Keeping Trigger Home

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ASPCA
Where we are going

• Exploration of survey to rescue groups
• Exploration of survey to those that have re-homed a horse
• Discussion regarding opportunities to keep more horses home
Horse Rescue Survey

- Emailed survey to rescues in 10 states
- 192 surveys = 51% response rate
Western vs Eastern States
Of the horses you obtained in the past 12 months, how many are now... still in your facility

50%

37%
Of the horses you obtained in the past 12 months, how many are now... rehomed to a private home

37% in homes

55% in homes
Body Condition Score 1-9

Score 1-3

57% intake

Score 4-7

58% intake
Intake & Barriers
Intake (n=192)

2933 horses (past 12 months)
Barriers

Please rank (in order) up to three barriers that limit your organization’s ability to support more horses...
Intake if #1 barrier removed

Intake (12 months): 2933  ➔  6857
If #1 barrier removed...

What ways would this effect your organization’s ability to support horses or the people in your community?

- Place more horses
- Safety Nets
- Grow Organization
- Increase Intake

- 0%
- 10%
- 20%
- 30%
- 40%
- 50%
Safety Nets
Safety Net Types (n=167)

- **Wellness clinics**
  - Will offer next 12 months: 0%
  - Have offered past 12 months: 40%

- **Gelding support**
  - Will offer next 12 months: 20%
  - Have offered past 12 months: 30%

- **Euthanasia support**
  - Will offer next 12 months: 10%
  - Have offered past 12 months: 30%

- **Veterinary/Health Vouchers**
  - Will offer next 12 months: 50%
  - Have offered past 12 months: 20%

- **Hay Banks**
  - Will offer next 12 months: 10%
  - Have offered past 12 months: 50%
Safety Net: Advertise

Were safety net services advertised in the past 12 months? (n=167)

- Yes
- No: Do not offer safety net services
- Unknown

0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50%
Survey 2 method: Online survey

• Online survey among horse-interested population to learn about adoption behavior and re-homing
  • Base sample of 500 people who have a horse, have had a horse in the last 5 years, and/or are very interested in getting a horse in the future.
  • Oversample of an additional 100 people who have re-homed a horse in the last 5 years (for a total of 211 re-homers)
  • Survey conducted Dec. 17-Dec. 23, 2015 and Jan. 4-13, 2016

• Online survey focused more specifically on horses at risk of slaughter
Number of Respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All respondents</td>
<td>601 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current owners</td>
<td>89 (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former owners</td>
<td>250 (42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Re-homers</td>
<td>211 (35%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Where did you acquire your current horse?

- Directly from a private seller: 70%
- Directly from a business, company, or dealer: 10%
- At an auction: 20%
- From a rescue organization: 30%
- Some other way (please specify): 0%
Re-homing
Age of re-homed horses

- <3 yrs old: 18%
- 4-10 yrs old: 57%
- 11-20 yrs old: 19%
- 21-30 yrs old: 3%
- 30+ yrs old: 1%
- Not sure: 1%
Types of horses re-homed

- 60% pleasure horse
- 43% family pet
- 13% competition/show horse
- 9% report companion to another horse
- 4% work horse
- 2% other

(choose all that apply)
Types of horses re-homed

- Rideable by children: 25%
- Fully trained to a rider: 50%
- Green broke to a rider: 10%
- Halter broke: 7%
- Not rideable: 7%
- Not sure: 1%
Re-homers did not vary significantly by income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income levels</th>
<th>Re-homers</th>
<th>Non Re-homers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $25,000</td>
<td>14 (7%)</td>
<td>42 (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$25,000 - &lt;$50,000</td>
<td>41 (19%)</td>
<td>77 (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000 - &lt;$75,000</td>
<td>42 (20%)</td>
<td>103 (26%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$75,000 - &lt;$100,000</td>
<td>36 (17%)</td>
<td>60 (15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 - &lt;$125,000</td>
<td>21 (10%)</td>
<td>29 (7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$125,000 or more</td>
<td>37 (18%)</td>
<td>56 (14%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prefer not to answer</td>
<td>20 (9%)</td>
<td>23 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>211 (100%)</td>
<td>390 (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reasons for Re-homing

- Moved, 34%
- Money, 20%
- Owner unable, 16%
- Horse had problems, 8%
- Lack of space, 6%
- Competitive horse, 3%
- Other, 14%

Moving due to job relocation, I decided based on the fact that the horse had made me so happy, he could make someone else feel the same.

Lost my job, couldn't afford the horse anymore.

Sons got married and left home. It was hard for us to maintain at our home.

Not enough space...too many horses
Re-homers: Not aware of ways to get help

• 45% of re-homers said that safety net services would have allowed them to avoid selling or giving away their horse but they were not aware of any safety net services available in their community.
Reminder of the rescue data

Were safety net services advertised in the past 12 months? (n=167)

- Yes
- No
- Do not offer safety net services
- Unknown

0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40% 45% 50%
Access to safety net and whether cost was involved in decision to re-home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would access to short-term safety net services have allowed you to avoid selling or giving away your horse? n=201</th>
<th>For those who mentioned cost in reason for re-homing</th>
<th>For those who did NOT mention cost in reason for re-homing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes, but I am not aware of any safety net services available in my community</td>
<td>30 (59%)</td>
<td>56 (37%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, but I was turned down for assistance</td>
<td>2 (4%)</td>
<td>5 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, I used safety net services but I still had to give up or sell my horse</td>
<td>7 (14%)</td>
<td>8 (5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No, it would not have helped in my situation</td>
<td>9 (18%)</td>
<td>67 (45%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>3 (6%)</td>
<td>14 (9%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions