



Most of us cannot imagine the act of neglecting, starving, physically abusing, or in some other way traumatizing a horse, but sadly, it does happen right here in our area. Katie Holme, director of Healing Horses, finds ways to connect with these horses and delivers them from suffering to safety. Some call her a “horse whisperer” because of her non-traditional methods. Katie smiles at that. “I just use gentle cognitive connections and the natural psychology of the herd to help horses heal. Then they can feel at ease, regain their confidence and behave respectfully,” says Katie. “It’s absolutely not a quick-fix approach, but it’s the kindest way and delivers lasting results.”

Healing Horses operates on a non-profit basis, as a division of Project Halo, and has already helped dozens of horses that were severely traumatized or near death when rescued. Today, these horses are kicking up their heels in the paddocks of their new homes. “Once that happens, we achieve our mission,” says Katie.

With the generous support of caring individuals and companies in and around our community, Healing Horses will continue, every day to make a positive impact on the lives of horses in need.



To learn more, contact Katie Holme @ 803-804-0544. If you would like to support the work of Healing Horses with a donation, please send check or money order to: Healing Horses, c/o Project Halo, PO Box 667924, Charlotte, NC 28266
Federal Tax ID# 56-2075229



Healing Horses is a non-profit organization located near Fort Mill, SC and is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and provision of sanctuary for area horses that are victims of mental and/or physical abuse, or trauma. Healing is conducted from an equine perspective through a structured program, which employs gentle, non-traditional methods. The end result are well-behaved, respectful horses that are confident and at ease.



The work of Healing Horses is managed and directed by Katie Holme (pictured above) and is only made possible with the help of close friends, kind volunteers and the financial support of compassionate and generous individuals.

Why Healing Horses?

Throughout our area we continue to be made aware of horses that are physically and mentally abused. Many are the victims of barbaric devices utilized to break and hobble them. Many are confined and beaten "just because". Many suffer so severely from starvation and malnutrition they can barely stand. And many are living in stables that are completely unsanitary, with minimal fresh air or daylight. Poor immunization and de-worming practices are commonplace, and basic healthcare needs are being disregarded.

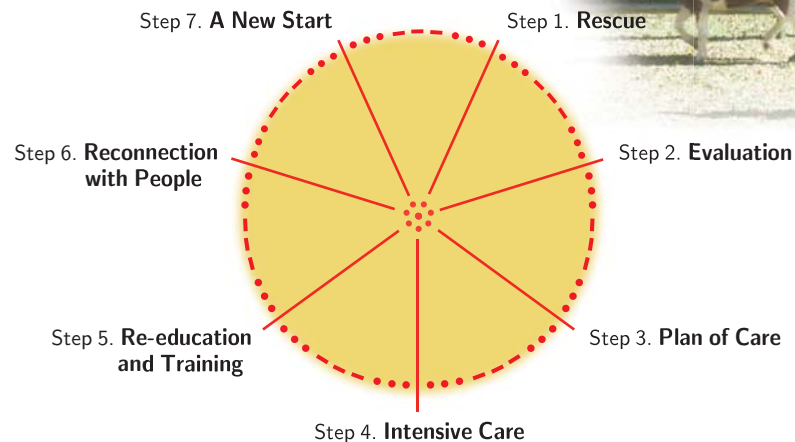
These are some of the reasons why.

On the other hand, there are countless instances of horses being labeled as unmanageable and dangerous, who without intervention are destined to live lives of criticism and scorn, all too often the precursor to abuse and neglect. These horses can be saved before they suffer this unnecessary fate.

And that is Why Healing Horses.

The Healing Wheel

This Wheel represents Healing Horses' comprehensive 7-step program of rescue through rehabilitation. The final result will be a horse that is confident and at ease and ready to build a respectful relationship with its' owner.



Sofia

One of four miniature horses found in a deplorable situation of malnutrition and over stocking, Sofia was under weight and overwhelmed with parasites. At just six months old this threatened her very existence. Fortunately, Healing Horses was able to negotiate her release into our care, and immediately started an extensive program of care and rehabilitation. Today she has regained a youngster's vigor and vim and is precociously enjoying her new home.



before



after

Kaloooha

Abandoned by her family and suffering all the classic symptoms of neglect, Kalooha was severely underweight, malnourished and emotionally distraught. She literally appeared and behaved as if she had lost her spirit to live. A Good Samaritan contacted Healing Horses and the process began. Today, she is fit and healthy and enjoying the attention and care of her new owner, a teenage boy who loves to ride and play with her in the pasture.



Miss Gennavive

Of all the poor neglected souls we have intervened for, Miss Gennavive was undoubtedly in the worst condition. Already in her senior years, she was turned out and abandoned by her owners. Months later, she was found foraging in undergrowth and leaves, struggling to survive. Immediately transported to Healing Horses in the back of an SUV, she arrived hardly able to walk. Her hooves were over grown and curled back on themselves, she was suffering from severe joint pain and arthritis, and she had foundered. But her resilient spirit and will to survive was evident, even as she was carried to her new pasture.

With initial intensive care and medical attention, followed by the TLC of her pasture guardian Chief, Miss Gennavive enjoyed four happy years at Healing Horses. She is now kicking up her heels at The Rainbow Bridge ... and that's a whole other story.



before



after