

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2023**

Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary 757 South Street Middlebury, CT 06762

info@freedomfarmanimalsanctuary.org www.freedomfarmanimalsanctuary.org





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,

As we reflect on the past year at Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support we have received from our supporters and donors. Their unwavering commitment to our mission has allowed us to make a significant impact on the lives of countless animals in need.

Throughout the year, the generosity of our supporters has been the driving force behind our ability to provide a safe haven for animals who have faced neglect, abuse, and abandonment. Your donations have funded crucial veterinary care, nutritious meals, and comfortable living conditions for our residents. Because of you, we have been able to rescue, rehabilitate, and give these animals a second chance at a happy and healthy life.

Through your generous contributions, we were able to acquire a much-needed farm truck that enhances our ability to care for our residents. Additionally, we have successfully constructed several vital outbuildings, including a spacious chicken house, a cozy turkey shelter, a dedicated duck shelter, and numerous custom rabbit houses. These new facilities not only signify the expansion of our sanctuary but also serve as a testament to our commitment to providing optimal living conditions for all the animals under our care. Your support has played a crucial role in improving our infrastructure

This past year has presented unique challenges, and yet, your support has been a beacon of hope for us. Your understanding and flexibility during times of uncertainty have allowed us to adapt and continue our mission without compromise. We faced obstacles together, and your resilience has reinforced our belief in the power of community.

I would also like to express our gratitude to the businesses and organizations that have partnered with us. Your support has extended our reach and allowed us to amplify our impact. Together, we are building a community that prioritizes the well-being of animals and promotes a compassionate and sustainable future.

As we look forward to the coming year, we are filled with optimism because of the strong foundation of support that you have helped us build. Your belief in our mission inspires us to dream bigger and reach higher. With your

continued support, we are confident that we can make an even greater difference in the lives of animals in need. Your generosity and compassion have made a lasting impact, and we are truly grateful for the difference you are making in the world.

With heartfelt thanks,

Risa Miskella

Lisa Miskella Founder and Executive Director Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary



# Imagine a Place ...

Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary, nestled in the serene landscapes of Middlebury, Connecticut, is a haven for the voiceless victims of abuse, neglect, and abandonment in the realm of farmed animals. Established in 2018, this sanctuary is a symbol of hope and healing for creatures that have endured unimaginable hardships.

Dedicated to rescuing farmed animals from dire circumstances, Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary is a beacon of empathy and care. The sanctuary's mission revolves around providing a safe refuge for these animals, where they can rediscover trust, experience kindness, and receive the nurturing they so desperately need.

Upon arrival at Freedom Farm, each rescued animal undergoes a thorough evaluation process to determine their specific needs. The dedicated team of caregivers works tirelessly to develop a comprehensive plan that addresses not only their physical wounds but also their mental and emotional well-being. Medical treatments and rehabilitation programs are tailored to suit the unique requirements of each resident, ensuring a holistic approach to recovery.

What sets Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary apart is its unwavering commitment to providing a forever home for these animals. Once they find solace within the sanctuary's embrace, they are guaranteed a life free from pain, fear, or suffering. It becomes a sanctuary in the truest sense, offering a haven where the scars of the past can heal, and where the animals can thrive in an environment of compassion and understanding.

As the sun sets over the picturesque landscape of Middlebury, the residents of Freedom Farm Animal Sanctuary graze peacefully, finding solace in a sanctuary that not only rescues them from despair but also grants them a lifetime of love and care. This sanctuary stands as a testament to the transformative power of compassion, proving that every being, regardless of their past, deserves a future filled with kindness and dignity.







# Animal Residents as of December 2023



















# Sanctuary Stories . . .



#### Jett and Jolie ~

In the Spring of 2023, we attended a livestock auction where they had thousands of animals to be auctioned off for slaughter. This was just before Easter, so there were many baby animals including goats, lambs, rabbits, calves, chickens, ducks, and turkeys. When these two little lambs came out, we knew we had to save them. They were crying out for their mothers. They were so frightened. It was heartbreaking. We brought them home to the sanctuary. They were so young, they needed to be fed bottles of lamb milk several times a day. Once they settled in, they were no longer frightened. They knew they were safe. They eventually

were introduced to the older sheep at the Sanctuary and they are all great friends now. They are living the life they were born to live. They are safe and loved.

## Sky and Dora ~

We received a call about a mama goat who had recently given birth via c-section and her babies were still born. Her incision was infected and the owner did not have the means to pay for medical care and surrendered Sky to us, along with her one year old daughter Dora. The vet came out

immediately. Sky's incision was badly infected and she needed another surgery. The vet informed us that these two had been severely neglected. They were extremely underweight, infested with parasites and lacking the proper nutrition. Sky had been in an agonizing labor for more than 36 hours before the owner called the vet for help. Ending up with the two babies dying during the long labor, Sky and Dora have gained weight, they are healing mentally and physically. They are no longer suffering, they are happy, healthy and loved.



# Thank You to Our Supporters

#### **Funders**

Act Foundation USA Animal Liberation Act **Bayer Corporation** CharityVest, Inc.

**Charities Aid Foundation** Connecticut Gold and Silver Dahlia Web Designs, LLC **Deupree Family Foundation** 

Dorothy Zimmerman Charitable Trust

**Hover Foundation** Jerry Ask Fund

K.E. Nahiigian Charitable Trust

**Key Bank Foundation** Labonne's Market

Lowe's

Maurice Sendak Foundation Mrs. Cheever Porter Founation

Network for Good On Shore Foundation Paypal Giving Fund Pimco Foundation Sills Law Firm

Tisbest Philanthropy

Walmart Community Foundation

Weilland Giving Fund Wycislak Giving Fund Your Cause, LLC

#### **Donors**

Adriana Garcia

Alane Cal Alexis Tobin

Alicia Meulensteen

Alicia Baker Kadow Amanda Kiefer Amanda Weiford

Amelie Prusik **Amy Nicoletto** 

**Amy Powers** 

Andrea Suarez

Andrew Bury Angela Fritz

Angela Iannelli

**Angelica Agents** Angie Middleton

Ann Marie Cruickshar

Ann Velazco Anna Karimova

April Hope Arthur Milo

Astrid de Beer-Logter

Audrey Denine latsko

Austin Tancredi

Barbara Biel

Barbara Marcasciano

Barbara Munini **Beth Nipper Betsy Hudson** 

**Brad Grenier Brea Douglas** 

Brenda Gomez

Brenda King

Brianne McKissick

Bryan Ladu Cali Martinez Carla Mariani Carol Britton

Carol Wontkowski Carolann Setter

Chan Park

Charlene Calamba **Chase Sanders** Chloe Layden Christi Bear

Christina MacSweeney Christine Egidio Christine Girgasky

Christine Holm

Christine Maglieri Christopher Quinn

Claudia Cosgrove

Cynthia Landolf

Dahlia Benaroya

Dale Newberry

Darcy Marzano **Daryl Gordon** 

Dawn Darlington

Deb Kirk

Debra Albert

Debra Stronkowsky

Diana Germaine

DM Hall

Donna Bernardson

East Chatham Cottage

Elimaris Gonzales Elizabeth Green

Elizabeth Quick-Corral

Ellen Collins Emily Doyle

Fernando Carrazco

Frank Russo

Gail Pollack-Klein **Garrett French** Gayle Kitchin Genevieve Poulin Gertrude Pinckney

Gigi Galloway Gina Angelico **Gracie Brahimy** Hannah McLeod Hannah Winacott

Haym and Shelley Benaroya

Heather Iglehart Heatherjoy Klein Heidi Hart-Zorin

Helena Carlson Katie Jo Kovalcik Mary Katherine Marchwinski

Hieu Ngo Keegan Barry-Holson Melissa Dominguez
Holly Alverez Kelley Hubert Melissa Gomez

Hunter Hancock
Ian Hughes
Kelley McAdon
Kelley McAdon
Kelley McAdon
Michael Lessman
Michael Rodriquez
Kerry Pitt
Michael Hipos

Isabelle MullinsKerry PittMichelle HinesIsabelle ChenKim DarakMickey WalkerJackie RisottoKimberly JohansonMikey SaturdayJaee MeffKimberly JonesMindy Hendlman

Jaime LeeKonomi SugoMisfits of OzJamie GreyKristin & Adam YoungNala Cleo PoppyJanet SongerKristen OwenbyNancy OrsettiJanna QuamKristina TollkuciNancy Pinckney

Jason ThomasKristin SmolkisNate EdgeJawn RamseyLaura DeMotteNathan TurnerJenny DeckerLaura ElizabethNicholas CardJeremy RosenLaura KirkendallNina Beers

Jessica Pfundston Laura Udden Noel Merenstein Jessica Salinger Laurie Marie Derr Noella Barone Jessy Ross Laurie Roche Nyna Sargent Jill Marshall Linda Kuo Pamela McIntyre Jaon Grady Linda Hayes Patricia Glass Joanna Miller Luisa Cole Patricia Parr Jodi Landry Lisa Geissinger Patricia Trisko John Espirito Lisa Miskella Paula Belknap Jordana Meltzer Lisa Vachon Ramsey Derm

Juliana Constantino

Lisa Vachon

Ramsey Derm

Rhoda Peck

Judy Mendelsohn

Liz McFadden

Liz McFadden

Richie Kendall

Rick Phillips

Julie Bertwell

Lori Harris

Roni Rumpf

Julie Brice Lori Sahanas Rosann Bevacqua
Julie Guido Lourdes Rios Rosemary Bonanni
Justin Scocchio Lulza Maria Ryan Hendricks
Katy Velez Madeline McDermott Sabine Esmaili

Karen Barnaby Maria Stutz Sam Harkelroad Karen Westheimer Marian Feuerhammer Sandra Dressel Karla Plascencia Marie Bernache Sandra Hughley Kate Marchwinski Marilyn Spafford Sandra Maynard Kate Merrill Martha Brandt Sandy Elizabeth Kate Nichols Botto Martin Lockheed Sarah Caroll

Katherine Moe-Harrow Martin and Lisa Sterud Sarah Lucic
Kathleen Baumann Mary Corda Saudith Sanchez
Kathy Kellems Mary Dempsey Sharon Saleeby

Shelley Wright
Shobhana Natu
Sonia Aponte-Zeno
Stacy Alldredge
Stacy O'Harrow
Stephanie Jones
Stephanie Norgard

Susan Bowers
Susan Samela
Susannah Grover
Suzanne Kingston

Suzie Bury

Suzie Izzo

Venerra Khalikova

Suzzy Hernandez

Sylvia Dominquez

Talia Rutledge Alvarado

Tanya Morganson

Teri Agents

Velinda Vidaurre

Venerra Khalikova

Veronika Riggauer

Wendy Davis

Wendy Janesky

Wendy Murphy

Willfred Underhill Farm

Teri Agents Willfred Underh Theresa Henderson Yag Sookram Traci Brock Yanna Avlianos Trish Christine Youmin Kim

Vanessa Smith And many Anonymous donors

# **Board of Directors**

#### Alicia Meulensteen - President

21 Red Hill Road Middletown, NJ 07748 (917) 459-6511

alicia.meulensteen@gmail.com

Senior Director, Direct Marketing US; International Rescue Committee (IRC)

#### Kathleen Baumann - Co-Treasurer

6266 North Country Rd Wading River, NY 11792 (631) 228-4182 (917) 304-4210 kathleenbaumann@gmail.com CFO, Farm Sanctuary

### **Elizabeth Quick-Corral - Secretary**

365 Bond St Apt C515
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(714) 319-0584
<u>quickliz14@yahoo.com</u>
Director of Development,
World Animal Protection US

### Dahlia Benaroya - Co-Treasurer

28-08 158 Street Flushing, NY 11358 (646) 483-3427 <u>dbenaroya@gmail.com</u> CEO, Dahlia Web Designs LLC



# **Advisory Board**

### **Kristin Young**

Experienced Organizational Transformation and Process Improvement Manager, PMP, CCMP, BBLSS
Washington DC-Baltimore Area

### **Sydney Babcock**

Nonprofit Management Portland, Oregon

### **Hayley Koetj**

Community Leader, Operations Superstar Strategic Planning Champion , Animal Advocate Plymouth, Michigan

## **Volunteer Staff**

**Lisa Miskella** – Executive Director

**Abagail 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**

\$46,400 Grants Donations, Sponsorships, Merchandise Sales \$32,826

Gifts In Kind \$13,807 **TOTAL GROSS INCOME** 

\$93,033

**EXPENSES** 

**Fundraising** 

**Animal Care** \$72,637

Farm Truck, New construction of outbuildings for the animals, Insurance, Accounting Fees and other general \$22,324 **Expenses** 

\$ 7,629

**TOTAL GROSS EXPENSES** \$102,590

**NET LOSS FOR FISCAL** \$ -9,557 **YEAR 2022** 



## 2024 Focus

### **Grow the FFAS Advisory Board**

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

## **Grow our School Visits and 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.

Also, to collaborate with local community centers, and libraries to organize educational programs for children and adults

## **Grow Community Outreach Programs:**

Attend more local fairs, and community events to promote your sanctuary and engage with the public.

Distribute informational pamphlets, merchandise, and other materials to spread awareness.



