



*Homes for Horses*  
**COALITION**

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## *Criteria for Membership*

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- \* Members should be 501(c)(3) organizations or individuals representing 501(c)(3) organizations that are actively committed to advancing equine welfare and supporting at-risk horses as described below.
- \* The organization must operate by the standards described in "Basic Guidelines for Operating an Equine Rescue or Retirement Facility" as published by AWI and AWHC. Any deviations from these standards, as described by references or self, may be reason to deny membership.
- \* Neither the individual member, nor the organizational member, nor its founders, officers, directors, trustees or key employees, shall have been convicted of animal cruelty or neglect, or be subject to a pending investigation by any federal, state or local law enforcement agency or administrative agency, involving animal cruelty or neglect.
- \* The individual or organization must have a policy in place requiring adopters to provide proper care to any adopted animal, including adequate food, water, shelter, veterinary care, farrier care, and turn out.
- \* The individual or organization must have a policy prohibiting placed animals from being used for any improper or illegal purpose, including, but not limited to, any activities that are harmful or would severely compromise the placed animal's quality of life, welfare and/or to be used for, or to be sold for use as, a commodity.

- \* The individual or organization must have a policy in place requiring adopters to promptly notify them, and to provide them with the first right of refusal to retake possession of a horse, if the adoption is unsuccessful for any reason, or if at any time the adopter is unable to provide proper care to the horse.
- \* The organization must have a policy against the breeding of the animals it cares for.
- \* Humane euthanasia shall be used only as a last resort and not as a population management tool.
- \* The organization must support legislation to stop horse slaughter and the transport of horses for slaughter.
- \* Membership requires the submission of at least three references, including a veterinarian, farrier, and 501(c)(3) equine rescue. If an organization cannot provide a 501(c)(3) equine rescue reference, contact the coordinator at [info@homesforhorses.org](mailto:info@homesforhorses.org) to be connected with a mentor.