



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

**Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary**  
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*Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary is a licensed non-profit 501(c)(3) organization located in Middlebury, Connecticut. All donations are tax deductible and directly benefit the animals entrusted in our care.*

# *A message from our Executive Director...*

Dear Friends,

First and foremost, I would like to thank you for being part of a year that we touched many lives and continued to grow our organization. This past year had its fair share of ups and downs, successes and challenges, heartbreaking stories and happy endings – but we emerged stronger and more compassionate than ever.

In a time when many nonprofits are still struggling as a result of COVID-19, FFAS is eternally grateful for the loving support of so many that have allowed us to continue to provide our rescues with the highest quality of care.

To each and every one of our supporters, thank you for all that you do to keep our mission alive. Whether through donations, sponsorships, likes and shares on Social Media, or just your words of love and encouragement, you've kept us going through some of the toughest years in history. Our mission of rescue and sanctuary would not be possible without you.

As the Founder and Executive Director of this amazing organization, I am proud to share this annual report with you. None of which would be possible without your generosity and support. Because of you, FFAS looks forward to an exciting new year where we will impact the lives of more animals than ever.

With much appreciation,

*Lisa Miskella*

Lisa Miskella  
Founder and Executive Director





## *Imagine a Place ...*

Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary is a 501 (c)(3) registered charity that was created in 2018, by Lisa Miskella to address the cruelty that many farmed animals face and to rescue, rehabilitate, and provide a forever home for the victims who have been abused, neglected or abandoned.

FFAS shares the life stories of our farmed animal rescues to help educate our communities about compassion toward animals, the human-animal bond and how they can become a voice for the voiceless. And to meaningfully connect with the individual personalities of these amazing animals who have become Ambassadors for their species and the tens of millions of animals killed for food.

Imagine a place where formerly abused and neglected farmed animals can live, without pain, suffering and fear. A place where they can feel the gentle touch of a loving hand, something many of our rescues have never experienced. A place where they will never feel hunger and will always have a warm, safe place to sleep.

This is what we have created at Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary.





# *Animal Residents as of December 2022*



*18 Rabbits*



*10 Goats*



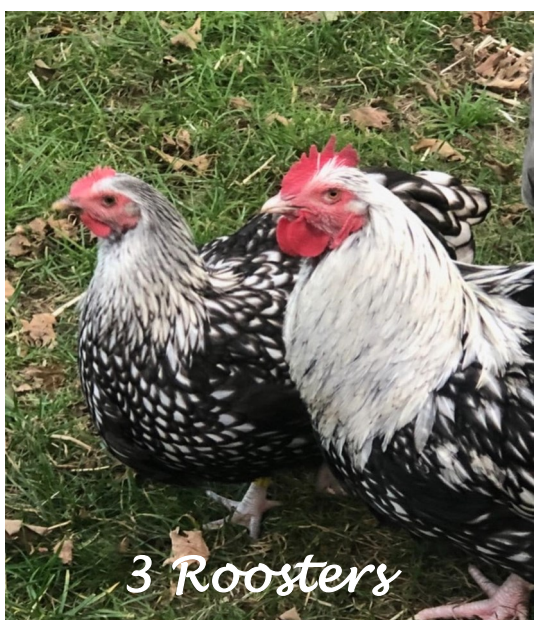
*4 Sheep*



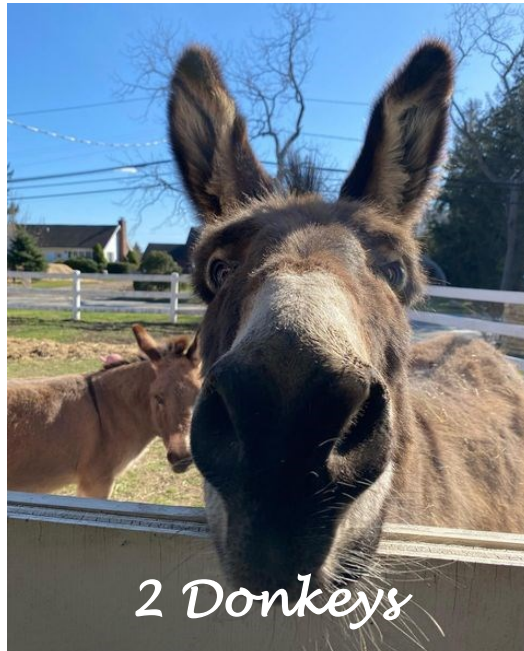
*10 Ducks*



*4 Turkeys*



*3 Roosters*



*2 Donkeys*



*17 Hens*



## Sanctuary Stories . . .

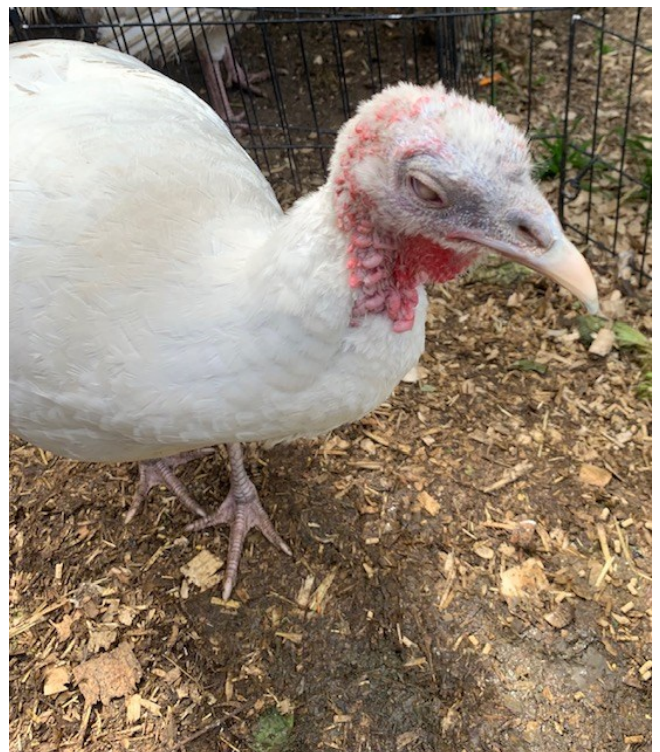


### Honey ~

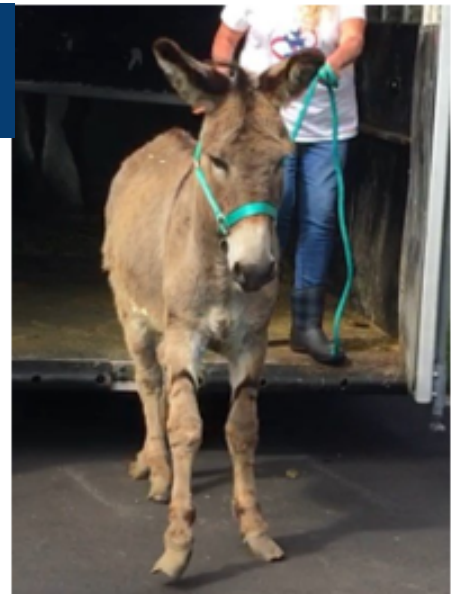
In August 2022, we attended the livestock auction. We noticed a large rabbit in a cage panting. She had no food or water. It was one of the hottest days of the year during the heatwave. She was there for several hours. Her ears were crusted over with ear mites. We did not intend on bringing a rabbit back but we had to help her. Once we checked her over back at the sanctuary, we found not only the ear mites but a severe ear infection. Her ears were filled with pus. Her nails were grossly overgrown, she was underweight and severely dehydrated. This was a case of severe neglect. We are treating her for the mites and her ear infection. Honey has an amazing personality and is extremely affectionate. She is safe now. She is loved.

### Snowy ~

Snowy is a Royal Palm turkey that was rescued from a turkey farm by a compassionate family. They reached out to us because Snowy was blind and they could not give her the care she needed. When we took Snowy in, she was extremely distressed, and was not eating or drinking. Snowy had just recently gone blind and had no idea how to handle this new way of life. We tried many ways to get her to eat and drink, including syringe feeding her just to get some nutrition in her. Nothing was working. We decided to put her in with our other blind turkey, Zelda. Within 24 hours, Snowy was following Zelda's lead and began to drink on her own. Zelda and Snowy have become besties here at the Sanctuary.



# Rico



In May of 2020, we first learned about Rico the donkey. He was in a kill pen in Oklahoma.

Kill pens are holding areas where unwanted, discarded and abandoned horses and donkeys are held until they are shipped to Mexico or Canada to be slaughtered. Many people who send their horses to auction are unaware that they are destined for the kill pen.

We could tell by the photos that he had been severely neglected. We were determined to save him. We first had to pay his "bail" to have him released from the kill pen and have him placed in a safe holding pen until we could find transport to get him to our satellite location in New York. Rico finally made the long trip which was over a thousand miles. When he was brought out of the trailer, he was terrified of people and extremely cautious. He was the picture of neglect; his hooves were overgrown to the point that his bones are slightly deformed, he was extremely dehydrated, so much so that he was urinating blood. He was covered in [lice](#) and he is blind in one eye which the vet feels was due to abusive trauma.

While others may have deemed Rico a "lost cause", here at Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary we knew we had to help him. We quickly worked around the clock to get him proper veterinary care, and address the scars and trauma caused by his abuse. One of our Board Members, cares for Rico at her farm and this is what she has to say,

"Over the next six months we nursed Rico back to health with many visits from the Vet and Farrier. We also spent many hours earning his trust. There were many breakthroughs during that time, like when he let me brush him for the first time (I didn't want to stop), or when he first took a treat (we quickly ran out and bought bags of them), or when he put his head on the barn door looking for a snack. His first bray was both confusing and exciting as we didn't know if he was hungry, happy, hurt, hot etc. Turns out it mostly means that he is happy to see us or that he wants attention."



Rico is continuing to do very well. He has become quite the character and puts his head on top of the door of the barn when he wants a treat. He even approaches people who come to visit and loves to have human kisses!



Since rescuing Rico, we were able to rescue another donkey in a very similar situation, named Jack. Rico and Jack have become the best of friends and will never again have to endure the pain and neglect that they had previously experienced.



# Thank You to Our Supporters

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# Board of Directors

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**Elizabeth Quick-Corral - Secretary**

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*Director of Development,  
World Animal Protection US*

**Dahlia Benaroya - Co-Treasurer**

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*CEO, Dahlia Web Designs LLC*

## Volunteer Staff

**Lisa Miskella – Executive Director**

**Abigail Miskella - Animal Rescue & Transport  
Animal Care Team**

**Bill Miskella – Farm Maintenance, Rescue and  
Transport**

**Lori Parr – Social Media Marketing**

**Helena Carson—Social Media Marketing**



# Financial Report

## INCOME

Grants	\$16,900
Donations, Sponsorships, Merchandise Sales	\$52,260
Gifts In Kind	\$12,410
<b>TOTAL GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$81,570</b>

## EXPENSES

Animal Care	\$55,278
Postage	
Insurance, Accounting Fees and other general Expenses	\$15,249
Fundraising	\$ 9,722
<b>TOTAL GROSS EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$80,249</b>

**NET GAIN FOR FISCAL  
YEAR 2022**                      **\$ 1,321**

# 2023 Focus

## Launch and Grow our Scout Programs

We will offer programs for all levels of Girl Scouts including Daisy Scouts, Brownies, Juniors, Cadettes and Senior. They will have the opportunity to earn badges while learning about and interacting with our rescued animals.

## Create the FFAS Advisory Board

This new Board will implement new fundraising strategies, including fundraising events and continue to grow our donor base.

## Develop and Implement our Summer Camp Education Program

This program will teach children humane education and compassion toward animals, at the appropriate age levels. They will learn the rescue stories of some of our residents and get to interact with them.

