



# Spring Hill Horse Rescue

175 Middle Road, North Clarendon, VT 05759  
www.springhillrescue.org



Dear Spring Hill Friends,

Hi. My name is Dahlia. I'm a young Haflinger filly. Last winter my Mom Lily, my Dad Larkspur and I were rescued by Spring Hill. Our owners moved away and left us behind. The man who owned the property opened the gates, and we were left to fend for ourselves. For weeks we wandered around fields and woods eating what we could find and drinking from a small stream. When winter came, snow covered all of the grass and the stream froze. People in the neighborhood would give us hay sometimes, but my Mom got really skinny because I was still nursing. I was born with a crooked front leg that ached a lot, and it was hard to keep up with my family.

One cold day, we heard a truck and a trailer come down the road. The humans got out of the truck and shook a bucket of grain, and my Mom and Dad went running to them and got in the trailer. I had never been in a horse trailer, and I was so scared! "Mom! Dad! What's happening? Why are you in there?!" I screamed.



"Jump in baby Dahlia, you need to come with us," my Dad called back. I jumped in the trailer beside my Mom. "Where are we going?" I asked.

"I'm not sure darling, but don't worry, I'll protect you," Mom said as she comforted me with her muzzle. When the trailer stopped, the humans lead us to a pasture where there was a HUGE bale of hay, a giant tub of water, and a salt lick waiting for us! My Mom was so hungry she stuck her head in the bale of hay and ate and ate, and my Dad went right for the water because we'd only had snow. I was still scared, so I stuck by my Mom's side and nursed.



My Dad talked to the horses in the pasture next to us, and he came running back to us. "Good news my beloved family! The horses next door told me we are at Spring Hill Horse Rescue! They said we will be fed and watered every day!"

Mom picked her head up out of the hay and said, "Thank goodness! Do you think they'll give me grain? Baby Dahlia's nursing is taking all of my energy."

My Dad replied, "Yes Lily, you will get grain and they said Spring Hill will pay for a vet to fix baby Dahlia's crooked leg." And that is exactly what happened; my Mom got lots of yummy grain, my Dad got his overgrown hooves trimmed so he wasn't tripping all the time, and I was brought to a horse hospital where my crooked leg was repaired.



Spring Hill saved my family; we all have new homes with wonderful humans who love us. Before I left Spring Hill I gave Gina a big nuzzle and thanked her. "You're welcome, Dahlia. But I didn't do this alone. It was our wonderful friends who send donations; they helped you and your family."

I asked, "Can I thank them too?" So, as promised I got to write this year's annual appeal letter and tell my story.

## *A Note from our Executive Director and Founder, Gina Brown:*

**Spring Hill's annual appeal letter is one way to let the voices of animals be heard...they have so much to say! I also wanted to let you know personally how deeply I appreciate your support over the years.**

**At Spring Hill, we've always done a lot with a little. In the past two years we've provided a refuge to 29 horses, 6 chickens, 2 turkeys, 2 dogs, 1 cat and a pig. Our volunteer community response teams have made 95 field visits to help horses and their owners, and we've assisted law enforcement in removing 70 horses in several cruelty cases. These are just some examples of the important work that our wonderful volunteers do year-round.**

**Spring Hill is supported entirely through private small grants and donations. We do a lot with a little because we respect how hard you work, and how much your donation means to you. It means as much to us. You are far more than a name on a page; you are a friend to us and a champion to the rescued animals that come through our barn doors. So thank you for all that you've done to save these beautiful animals. Your continued support will help us say NO to animal abuse and YES to the animals in need of our assistance.**

***Happy Holidays! from Gina and everyone at SHHR***



Spring Hill Horse Rescue is a 501(c)3 registered charity and entirely supported by donations. We are proud to be a Guidestar Exchange Gold Star Participant. All donations are deductible to the extent the law allows.