UHC Members

The UHC currently consists of 32 member organizations.
At the time the coalition was formed 4 major goals were kept in mind:

- Raise awareness of the issue of unwanted horses
- Reduce the number of unwanted horses
- Educate the industry and the public about unwanted horses
- Find ways to solve the problem of unwanted horses

Today, the mission of the unwanted coalition stands as:

The mission of the Unwanted Horse Coalition is to reduce the number of unwanted horses and improve their welfare through education and the efforts of organizations committed to the health, safety and responsible care and disposition of these horses.
UHC Educational Materials

- The UHC brochure, *The Problem of the Unwanted Horse*, which explains the Coalition and its activities.

- “Own Responsibly” flyers, describing what it means to act responsibly regarding the long-term needs of your horse.

- The 2009 *Unwanted Horses Survey* the results of a national survey taken by more than 27,000 horse owners, equine industry stakeholders, rescue and retirement facilities and non-horse owners regarding the issue of unwanted horses, its importance, causes, solutions and effects.
UHC Educational Materials

• The UHC handbook, *Best Practices: How Your Organization Can Help Unwanted Horses*, which details initiatives and activities organizations can undertake to help reduce the number of unwanted horses.

• *Rehabilitating the Neglected Horse: A Caregivers’ Guide*, a brochure covering basic care for rehabilitating a neglected horse.

• The UHC handbook, *Own Responsibly: Guidance for current and potential horse owners from the Unwanted Horse Coalition*, which includes detailed chapters on the responsibilities of horse Ownership.
UHC Website
www.unwantedhorsecoalition.org

- Constantly updated with new and updated information
- Content includes:
  - Information about Operation Gelding
  - Information about the issue of the unwanted horse
  - Information on responsible horse ownership
  - Resources
  - Press releases and news, as well as past issues of Media Roundup
  - UHC staff contact
  - List of UHC Members
  - 2009 Unwanted Horse Survey information and link
  - UHC publications, materials, and public service announcements (available for download free of charge)
  - Additional Assistance section – grant programs, gelding programs, haybanks/feedbanks, free classifieds, etc.
  - Facilities that will accept horses. (Over 650 listings)
  - ‘Donate Now’ button on every page- links to Paypal account
UHC Ambassador Program

This volunteer speaker program was created in order to broaden the support of the UHC across the country, involve more equine organizations and individuals with our mission and to generate interest in the issue and the solution. The ambassador program (also called speakers’ program) consists of volunteers who are able to represent the UHC at meetings in their particular region and present UHC information.

A contract is sent to all speakers, ensuring their neutral position on the federal legislation for slaughter. The speakers must understand and sign this contract before being allowed to speak on behalf of the UHC. The speakers are then provided with a UHC Powerpoint presentation, a FAQ list, a UHC educational materials.

The UHC Ambassador program is currently comprised of 125 members. The UHC has sent over 55 representatives to events around the country.
The UHC Media Roundup is a way for the industry to keep the industry educated about unwanted horses and informed about the UHC through articles and events. Sent every 2-3 weeks. 41 editions have been sent to date.

Over 4,500 people on the UHC distribution list.

The UHC continues to regularly distribute news articles and press releases about UHC work to equine industry media outlets.
How to Start and Run a Rescue

Practical Advice on Setup, Promotion, Rescue and Placement

by Jennifer Williams, Ph.D.
How to Start and Run a Rescue

• By Dr. Jennifer Williams- From Bluebonnet Equine Rescue and Lone Star Equine Rescue

• An indispensible resource for those looking to start a rescue or established rescues looking to improve their business

• The book covers important topics such as: formation of a non-profit, fundraising, recruiting and retaining volunteers, bookkeeping, public relations, networking, forming an adoption program, etc.
How to Start and Run a Rescue

• 250 books available
• Every $ made goes towards funding the UHC’s Operation Gelding program
• So far, we have sold 104 books and have donated $1,659.34 to Operation Gelding
Operation Gelding was initiated on August 31, 2010. It is made possible by a generous donation of seed money from the AAEP Foundation, UHC, Pfizer, and individual donors.

Operation Gelding provides funds and materials to assist organizations, associations and events that wish to host low cost or free clinics to which horse owners can bring their stallions to be castrated.
Operation Gelding

- UHC provides information and forms necessary to conduct an Operation Gelding clinic and to receive funding.

- Funds of $50 per horse gelded, with a $1,000 maximum will be awarded to groups once a year.

- Assistance is awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

- Any organization, association or event can participate and apply for funding.
Operation Gelding

- To date, Operation Gelding has aided in the castration of 684 stallions.
- $34,200 in seed money has been distributed.
A Home for Every Horse

- Program launched along with The Equine Network in November 2011.
- The program consists of a universal website where rescues may list their horses available for adoption. The service is free and available to all 501 (c) (3) registered facilities.
A Home for Every Horse

• More than 500 adoptable horses currently listed online
• More than 1,600 adoptable horses listed since Jan. 2012
• More than 400 U.S. Rescue Shelters participating
• 183 Rescue Organizations promoted through free Service Ads on Equine.com
• Incredible programs from our partners W.F. Young, Purina, Tractor Supply Co., WeatherBeeta and the BLM Wild Horse & Burro Program
A Home For Every Horse sponsors are donating valuable time, product and resources to help find homes for all of America’s horses in need of care and shelter.
Home at Last

The first equine to find a new home through A Home for Every Horse on Equine.com was a mule.

“We think that’s rather fitting, as we’re stubborn in our commitment to helping America’s homeless horses (and mules!).

LOG ON TO LEARN how Missy Mule found a home and how you can find your next equine partner.

LOG ON TO HELP and discover other stories and resources.

LOG ON NOW: www.ahomeforeveryhorse.com

“It’s one of the most positive and forward-moving actions taken for unwanted horses in America...” Jennifer Swanson, Pure Thoughts Horse Rescue.

A Home for Every Horse

Equine Network
Getting Involved

What can you do to help?
The First Step Takes Just One Person

Designate an ‘Unwanted Horse Coordinator’- a person within your organization that is responsible for thinking about the issue of unwanted horses.
Continuing Education and Website

• Distribute materials
• Join the Media Roundup and distribute current news articles
• Become a UHC Ambassador
• Include a section on your website dedicated to unwanted horses
Help Owners Be Responsible

- Educate new owners about the responsibility of owning a horse
- Breed organizations - Full Circle Program
Support, Start, Or Associate with a Care Facility

• The 2009 Unwanted Horses Survey found that many respondents felt that increasing the ability of rescue/rehabilitation/retirement facilities for horses was critical.

• Volunteer, donate, promote adoption.

• If you have the means, you can start your own facility. The 2009 Unwanted Horse Survey found that many of our nation’s care facilities are at capacity or near capacity, every bit helps!
Direct Assistance

- Provide direct help to horse owners and care facilities in need.
- Vaccination Programs
- Grant Programs
- Hay/Feedbanks
- Castration Clinics
- Euthanasia Fund
- Equine Safety Net
Fundraising

- There are many ways to fundraise for your organization - large and small. Ongoing fund-raisers and planned events.
- Dinner and Silent Auction
- Sell merchandise – t-shirts, calendars
- Raise money at horse shows (check-off program), fairs, events
- Tack sales/Bake sales
- Raffles
- Trail rides, benefit shows, 5k/walks
- Shopping sites that will donate a portion of sales to your organization
- Paypal link on your site
- In-kind donations (hay, feed, tack, etc.)
- Apply for grants
Unwanted Horse Coalition

• Don’t rely on someone else to get involved and make a difference.

• The UHC is always here to help!