

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Helping Horses in a Bazaar Way

Just north of Monroe, safely tucked away from the road, is a horse haven with rolling pastures, trees, green grass, fresh water, shelter and a unique set of volunteers dedicated to helping horses. This is where Northwest Equine Stewardship Center (NWESC) is located.

Founded in 2008, Northwest Equine Stewardship Center works together with local equine rescue organizations to help neglected and abused horses get the care they need and find forever homes. Their focus is on the professional level rehabilitation (veterinary, farrier, training, etc.) of rescue horses and they rely on the dedicated work of local horse rescue organizations to take on the long term responsibility of horses in need and to find forever homes once they have been rehabilitated.

Since it was founded, NWESC had helped hundreds of horses, in conjunction with local rescue agencies, to recover from neglect and abuse. However, their efforts with this specialized rehabilitation come at a price. On average, it costs NWESC approximately \$20-\$35 per day to care for one horse's most basic needs. Add a severely neglected or abused horse and that cost only covers a portion of the equation.

"Once a horse is rehabilitated, the work begins with local rescue organizations to continue the care and training of the horse while providing it a safe haven until it can find a forever home." stated Dr. Hannah Mueller, a board director for NWESC. "It can take several months to years to find the appropriate home for some of these horses, and that monetary cost adds up."

At an average monthly cost of \$400-\$700 which does NOT include feed or training, the costs do indeed add up in a hurry. While a portion of the yearly costs are funded through adoption fees, mini-fundraisers, grants and horse sponsorships, most of the expenses are left unaccounted for. It is for those unfunded expenses that NWESC is hosting their second annual holiday bazaar.

The event, to be held on Saturday, December 1st, 2012 will include a hot lunch and refreshments, shopping, raffles, photos with Santa (the mini-horse), a cake walk and lots of fun! The event will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be held at NWESC (9812 215th Ave SE, Snohomish). All proceeds will benefit the 501(c)(3) organization.

In addition to shopping, you can help sponsor a rescue horse through NWESC's "Giving Tree". Items of need will adorn a tree as decorative ornaments. You can sponsor a horse, a specific item or a service by simply picking your ornament and donating the corresponding cost. Tax deductible monetary donations are also welcome.

"These donations, in whatever form, will make it possible for NWESC to continue our mission in helping horses in need," said Dr. Hannah Mueller.

If you'd like to be a vendor for this event, make a donation, sponsor a horse or to learn more about NWESC, please contact brooke@nwesc.org for more information or visit NWESC's website (www.NWESC.org).

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