

## **Interviews**

### **Nicole Walukewicz- Vice Chair/Owner**

#### **What is the purpose of your organization?**

PEARL works with law enforcement to take in abused horses while owners are prosecuted.

#### **Do you acquire your horses primarily from law enforcement seizures?**

Yes, and we receive many of our horses from other rescues.

#### **What are the goals of your organization?**

We have three primary goals. We want all of the animals that we receive to be completely rehabilitated. Next, we work to match all of our horses with owners. We provide education to law enforcement about equine abuse and how to resolve it.

#### **Where did you offer these educational seminars?**

In the past we have offered two-day courses to law enforcement in Anderson and Charleston counties.

#### **Who do you work with?**

We work with three veterinarians, Stafford, Beretta, and Garrison. An equine rescue that we work closely with is LEARN, led by Elizabeth Stead, which is based in Charleston, SC. PEARL's Vice Chair is Cindy McGee.

#### **What are the purpose and goals of your website?**

We would like the primary purpose of our website to show case studies and bring public awareness to the organization.

#### **Are there any aspects you would like to change about your website?**

Some changes to the website that would help would be to focus on using it as a learning tool. Public awareness something we would like to emphasize.

#### **Do you accept donations?**

We do not promote or try to raise donations anymore.

#### **Do you hire volunteers? What are your requirements?**

We do need volunteers for PEARL, who need to be at least 18 years old, sign a liability waiver, and have abilities and experience in riding and sportsmanship.

#### **What is your target audience?**

Our target audience includes horse owners, youth, and the public. We want to educate both horse owners and youth to be responsible with horses and to promote awareness of equine abuse to the public.

**What would you like for them to learn/have access to?**

We would like for them to have access to testimonials.

**What are the programs you provide?**

We provide medical, dental, farrier, and retraining for abused and neglected horses.

**Do you provide volunteer opportunities, educational seminars, clinics?**

Sometimes we provide educational seminars for law enforcement.

**What are some adjectives that describe your organization?**

Some adjectives I would use to describe PEARL would be dedicated, knowledgeable, educated, cautious, kind, thoughtful, and observant.

**How many horses do you currently have?**

We currently have four rescue horses, one sanctuary horse, and two privately owned horses.

**Do you allow schools to visit for field trips?**

No, we do not.

**Dr. Keith Stafford, DVM- Primary Veterinarian**

**What services do you use from the Palmetto Equine Awareness and Rescue League?**

I am their primary veterinarian.

**What is the goal and purpose of PEARL?**

The primary goals of PEARL are to educate law enforcement and to pass legislation in terms of equine abuse and neglect.

**Have you used their website before?**

I have never used or looked at their website.

**If you did use their website, what would you look for or improve?**

The website could be improved by focusing on testimonials of successful horse adoption and of collaborations with law enforcement. It would also be beneficial to include successful examples of legislation.