



For Bear Valley Rescue, 2021 was a year of changes, growth, joy, and some sadness. We took in a lot of ponies! Some of the paddocks for the senior horses were expanded and shelters added. Over the year we lost quite a few old-timers and some that were with us for just a short time. Everyone here is thankful, though, that we were able to help as many horses as we did.

Our December/Christmas 2021 fundraiser was a resounding success, topping out at \$55,100! We are so grateful for our generous donors, grantors, and supporters who care as much about the horses as we do.



We were able to provide Archie, a two-year-old racing Quarter Horse, with the critical surgery that he required to give him a sound and pain-free future. Now, five months later, he is almost completely recovered and ready to leave for his adoptive home.



Most recently, Trumpet, our mini-donkey, spent six days in critical care at a vet clinic for a serious impaction. We are so glad that he recovered and is back at the Rescue and back to his old self.

Dragon, a one-week-old foal, came into our care in September. He was very ill with a serious umbilical infection and required around-the-clock care and several trips to the vet clinic. We are so happy that he recovered from his rough start! Within six months, Dragon was healthy and able to be adopted by a wonderful family – the same people who rescued him and brought him to us!



Dragon when he arrived – so very thin!



At one of his vet visits – he'd already doubled his weight.



Healthy and full of life.



Dragon at his new home



We set some records in 2021, with almost double our usual number of intakes: 121 horses and ponies, four hens, and two cows. We found homes for 83 horses and ponies, three roosters, and four hens—also an increase from previous years. In addition, we assisted with placing another two donkeys, 11 horses and ponies, four roosters, and one hen directly into new homes. We are very pleased with the partnership we have established over the years with Tiny Tales Pony Rescue of Delta, BC. They have helped us with many of the ponies that come into our care by taking them on and working with them, vetting them, and finding them new homes.



We held several online auctions and raffles. We are blessed to have such dedicated volunteers who went above and beyond to ensure the events were successful and greatly appreciate everyone who donated items throughout the year. We had our first Calgary casino, in January of this year. Again, we appreciate everyone who volunteered to work at this fundraiser.

With all our fundraising and everyone's generosity, we were able to purchase new tires for our two trucks (ten tires in all—that's a lot!) and had overhauls and maintenance done on both our large stock trailer and our flat-deck trailer. Safety on the roads is paramount!



Our intern volunteer program continues to be a big success. While Covid-19 affected the number of international volunteers able to come to Canada, we had some lovely Canadian volunteers able to stay and help out last year. Now that travel restrictions are lifted, we have our international program back up and running.



Looking ahead, we have a new capital project underway! We are raising funds to build a training arena, with a goal of \$50,000. Most of the horses that come to the Rescue are unhandled, fearful of people, and, sadly, often traumatized. The arena will help us assess new rescues and work on much-needed socialization and training. The arena could also be used to host education programs and special events. We have already raised a good portion of the amount we need.

BUILD HEART FROM THE HEART
MOVING OUR HORSES CLOSER TO THEIR FOREVER HOMES

GOAL \$50,000

Why it is important:

- Train horses to prepare them for adoption
- Shelter seniors during inclement weather/ cold winter months
- Assess new arrivals
- Host education programs and special events

How to donate:
Donations can be made by the following three options:

- 1 e-Transfer: bearvalleyab@aol.com
- 2 Website: Through the CanadaHelps or PayPal links: bearvalleyab.org/donate.html
- 3 Mail: Bear Valley Rescue, Comp 19, Site 6, RR 2, Sundre, AB T0M 1X0

Note: When making a donation, please indicate it is for the training arena.

Help Dragon and his friends get to the finish line!

If goal not met, funds raised to go into general coffers. Portable training arena not as shown. For representation purposes only.

Bear Valley RESCUE
www.bearvalleyab.org



Last summer, we expanded our bale yard, allowing us to better spread out the winter's hay storage. Because of the hay storage building that we erected in 2019 with a generous donor grant, we had more than 200 round hay bales left over from 2021 that were still in prime condition. This was more than fortuitous as 2021 turned out to be a very poor year for hay crops, with supply being extremely limited and prices, especially as this winter wore on, climbing to unheard-of amounts. With the saved hay from the previous year, we had a lot less hay to buy. Another benefit we enjoy is the great relationship we have with our hay suppliers. We get excellent hay at more-than-fair prices.





Another project we are going to be starting this year is expanding our clinic. We are in the process of moving the existing repair shop out of the barn and into its own structure. Once the barn space is cleared, we can increase the area used for our clinic, adding another indoor one or two stalls and more storage space. We are very excited about it!

As always, we're moving ahead as we see new opportunities to make life better for the horses and all the rescued animals at Bear Valley. We hope you will join us on the coming year's adventures!



*photo credits to BVR volunteers and **sightemotion**