



REQUEST FOR FUNDING OF \$100,000 FROM THE NEW YORK STATE HORSE COUNCIL, INC.

The New York State Horse Council, Inc. (NYSHC) is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization established in 1968. The NYSHC represents all breeds of horses, and all disciplines of riding and driving. They are the official representative voice for New York horse owners and equine businesses, with a mission “To create a strong, unified voice for all interests toward the preservation of a future for horses in New York State.” The NYSHC provides significant support for the 6.4-billion-dollar horse industry in New York State. (see the 2023 Equine Economic Impact Survey completed through the American Horse Council and others).

For 56 years thousands of volunteers have served on the NYSHC Board of Directors, cleared, and maintained multi-use trails on public lands, and worked tirelessly with public land managers to protect, enhance, and preserve trails in New York State. These trails have become a premier destination for tourists and a local resource for outdoor recreation opportunities, enhancing physical and mental health. Members of the NYSHC also advocate for legislation, such as inherent risk for agritourism businesses, and the humane treatment of horses.

This is the first request that the NYSHC has made to the State legislature for funding support. The New York State Horse Council recognizes the need to expand our educational programs and marketing capability. Examples include workforce development, therapeutic riding with programs for veterans and the disabled, horsemanship clinics, training for large animal rescue and emergency responders, and improvements to multi-use trails on public lands.

A breakdown of the proposed use of the requested funding amount of \$100,000 is as follows:

- \$20,000 - Youth Development and Education – connected to workforce development, apprenticeships, and internships in the horse industry
- \$20,000 – Emergency Preparedness, Humane Education, Large Animal Rescue Training, Safety Education for Barn Owners, Horse Handlers, and First Responders (EMS)
- \$20,000 – Trails, Open Space, Parks & Recreation
- \$15,000 - Workforce Development & Skills Training – targeted for careers in the horse industry, college and university level and adult certifications, such as Therapeutic Riding Instructor, equine business management, farrier training, support for large animal veterinary training and more.
- \$10,000 – Professional Development – Meetings and Conferences
- \$10,000 – Equine Industry Marketing and Promotion
- \$5,000 - Equine abuse and neglect training for Law Enforcement

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Pauline Burnes

Pauline Burnes, President
New York State Horse Council, Inc.

pauline.burnes@nyshc.org

607-765-8543