breathes new life into the world around us. Fresh green grass begins to blanket the hills, birds fill the mornings with their songs, and with it comes renewed hope and possibility for the year ahead. It truly is a breath of fresh air.

Here, at Horse Haven of Tennessee, spring also brings something else, a flood of calls for help.

Already, our phones are ringing with reports of horses in need across our state. As the seasons change, so do circumstances for many horses, and unfortunately, spring is one of our busiest rescue seasons. We are currently preparing for several potential large-scale rescue efforts in 2026, which means more horses who will need immediate veterinary care, proper nutrition, and the time and training necessary to heal, both physically and emotionally.

Because of you, we stand ready.

Every horse that enters our gates is given the chance for a new beginning, a full belly, a safe place to land, and the promise of a brighter future. Your support makes it possible for us to say yes when the call comes.

But we cannot do it alone.

As we step into this busy season, we invite you to be part of these life-saving efforts:

- Make a spring gift to help us prepare for incoming rescues
- Sponsor a horse's rehabilitation and care
- Volunteer your time to help with daily care and facility needs
- Share our mission with others who believe every horse deserves a chance

Spring is a season of renewal, and together, we can make it a season of rescue, hope, and second chances.

Ashley Ford
Executive Director



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kristen Portuesi

Jim Tedford

Nina Margetson

Lara Gill

Dr. Kady Powell, DVM

Cheryl Taylor

Brad van der Veen

Board Member Spotlight: Lara Gill, Secretary



Raised in Blount County, Tennessee, Lara is the daughter of retired USAF Colonel Ron Gill and Delores Gill. An identical twin and wife of Richard O. Davis, Jr., she was shaped by a military upbringing grounded in discipline and service.

Lara is a licensed attorney in Tennessee and Mississippi and leads the Tennessee office of L.S. Miller Law, PLLC. She focuses on complex federal and state litigation, representing law enforcement officers and government

entities, and advises administrative boards on policy and rulemaking.

She serves on the IACP Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee and supports Special Olympics. She enjoys fitness, nature, pickleball, and time with her pets.

Volunteer Spotlight: Jamie Hendrixson



Jamie Hendrixson is originally from Indiana and spent much of her career in Houston, Texas, working as a commercial landscape architect. After retiring, she relocated to Knoxville to be closer to family and to enjoy easier access to the outdoors.

Today, Jamie can often be found exploring local hiking trails and taking in the beauty of East Tennessee. She also enjoys traveling whenever the opportunity arises.

In recent years, Jamie has begun experimenting with different forms of art, embracing the challenge of learning new skills and discovering new creative outlets. Living in Knoxville has given her the opportunity to slow down, stay curious, and devote more time to the people and pursuits that matter most.

Join the Horse Haven Volunteer Family

It takes a village to rescue and rehome Tennessee's most vulnerable horses, and our volunteers make it possible. From daily horse care to helping with rescues, events, and farm upkeep, there's a place for everyone to make a difference. The horses need you, and they just might change your life, too.

Apply today at www.horsehaventn.org

Beauty Behind the Scars

Cannoli is a stunning 18-year-old blue roan Quarter Horse who came to Horse Haven as part of a herd of 27 horses, her body telling a story words never could. Visible scars marked her skin, quiet reminders of the pain she had endured and the life she survived. At such a young age, she already has a deep sway back, likely caused by years of being ridden too hard and carrying more than her body could bear. She also suffered from a long-untreated eye injury that caused constant pain. After months of trying to save it, the kindest gift we could give Cannoli was relief, and her eye was removed so she could finally live in comfort.

On rescue, Cannoli was the hardest to catch. She didn't trust that humans wouldn't hurt her. But once she was safe, she softened, revealing a mare with a heart of gold.

Today, Cannoli loves to be groomed, lives peacefully with mares and geldings, and fully embraces her new life of comfort. She is gentle, loyal, and ready to give her whole heart to someone special.

Cannoli is looking for her forever home—and someone who will never let her scars define her, only the love she has to give.





Dancing FOR THE Horses
May 8, 2026
 Bridgewater Place | 6 - 10 p.m.
 Knoxville, TN

2025 Idyllwind Award by Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation

We are incredibly honored to share that Horse Haven of Tennessee has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 Idyllwind Award, presented by Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation in partnership with Boot Barn. This prestigious national award includes a \$25,000 gift and recognizes one equine rescue each year for outstanding work in rehabilitating and rehoming neglected and abused horses.

Miranda shared that our ability to respond to emergency cases across all 95 counties in Tennessee and provide second chances to horses in need made Horse Haven stand out. This support will directly strengthen our rescue and rehabilitation efforts, and we are deeply grateful to be recognized on a national stage for the lifesaving work made possible by our community.

The countdown is on for our 14th Annual Dancing for the Horses, one of the most inspiring and entertaining nights of the year! This unforgettable evening brings together community leaders, local celebrities, and horse advocates as they take the stage, all to give abused and neglected horses a second chance at life.

Guests will enjoy an exciting dance competition, incredible performances, and the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the horses who need us most. Tickets are officially on sale now and sell out every year. Secure yours today at www.horsehaventn.org.

Join us for a night of hope, heart, and horsepower, because every step taken on that dance floor helps change a horse's future.



Honoring with Gratitude:

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|---|--|
| Connie Westerman
By: Deanna Caughron | Jerri Cable & her endless love & volunteering for the horses
By: Jane Anne McCullough |
| Jennifer Stephens
By: Patricia Cowan | Camber McDaniel
By: Brenda McDaniel |
| Atticus
By: The Daughertys | Carol Harold's birthday
By: Carolyn Scott |
| Kady Neu-Powell
By: Peter Fales
By: Bruce Neu
By: Ellen Powell | Fettuccine, HHT rescue
By: Leslie Sheffield |
| Jill Tracy, HHT Volunteer
By: Elaine Gilbert | My Grandpa Lee Stevens
By: Lore Stevens |
| Christy Lockwood
By: Jacob Gonzalez | Emily
By: Trace & your sis |
| HHT Staff
By: Kelly Hargett
By: Lori Stresemann | Dr. Jim Pickering
By: Reggie W. Waddell, DDS |
| | Vernon Anderson's 70 th birthday
By: Paul McGowan, Jr. |

Stall Sponsorships:

- In honor of my daughter, Laura Conway
By: Frank Bushman
- In honor of my daughter, Diana Adrian
By: Frank Bushman
- Ms. Everest
By: Karen Jones

Some souls come into our lives and change us forever. Through tribute gifts, their legacy lives on—providing hope, healing, and a second chance.

Honor someone special with a gift in their name or memory at horsehaventn.org





Available for Adoption

Charlie

Bruschetta

Biscotti



Horse Haven of Tennessee

865-609-4030
www.horsehaventn.org
P.O. Box 586 | Seymour, TN 37865

