

www.thoroughbredaftercarealliance.org

12/11/14 - TAA AWARDS \$2,400,000 IN GRANTS TO 42 ORGANIZATIONS IN 2014

The Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance (TAA) announced today that it will award \$2.4 million in grants to its 42 accredited facilities for 2014. The grant money will be used by these organizations to assist with the management, rehabilitation, and/or adoption of former racehorses in their care.

The TAA was created in 2012 and in 2013, it awarded \$1 million in grants to its 23 facilities that had been accredited.

“It’s great for the TAA to support so many worthy organizations across North America with funding that goes directly to retired racehorses,” said Operations Consultant Stacie Clark Rogers. “The TAA’s base of funding and support has grown tremendously in 2014, with more and more people and businesses pledging their support. With 2015 on the horizon, I am hopeful and confident that the new year will bring additional support from others throughout the Thoroughbred industry.”

A list of the 42 accredited organizations receiving 2014 grants from the TAA can be found here: <http://www.thoroughbredaftercare.org/default.asp?page=18>.

To receive funding from the TAA, aftercare organizations must complete a rigorous accreditation process and on-site inspection, which includes a complete review of the following areas: operations; education; horse health care management; facility standards and services; and adoption policies and protocols.

Organizations must also have a current status as a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization and must house a minimum of five Thoroughbreds, or 50% of their herd, among other criteria.

To see a list of all accreditation requirements, click

here: <http://www.thoroughbredaftercare.org/default.asp?page=10>.

Unaccredited equine aftercare organizations are encouraged to apply for TAA accreditation, beginning in January, to be eligible for 2015 grant distribution.

Based in Lexington, Ky., the TAA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization designed to serve as both an accrediting body for aftercare facilities that care for Thoroughbreds following the conclusion of their racing careers, and a fundraising body to support these approved facilities. Funded initially by seed money from Breeders’ Cup, Ltd., The Jockey Club, and Keeneland Association, the TAA is comprised of and supported by owners, trainers, breeders, racetracks, aftercare professionals and other industry groups.

<http://retiredracehorsetraining.org/rrp-news-articles/965-canter-and-rrp-join-forces-for-the-horses> CANTER and RRP Join Forces for the Horses

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Recipients of the 2014 and 2015 Thoroughbred Charities of America Industry Service Awards are joining forces to facilitate the sale of more Thoroughbred racehorses to buyers in the equestrian market.

Communication Alliance to Network Thoroughbred Ex-Racehorses (CANTER) is a non-profit organization that works through thirteen affiliates at 27 racetracks connecting racehorse owners with potential buyers via an online marketplace that features horses retiring from racing. The Retired Racehorse Project (RRP) works to increase demand for the horses through educational programs and marketing while serving the farms and organizations in the private and nonprofit sectors that offer training for second careers.

“Helping to grow CANTER is as important as anything that RRP can do to facilitate the placement of Thoroughbreds,” said RRP President Stuart Pittman. “CANTER’s model is unlimited in its capacity to serve horses, is very cost-effective, and rewards racing owners financially for producing sound, well-started riding horses.”

“As an all-volunteer organization,” said CANTER USA Executive Director Nancy Koch, “CANTER welcomes assistance with marketing and promotion of these great equine athletes. We love what RRP does to educate and inspire horse people to consider off-track Thoroughbreds, and are thrilled to be integrating our work with theirs.”

The CANTER/RRP collaboration will include in the first year the following.

- * RRP’s online Horse Listings will include prominent links to the listings of all CANTER affiliates.
- * CANTER’s web sites will include prominent links to the RRP Resource Directory and educational content.
- * RRP will actively recruit volunteers to serve existing CANTER affiliates and to form new CANTER affiliates.
- * Both organizations will promote CANTER listings as a source for horses to enter the RRP’s Thoroughbred Makeover next fall at Kentucky Horse Park.
- * CANTER volunteers will distribute copies of the RRP’s Retired Racehorse Resource

Directory.

* CANTER will hold its national meeting at the RRP's Thoroughbred Makeover.

* RRP will involve local CANTER affiliates when presenting educational programs at regional horse expos.

From coast to coast, CANTER USA partners with local racetrack communities to provide a free listing service to owners and trainers on the backside. Volunteers photograph, video and write descriptions of horses available to the general public, which are posted on CANTERUSA.ORG and promoted on social media channels. Since CANTER started in 1997, more than 22,000 horses have been placed through these free listings. As an additional service, some affiliates will take donations of racehorses. CANTER works with a team of volunteers and veterinary professionals to rehabilitate, retrain and rehome these horses. In 2014 CANTER cared for more than 200 horses at its aftercare programs. New listings of horses, both CANTER owned and available on the backside directly, are updated weekly. www.canterusa.org

Retired Racehorse Project works to facilitate placement of Thoroughbred ex-racehorses in second careers by increasing demand for them in the marketplace and inspiring an army of equestrians to provide the training that secures their futures. RRP programs include online educational resources, programs at major horse expos, interactive databases including a Bloodline Brag and Retired Racehorse Resource Directory featuring 300 farms and organizations, and online horse listings with over 200 current listings, most of whom have some second career training. RRP's Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium moves in its third year to Kentucky Horse Park on October 23-25, 2015.

www.retiredracehorseproject.org