The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc.

EIN: 22-3810323

For the Calendar year 2023

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

The mission of The Oasis Animal Sanctuary, Inc. (“Oasis”) is to alleviate the suffering of abandoned, stray, abused and neglected companion animals, horses, and other pets in southern New Jersey. Oasis is committed to serving the public by administering its ***Five Initiatives***, which define the organization:

* + Oasis is about hope, healing and second chances. The first initiative is to routinely transfer those adoptable animals scheduled for euthanasia at other local shelters to Oasis for the purpose of rehabilitating and marketing to adoptive or foster families, service groups, or breed-specific organizations. Animals from the general population are also accepted.
  + Oasis is dedicated to helping relieve animal suffering by attacking its root cause, overpopulation. Our second initiative is a spay and neuter assistance program for people who need financial assistance with having their pet(s) sterilized. A second tier in this initiative provides that companion animals leaving our care will be sterilized priorto their departure, to ensure that they will not reproduce.
  + In order to prevent abuse and suffering, the public must be made aware of its presence and be educated in how to break its destructive cycle. Our third initiative is an education program that will be taken to schools and community gatherings, to enlighten the public on the plight of homeless pets, how to care for companion animals, and the benefits of pet sterilization.
  + The Oasis founders find equine neglect and abuse abominable, and are concerned with the plight of other farm animals living in the most inhumane conditions. Our fourth initiative is to work with local animal welfare agencies that legally confiscate these creatures, providing a safe haven until legal ownership can be relinquished.
  + Oasis wishes to accept those animals that have endured inhumane living conditions and survived to tell the tale. The fifth initiative is to provide a permanent, loving home to as many as possible, for those too old, sick, or traumatized to be adopted, fostered, or relocated.

Oasis operates three major Programs: the Sterilization Assistance Program, Animal Care, & the Adoption/Foster/Relocate Program. (The Animal Care and A/F/R Programs are intimately intertwined and cannot be split for purposes of reporting.) Expenses are categorized specifically for the Sterilization Assistance Program, Animal Care & A/F/R, general operating expense, and Property & Equipment. Payroll however, is allocated between operating expense and Animal Care & A/F/R at a ratio of 3% to operating expense and 97% to Animal Care & A/F/R, which is a change from prior year’s allocation of 5% and 95%, respectively. This is due to our Office Assistant taking on a heavier role in Animal Care, specifically cats, while the office duties are being more performed by volunteers.

* + The Sterilization Assistance Program humanely reduces unwanted animal populations through spay and neuter surgeries. In 2023, 244 animals participated in the program, most of whom were sterilized before year end. From the program's inception in 2002 until 12/31/23, 7,989 animals were spayed or neutered, effectively and humanely preventing the births of tens of thousands of homeless or unwanted animals. Fee revenue for this Program in 2023 totaled $15,085; grant funding totaled $8,000 and contributions were $2,500. Additional funding for this Program came through our three Money Raffles that were run throughout the year. Expenses totaled $29,387 which represents $238 for forms printing; the balance was paid to our participating vet hospitals performing the actual surgeries.
    - * The closure of some of the participating hospitals due to the COVID pandemic, along with significant increases in the fees charged by the hospitals, reduced the number of participating hospitals and clinics to 4.
  + The Animal Care and the Adoption/Foster/Relocate (A/F/R) Programs are the main endeavors of the organization, and most of the money used for them comes in through the general account. The combined Program is run at the facility, although there are still some foster homes in use. 38 animals were surrendered to Oasis in 2023 - 36 cats and kittens, and 2 ducks. Additionally, Oasis was directly responsible for the adoptions of 1 goat, and 4 dogs either from another shelter or from current caregivers, bringing the total number of animals assisted in 2023 to 43. Because Oasis is a sanctuary, it often takes in animals that other shelters do not accept, or would simply euthanize because of their age or the time and expense needed to heal them. Oasis provides a “kindness first” philosophy, whereby euthanasia is performed only after other options become either financially or physically prohibitive. In all, Oasis has cared for 819 animals - many of them via foster homes, because Oasis had no facility of its own until May 29, 2015. At the end of 2023, 42 were still with us, 16 of which are "permanent residents" as they have been too traumatized or are too disabled to be adopted out (of these, 6 are equines.) Oasis has taken in many species of animals over the years, including dogs, cats, horses (from drafts to ponies), donkeys, ducks, guinea pigs, snakes, hamsters, turtles, turkeys, ferrets, roosters, chickens, and goats. The program provides healthy nutrition, excellent vet care, and socialization with others of their species as well as with humans. We provide a non-caged environment for as many animals as we can to reduce stress and illness; and (again) we do not euthanize any animal for any reason except end-of-life suffering for which we can offer no other relief. Note that Oasis cannot accept wildlife in its programs as no one on staff has a NJ State rehabilitator’s license.
* Oasis was incorporated on June 19, 2001, and received its 501( c)(3) advanced ruling status from IRS on November 20, 2001. The advanced ruling period expired on December 31, 2005, and Oasis had 90 days in which to apply for its final determination. IRS approved the 501( c)(3) Final Determination application on February 14, 2006. An updated Final Determination letter was received in 2017.
* The Board of Trustees consist of:
* Phyllis Van De Weghe – Co-Founder; Vice President & CFO; Treasurer
* Mary Johnson – Trustee
* Susan Geers – Trustee
* Beth Knudsen – Trustee
* Denise Phillips – Trustee
* Hailey Rebyak – Trustee
* Hilary Phillips – Trustee (daughter of Denise, and lives at the facility as the after-hours caregiver)

The Board has not found a person for the Chief Executive Position; as a result Vice President Phyllis Van De Weghe is the acting head of the Company.

None of the Board members are compensated for their work as a Board member.

Oasis must have a minimum of 5 Board members, and may have up to 7. Their tenure is typically 7 years, although some members have stayed on past the 7 year period. The Executive Board (President/CEO & Vice President /CFO) have 3 votes each to all other trustee’s 1 vote.

* The Oasis Animal Sanctuary qualified for the federal government’s ***Employee Retention Credit*** (ERC). Oasis had Omega Accounting Solutions of Irvine, CA prepare the required documents for applying for the credits. The application calculated gross repayments of $20,511, of which Oasis would owe Omega 25% as their fee. As a result, Oasis should receive approximately $15,383. However, IRS put a hold on this Program towards the end of the year due to many fraudulent filings, and it is not known when Oasis will receive this money. As of July 1, 2024, there has been no contact from Omega or IRS regarding a schedule of repayment. The net amount of income was not included in the Financial Statements due to this uncertainty.
* Oasis opened a Line of Credit (LOC) for $25,000 and a mortgage for $100,000 from TD Bank on January 24, 2020. The LOC has a variable interest rate, indexed at the time at 4.75% per annum. The current interest rate as of 12/31/23 is 9.74%. The mortgage is a 20 year note with a fixed interest rate of 5.84%. As of December 31, 2023, the mortgage amount is $87,551 and the Line of Credit balance is $21,922.
* Because animals sometimes require round-the-clock- care, and also to provide security for both the facility and the animals, Oasis has provided a caregiver with 2 private rooms and full bath within the main farmhouse. She pays an annual rental fee of $1 per year, and contributes $50 per month towards utilities. The two rooms and bath are on the second floor and has a private entrance within the farmhouse; the caregiver shares the kitchen downstairs as well as the laundry facilities.
* Non-cash donations in 2023 consist of $1,532 for office supplies, $557 for postage, $262 for printing expense, $1,811 for farm equipment and supplies, $2,822 for hospital and vet bills, and $5,922 for animal care & feed (of which $1,063 was donated vaccines for the horses from the American Association of Equine Practitioners), for a total of $12,906.
* Grants received in 2023:
  + $ 4,000 Great Companions Fund of the Community Fdn of NJ (Sterilization Program); 9/27/23
  + $ 7,000 Tipgoomoogus Memorial Trust (Animal Care); 9/3/23
  + $ 4,000 M. Edward Morris Foundation (Sterilization Program); 11/24/23
  + $ 4,000 J. Robert Nonemaker Foundation for Small Animals (Animal Care); 12/21/23
  + $ 1,000 Sarnoff Raymond Foundation (unrestricted); 11/16/23
  + $ 1,000 Dorothy Zimmerman Charitable Trust (unrestricted); received 1/4/23 for 2022
* The Board of Trustees meets every month for an overview of the Company’s financial position, a discussion of each animal’s status, as well as discussions on the current and future events of the Company. The Board meets the first Wednesday evening of every month, as per the By-Laws, unless a situation arises and the date is changed. Minutes of the meetings are written by the Recording Secretary and disseminated to the Board members prior to the next meeting in order that they may be approved and seconded at the current meeting. At every meeting a Treasurer’s report is presented and discussed. A monthly cash flow report as well as other spreadsheets for income and expense are brought to every meeting for full disclosure to any Board member.
* In June of 2024, Oasis was informed that one of our donors passed away a year ago, on June 2, 2023, bequeathing Oasis one of her annuities. The amount of the inheritance is $23,599. An application requesting the bequeathal has been filed with the investment institution on June 24, 2024. As of July 6, 2024, Oasis has yet to receive he inheritance.
* For simplicity’s sake, the Company’s books are kept on the cash basis during the year and are converted to the accrual basis at the end of the year for reporting purposes. The Company does not produce interim Financial Statements.