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## True Innocents Equine Rescue in California is Verified by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries

April 12, 2012 (Riverside, CA) – The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), the only globally recognized organization providing standards for identifying legitimate animal sanctuaries, awarded Verified status to True Innocents Equine Rescue (TIER) as of December 15, 2011.

Verification means that TIER meets the criteria of a true equine sanctuary/rescue and is providing humane and responsible care of the animals. To be awarded Verified status, an organization must meet GFAS's rigorous and peer-reviewed animal care standards which are confirmed by a site visit and they must also adhere to a demanding set of ethical and operational principles.

"We are very happy to announce the recent verification of True Innocents Equine Rescue. It is a fantastic example of a horse rescue using its resources to benefit horses in need within the community by rescuing, rehabilitating and carefully re-homing them" said Jeannine Alexander, Deputy Director of GFAS.

"True Innocents Equine Rescue is extremely excited to receive GFAS Verified status! It is critical in these tough economic times to stand out as a rescue dedicated towards helping horses that have become victims of abuse, neglect or abandonment. TIER - True Innocents Equine Rescue has been established in Southern California for well over a decade providing horses a second chance to live a deserving and quality life. GFAS verification will help us to continue our efforts to help horses in need" said Gail Gleeson, Founder.

The GFAS Equine Accreditation Program is made possible by generous grants from PetSmart Charities® and The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®.

### **About Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries**

Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the sole purpose of strengthening and supporting the work of animal sanctuaries worldwide. The goal of GFAS in working with and assisting sanctuaries is to ensure they are supported, honored, recognized and rewarded for meeting important criteria in providing care to the animals in residence. GFAS was founded in 2007 by animal protection leaders from a number of different organizations in response to virtually unchecked and often hidden exploitation of animals for human entertainment and financial profit. The GFAS Board of Directors guides the organization's work in a collaborative manner. They represent top leadership from Born Free USA, The Humane Society of the United States, International Fund for Animal Welfare, American Anti-Vivisection Society, and National Anti-Vivisection Society.

[www.sanctuaryfederation.org](http://www.sanctuaryfederation.org).

### **True Innocents Equine Rescue**

Founded in 1999, TIER – True Innocents Equine Rescue is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that rescues abused, neglected, abandoned, and unwanted horses primarily in Southern California. By networking with animal control agencies, humane societies, and other rescue organizations, we strive to help as many horses as we can. Our

adoption program helps our horses find safe, responsible, loving, and caring homes while our sanctuary horses remain under the care of TIER for the remainder of their time on earth. Through our youth outreach & volunteer programs, these magnificent horses continue to unconditionally give of themselves as teachers to people of all ages! Since opening our doors, TIER has rescued or assisted in the rescue of over 700 horses. For more information about True Innocents Equine Rescue please visit: <http://www.tierrescue.org/>.

#### **About PetSmart Charities®**

Established in 1994, PetSmart Charities, Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save the lives of homeless pets, raise awareness of companion animal welfare issues, and promote healthy relationships between people and pets. The largest funder of animal welfare efforts in North America, PetSmart Charities® has provided more than \$134 million in grants and programs benefiting animal welfare organizations and has helped save the lives of more than 4.7 million pets through its in-store adoption program. To learn more about how PetSmart Charities is working toward its vision of a lifelong, loving home for every pet, visit [petsmartcharities.org](http://petsmartcharities.org) or call 1-800-423-PETS (7387).

#### **About the ASPCA®**

Founded in 1866, the ASPCA® (The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) is the first humane organization established in the Americas and serves as the nation's leading voice for animal welfare. One million supporters strong, the ASPCA's mission is to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States. As a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, the ASPCA is a national leader in the areas of anti-cruelty, community outreach and animal health services. The ASPCA, which is headquartered in New York City, offers a wide range of programs, including a mobile clinic outreach initiative, its own humane law enforcement team, and a groundbreaking veterinary forensics team and mobile animal CSI unit. For more information, please visit [www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org). To become a fan of the ASPCA on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/asPCA>. To follow the ASPCA on Twitter, go to <http://www.twitter.com/asPCA>.