

# Refuge Roundup

Feb 2022



Welcome to our new and improved newsletter! It has been a long time since we have been able to share all the exciting happenings at Fuzzy Faces - We've missed you!

## What's New at Fuzzy Faces?

We have new fencing around the barn and pasture area! At the end of 2021 we were able to finish removing the old fencing and installing new wire fencing, in just 3 weeks! Thank you to everyone who helped with this project and making it happen. Our horses are safe and happily roaming the pasture enjoying their space. Now, visitors can walk the path that goes around the pasture while enjoying the peace and tranquility of the grounds. And who doesn't love watching the horses, and being close to them while getting some cardio activity??



If you have been out for a visit, you may have noticed the fountain that was installed in the pond area at the end of summer. It adds the tranquility of a waterfall as you walk the grounds, but its purpose is to aerate the pond to keep the ducks and geese happy while swimming and foraging in a clean healthy environment. It also helps to keep the mosquito population down which is a win in my book!



## What's New with our Fuzzy Friends?



Baby goats are coming! We are preparing the stalls and getting ready for our mama's to have their babies. Babies should be arriving in March just in time for our Spring Fling event, at the end of April. It is the perfect time to come out and enjoy BBQ, fishing, and games with your family while getting to cuddle with our new energetic babies.



Our bees have been tucked in and winterized for the cold weather. They have worked very hard in 2021 and deserve a break and some well-earned family time. Their hard work over the spring and summer supplied us with 4 gallons of honey! If you like local honey, don't hesitate to stop by the barn. Local honey has healing properties; not only does it help with seasonal allergies, but eating 2 ounces of local honey a day can reduce a cold by up to 2 days! Honey is also a natural antiseptic and can kill certain bacteria. It also has antimicrobial properties that make it great for treating wounds.





*“Howdy”, from the Freedom Steps team! Even though we are on our winter break during February; there is lots going on ‘behind the scenes’ as we strive to improve the quality of our programs and services. Enjoy reading all about it! “Happy Valentine’s Day!” -Jennie*

**When Does the First Session Begin?**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u> 	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> <b><u>Session #1</u></b>					

**Session #1: Feb. 28-Apr. 4**

**ENROLL NOW**

To reserve your spot, contact Jennie @ 609.678.8655 or [freedomsteps@fuzzyfacesrefuge.org](mailto:freedomsteps@fuzzyfacesrefuge.org)!



## What do I Love about Freedom Steps?

*"Freedom Steps is an excellent program combining both physical activity and exercise with emotional connections. I am a retired Clinical Social Worker with 40 years of clinical experience. I believe this type of program offers a wonderful blend in an environment that is structured to meet individual needs and goals, friendly and supportive, and FUN!*

*Members learn a wide range of horse knowledge through "hands on" experience. They learn terms, develop skills in grooming and tacking, and horse behavior/management. Members learn how to interact with their horse in a caring and respectful manner. Riding is with the assistance of the certified instructor and support team of volunteers like myself. The lessons and the teams are set according to the individual needs of each member.*

*Each horse has a wonderful and warm personality all their own. I love them all!!! It is a pleasure to be a part of this wonderful organization. I recommend Freedom Steps to everyone! You should come and check us out!!" -Carol*



*"That on Christopher Columbus Day I rode Lily backwards!" – Daniela*



*"I love the freedom steps equine therapy program, because it has allowed my daughter to pursue something that she loves. There are many activities that with her condition she is unable to participate but this allows her to do something amazing that her peers can also take part in. It has also exercised her ability to follow directions and take some responsibility by being attentive to the horse's needs. The program has been a wonderful experience that has helped strengthen her in both mind and body. We both look forward to her continuing in the program this Spring!" – Jennifer*



*"My favorite horse is Dixie. She has a great personality. Dixie was the first horse I've ever rode and I look forward to riding every week I can. I love all the horses. I love Mrs. Jennie and I love the people that help Mrs. Jennie. They are helping me with my confidence because I feel really good about myself after my lessons. I'm so thankful for Freedom Steps." -Nayla Brown*



*"I love that I am responsible for Mallow and get to take care of her during lessons."  
-Aditya*

*"Being with the horses and his very encouraging team of mentors makes him feel he is accomplishing something, that he is part of something." -Jhumki*

## **“Have a Heart” for Volunteering?**



Freedom Steps volunteers makes a difference by willingly offering their time to serve from the heart! New relationships made and smiles received from our participants, while working with horses is so rewarding! To learn more about becoming a member of our volunteer team, follow this [link](#) to complete an online application.

Special trainings are conducted throughout the year! We'll show you what to do and how to do it! Read our [Volunteer Guide](#) to learn more!



## **Volunteer Spotlight! “Meet Karen!”**

*“I started volunteering with Freedom Steps in September 2019. I came to a volunteer training session. I remember feeling a little nervous, but the other volunteers and Jennie made me feel so comfortable; like I'd known them my whole life and that's the reason I came back. I stayed to fulfill my life-long dream of being around horses (despite feeling nervous around them and having zero skills!). I started volunteering regularly, and I fell in love with the horses and the people I get to work with, both volunteers and riders. I have learned and continue to learn more than I could ever have imagined. I can say with all my heart that being a part of Freedom Steps has been one of the biggest blessings in my life and I feel so lucky that I get to be a part of it.” -Karen*





## “Barn Buzz”

We are ‘busy as bees’ and will be making some improvements to the mounting platform and other areas of the barn. A very special **“Thank You!”** to Kieran’s dad, **Brendan Flaherty** for his construction services for a handrail on the left side of the steps! The platform itself will be treated with a coat or two of non-slip paint for better ‘grip.’



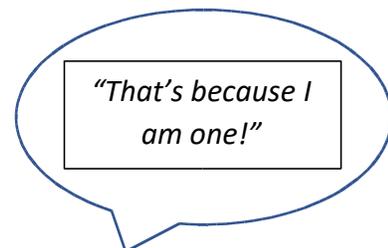
Brendan has also written a book about ADHD, [“ADHD Why Me?”](#)

If you are interested in purchasing, please use [Amazon Smile](#) to benefit Fuzzy Faces Refuge!

*“A young boy navigates his way through everyday life and school with ADHD. He overcomes the daily struggles of being labeled the bad kid, focusing, getting in trouble, getting friends and following simple directions. Eventually he realizes ADHD is just a part of his personality that makes him so uniquely special. There are even lists to build in the back of the book to help create conversation between the parent and child.”*

New signs for the tack room and feed area will also be installed. Our sincere, **“Thank You!”** to Savannah’s mom, **Jessica Watt** for her creative talents!

## “FROM THE HERD”



**WE NEED HORSE SPONSORS!** Did you know it costs an average of \$250/month to maintain each horse in our program?! Want to help? Click [here](#) to help us continue providing feed, vet care, farrier and hay! We sure would appreciate it!

### **Special Gift Idea(s) for Valentine's Day!**

Get that special someone something unique and different! Check out our [merchandise/apparel!](#)



It has been a pleasure serving our clients and participants. We are blessed to have such a wonderful team of people who wish to help improve the lives of others!

Happy Trails,



**Jennie Hill**, Program Director, PATH CTRI, ESMHL, Mentor

