



The Square Peg Foundation

Year End Report 2021



A Year Like No Other

Nothing about the past year has been typical. Like every organization, we were without a map, terrified, and unsure. Most of our autism families found distance learning to be ineffective, if not impossible. We watched families panic trying to create a learning environment for their children while also trying to work from home. Families were more exhausted and isolated than ever.

Our staff pulled together and out of the ashes; we started making plans. We learned a lot about flexibility - knowing COVID-19 data was evolving and we may have to change everything again and again.



Somehow, we served more families and front-line workers with programs in the past year than any prior year. We spaced our staff and clients out for safety, and we dug in and worked longer hours. We safely and thoughtfully brought on more volunteers and promoted several of our existing volunteers to paid part-time staff members.

Vocational Training

"How do we create dignified, meaningful jobs and community integration for people with autism who are aging out of services?" Square Peg was uniquely positioned with 17 years of operation to address this issue that presses upon the autism community. A productive job is an essential component of adult life.



Employment is not only how we earn a living, but also how we participate in our community, build our sense of independence. Participants in our Vocational Training Program develop ranch management skills and learn to care for and work with the horses while also learning time management, workplace communication and social etiquette. Our interns develop social skills to bring from the workplace into the larger community. They build life skills such as communication, and problem solving to achieve the life goals they set for themselves in an environment set up for success.

In partnership with the Golden Gate Regional Center, our participants are paid a living wage for their work, and Square Peg receives a stipend for the supervision and vocational training. We hired a full time Training Supervisor, and now have seven young adults working on our ranch in Half Moon Bay. Recreating the same program at our Sonoma ranch is part of our 2021/2022 plan.

Horses

2021 brought some new equine faces to Square Peg including Microrithims (Algorithms out of Javelina by Forest Wildcat) – a winner of 5 of his lifetime 8 starts. Nicknamed “Simon” by his adoring fans, he’s learning quickly and we are eager to bring him into the riding program soon. Southern Anthem (Royal Anthem out of Canberra by Silver Hawk) was a well traveled multiple stakes placed gelding who won \$230,034 is a barn favorite at BOTH locations. These amazing OTTB’s just keep impressing us with their intelligence, work ethic and kindness.



Several horses found forever homes with loving adopters including Interpol, Roger That, Threearchbaymafia, Steele Road, Handsome Lover and Bona Fortuna.

Latinx Outreach



In the fall of 2020, Square Peg committed to structuring our organizational culture to more fully reflect the communities we operate in. In both Sonoma and San Mateo County - that meant offering services to Spanish speaking communities. By partnering with local agencies that are serving the Latinx community, we have begun to serve, at no cost, families that would otherwise not have access to recreational, behavioral, and educational services. We created culturally appropriate approaches to our already successful programs to serve this community with trained staff and volunteers who are native speakers and fluent in Spanish. We continue to build on our success connecting Latinx autism families to our program.

Resiliency Programs

Due to COVID and the Northern California fires last year, teachers, mental health workers and health care providers were stretched to their physical and emotional limits. Square Peg was there to help. We were asked to provide an experiential and safe space for educators and health care workers to acknowledge, process and develop support for secondary traumatic stress they experienced. Using somatic and interactive experiences with horses, we helped

our front line experts to feel grounded and supported so they can serve the emotional and educational needs of their students, clients, and patients. To date, these programs are being paid for by contracts with the Kaiser Foundation and the County of San Mateo Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

"I came home yesterday more settled in my heart and mind than I have in months, possibly years. I am a trained yoga therapist, art therapist, and have a lot of meditation lessons and practice under my (elastic-wasted) belt. Connecting with Moso yesterday offered such a powerful regulatory experience and a deep night's sleep. Thank you."

From a San Mateo County Mental Health worker



Fundraising Events

In compliance with our local COVID-safety restrictions, we were able to put on one public

fundraiser. We put on a COVID-safe Kentucky Derby themed drive-in movie night fundraiser in an open field in Half Moon Bay. We featured the movie Seabiscuit and a "safe-from-your-car" Derby hat contest and a couple of food trucks. After expenses, we netted approximately \$6,900 from ticket sales, corporate sponsors and donations.

We also raised \$28,500 participating in Coastside Gives - an online giving challenge to raise awareness and donations for local nonprofits.



Financial History and Current Budget 2016 to 2021

Fiscal year starts July 1	FY 2021 - 2022 Budget	FY 2020 - 2021 Actual	FY 2019 - 2020 Actual	FY 2018 - 2019 Actual	FY 2017 - 2018 Actual	FY 2016 - 2017 Actual
Grants	\$ 290,000	\$ 268,395	\$ 414,819	\$ 263,553	\$ 209,993	\$ 183,285
Donations	\$ 272,300	\$ 277,103	\$ 182,149	\$ 62,883	\$ 110,641	\$ 81,622
Horse Sponsorship	\$ 16,000	\$ 21,350	\$ 4,050	\$ 38,884	\$ 32,065	\$ 41,150
Program Income	\$ 259,800	\$ 149,692	\$ 110,576	\$ 127,142	\$ 120,670	\$ 95,789
Events Income	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,828	\$ 10,560	\$ 1,583	\$ 3,080	\$ 2,238
Total Income	\$ 850,100	\$ 726,368	\$ 722,154	\$ 494,046	\$ 476,449	\$ 404,084
Horse Related	\$ 81,250	\$ 79,594	\$ 91,597	\$ 91,825	\$ 85,627	\$ 83,667
Facilities & Equipment	\$ 157,781	\$ 143,532	\$ 117,524	\$ 128,502	\$ 108,679	\$ 81,280
Auto	\$ 4,100	\$ 52,113	\$ 684	\$ 6,417	\$ 2,562	\$ 11,238
Staff	\$ 571,815	\$ 374,847	\$ 320,932	\$ 258,082	\$ 243,452	\$ 211,189
Program	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,074	\$ 8,269	\$ 10,453	\$ 5,564	\$ 6,039
Administration	\$ 9,535	\$ 8,140	\$ 14,264	\$ 20,873	\$ 22,749	\$ 12,182
Fundraising	\$ 3,400	\$ 2,905	\$ 1,444	\$ 3,458	\$ 953	\$ 3,233
Total Expenses	\$ 832,881	\$ 662,205	\$ 554,713	\$ 519,612	\$ 469,585	\$ 408,827
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 17,219	\$ 64,162	\$ 167,441	\$ (25,566)	\$ 6,863	\$ (4,742)