

Twenty years ago, my wife Amy and I started rescuing donkeys from abuse, neglect, and abandonment. In 2002, Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue rescued our very first mule. His name was Mike.

Over the years, while rescuing over 16,000 donkeys, we've picked up several mules along the way. Mules, which are half horse and half donkey, are very different from either horses or donkeys. Some mules get the best of both worlds while others, sadly, get the worst. Wild bred, mishandled and abused mules require very different care and training than that which we provide for the donkeys in our care.

In 2019, I launched the Lost Meadows Mule Refuge as our nation's first dedicated mule rescue. I then proceeded to scour the country looking for the perfect person to run this new division.

Matti is that perfect person. While my passion is for donkeys, Matti's passion is for mules. I hope you will consider supporting her much needed efforts.

With gratitude,

Mark S. Meyers

**Executive Director** 

Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue



My name is Matti Koester and I am the Program Director of Lost Meadows Mule Refuge, the newest division of Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue. Peaceful Valley rescued its first mule in 2002 and steadily brought in more over the years. They were vaccinated, dewormed, trimmed, and had their teeth done just like the Peaceful Valley donkeys, but there was no special program or plan for them.

I have always felt a strong connection to equines, but I never dreamed that someday I would have a career with mules. As I worked and finished college, a friend of mine told me about a mule in distress in my native Arkansas. This mule had been abandoned in a field and no one was feeding him. On a whim, I helped rescue him and named him Django.

I quickly discovered how much mules needed an advocate. I started rescuing more mules, and I realized that all of them were products of poor handling and failed environments. What first started as a mere equine pastime, began to take more and more of my time and energy.

Mark at Peaceful Valley heard about my work with mules and asked me to visit the mule herd in San Angelo, Texas. Over lunch together, I became the first Director of Lost Meadows Mule Refuge and ever since we have been combining our visions to effect change and save the lives of mules all across the nation.

Matti Koester

Director of Lost Meadows Mule Refuge

# Lost Meadows Mule Refuge

# Our Mission

Providing safe refuge, medical care and training to wild-born, abused and unhandled mules.

# Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue dba Lost Meadows Mule Refuge Governance

# **Board of Trustees**

John Roueche, DMV Scott Jewett

Jacob Meyers

Kevin Elliott
Joshua Meyers

Debby Foley Vicki Mackenney

**Executive Staff** 

Mark S. Meyers
Amy Meyers
Michele Halfmann

Jack Yanez

**Executive Director** 

Chief Financial Officer

Corporate Secretary

Vice President of Operations

Matti Koester Director of Lost Meadows Mule Refuge

#### A look at the future of LMMR.

While Lost Meadows is currently a division of the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue, we have begun the process to obtain our own 501(c)(3) recognition from the Internal Revenue Service. It is our goal to be an independent charity by the beginning of 2021.

Peaceful Valley was recently gifted 80 acres of land near Lawton, Oklahoma. The Trustees of PVDR have agreed that it would make a perfect home for the mules. It is currently bare land and will require substantial development before we would be able to move our operations there.

We are currently running our own fundraising campaigns, independent of the donkeys, to fund as much of the operational costs as possible. The Trustees of Peaceful Valley are committed to subsidizing LMMR until we can stand on our own as an independent organization.



## PEACEFUL VALLEY DONKEY RESCUE, INC.

# STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2019 and 2018

ASSETS		2019	2018
Current assets:			
Cash	\$	3,885,542 \$	2,936,286
Accounts receivable		23,141	17,782
Prepaid assets			8,733
Inventory		65,355	19,933
Investments		299,690	194,528
Other assets		85	85
Total current assets		4,273,813	3,177,347
Non-current assets:			
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation		2,016,900	1,484,766
Total non-current assets		2,016,900	1,484,766
Total Assets	\$ =	6,290,713 \$	4,662,113

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## LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	ALCO ALCO ALCO ALCO ALCO ALCO ALCO ALCO	\$ 407,835 \$	210,147
Other liabilities		14,682	10,653
Notes payable - current		65,546	61,509
Total current liabilities		488,063	282,309
Non-current liabilities:			
Notes payable - non-current		207,403	278,243
		207,403	278,243
			-
Total liabilities		695,466	560,552
Net assets:			
Without donor restrictions		5,595,247	4,101,561
Total net assets		5,595,247	4,101,561
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		\$ 6,290,713 \$	4,662,113
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LMMR is currently fundraising for a compact tractor. Peaceful Valley is matching every donation dollar for dollar. If we can raise \$8,250 PVDR will match it and we can purchase this much needed piece of equipment. The mules occupy 75,000 square feet of pen space, not including our sanctuary mule area. Currently these pens are cleaned by hand!





