

State Of Maryland

2025 Bond Initiative Fact Sheet

1. Name Of Project		
Days End Farm Horse Rescue - Firehouse Redevelopment Project		
2. Senate Sponsor	3. House Sponsor	
Howard County Senators	Howard County Delegation	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)	5. Requested Amount	
Howard County	\$1,000,000	
6. Purpose of Bond Initiative		
the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of the Days End Farm Horse Rescue - Firehouse Redevelopment Project property		
7. Matching Fund		
Requirements:	Type:	
Grant		
8. Special Provisions		
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Easement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sectarian	
9. Contact Name and Title	Contact Ph#	Email Address
C. Robertson		301-854-5037
10. Description and Purpose of Organization (Limit length to visible area)		
<p>DEFHR's mission is to ensure quality care and treatment of horses through intervention, education, and outreach. We provide free impoundment services to Maryland counties, assisting law enforcement and animal protection agencies. Our rehabilitation center doubles as an educational hub, offering hands-on training for law enforcement and serving as a community resource. By integrating equine rehabilitation, humane education, and outreach, we set a new standard for equine welfare. DEFHR also provides forensic documentation to support prosecutions. With 94% of rehabilitated horses successfully adopted, The Baltimore Sun has recognized DEFHR as a national model for horse rescue.</p>		

11. Description and Purpose of Project (Limit length to visible area)

For over 30 years, DEFHR has led equine rescue, rehabilitation, and education, serving as Maryland's primary impoundment facility for law enforcement. We provide 24/7 support at no cost, assisting authorities with cruelty investigations, legal documentation, and care for neglected horses. With the Lisbon Fire Station, we will create the National Equine Welfare Center an international hub for equine welfare education. Expanding our internship program from six to 30 students annually, well help address the large-animal veterinarian shortage while enhancing hands-on training for law enforcement, animal control, and veterinary students. Beyond equine welfare, this project will drive economic growth, creating jobs and attracting visitors, volunteers, and program participants. State support is vital to overcoming rising costs, ensuring Maryland remains a leader in equine welfare while strengthening local tourism, education, and community engagement.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 12 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 13 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$200,000
Construction	\$2,000,000
Equipment	\$300,000
Total	\$2,500,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources - (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Multiple private donors and grants	\$800,000
LBI 21-460 (portion allotted for unrelated project)	\$300,000
LBI 22-211	\$400,000
LBI 2025 (if awarded)	\$1,000,000
Total	\$2,500,000

14. Project Schedule (Enter a date or one of the following in each box. N/A, TBD or Complete)			
Begin Design	Complete Design	Begin Construction	Complete Construction
complete	complete	anticipated 11/1/2025	anticipated 11/30/2027
15. Total Private Funds and Pledges Raised	16. Current Number of People Served Annually at Project Site	17. Number of People to be Served Annually After the Project is Complete	
16000.00	0	increase 25%	
18. Other State Capital Grants to Recipients in the Past 15 Years			
Legislative Session	Amount	Purpose	
LBI 21-130	\$100,000	property acquisition	
LBI 21-460	\$400,000	Firehouse renovation	
LBI 22-211	\$600,000	\$300K for firehouse renovation, \$300K for riding ring	
House Bill 201 (2023)	\$250,000	Intern house renovation	
19. Legal Name and Address of Grantee		Project Address (If Different)	
Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc. 1372 Woodbine Road, Woodbine MD21797		1330 Woodbine Road, Woodbine MD 21797	
20. Legislative District in Which Project is Located	9A - Howard and Montgomery Counties		
21. Legal Status of Grantee (Please Check One)			
Local Govt.	For Profit	Non Profit	Federal
[]	[]	[X]	[]
22. Grantee Legal Representative		23. If Match Includes Real Property:	
Name:	TBD	Has An Appraisal Been Done?	Yes/No
Phone:			Yes
Address:		If Yes, List Appraisal Dates and Value	
		3/18/2019	1100000.00

24. Impact of Project on Staffing and Operating Cost at Project Site			
Current # of Employees	Projected # of Employees	Current Operating Budget	Projected Operating Budget
18	4	2050000.00	2665000.00
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond purposes)			
A. Will the grantee own or lease (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
N/A			
E. If property is leased by grantee - Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
N/A			
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	15,481 square feet (3 buildings)		
Space to be Renovated GSF	11,324 square feet (main building)		
New GSF	N/A		

27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion

Main building built in 1960

28. Comments

For over three decades, DEFHR has thrived thanks to the generosity of thousands of individual donors. More than 3,000 severely neglected and suffering horses have come through our gates, and on average, we serve 175 horses per year. As a premier all-breed rescue, we provide essential aid to Maryland's county and state law enforcement to meet their equine welfare needs. Recognized as a leader and model in equine rescue and rehabilitation, DEFHR delivers protective care and custody of live evidence, comprehensive legal documentation and testimony in prosecutorial cases, educational programming, community outreach, and large-animal disaster recovery resources.

After purchasing the old Lisbon Fire Station, we have diligently developed architectural designs and plans to transform the site into the flagship National Equine Welfare Center, an international destination for equine welfare education. This Center will host comprehensive programming for a diverse audience, including pre-veterinary students, equine industry professionals, and community members dedicated to animal welfare.

Maryland, home to the largest equine population per square mile, is already feeling the impact of a shortage of large animal veterinarians. With the expanded facilities funded by the requested LBI, we will scale our internship program from 6 to 30 students annually, providing hands-on training for pre-veterinary students from Maryland to across the globe. Additionally, we will significantly enhance our animal protection training and educational offerings, enabling us and the State to serve Maryland's equine population more effectively as well as expand our impact beyond state borders.

As Maryland's primary impoundment facility for law enforcement and animal protection agencies, DEFHR plays a vital role in equine welfare and supporting the legal process. Serving all Maryland counties, we are on call 24/7 to assist state authorities and neighboring states across the mid-Atlantic, providing these services at no cost to the impounding agencies. Over the past two years, we have furthered these efforts by training 117 Maryland officials, including law enforcement personnel and state attorney offices, as well as officials from surrounding states. These trainings cover equine cruelty investigations, evidence collection, and legal processes, ensuring that equines receive comprehensive care while equipping officials with the tools to effectively prosecute cases of neglect and abuse.

At DEFHR, we are proud to be the only facility in the mid-Atlantic region offering hands-on, profession-specific education for law enforcement and industry professionals. Our programs include essential curriculum for the East Coast Animal Control Academy and partnerships with higher education institutions. These specialized trainings build critical skills in equine care, cruelty investigations, and forensic documentation, addressing both immediate needs and long-term improvements in equine welfare.

Our mission to foster a culture of humane care and compassion for all equines extends beyond professional programs to include robust public engagement. DEFHR provides opportunities such as field trips, tours, Scout Days, homeschool programs, and our popular Legacy Summer Camp. These initiatives inspire participants of all ages, instilling knowledge and advocacy for animal welfare and humane practices.

Volunteers are the heartbeat of DEFHR, playing an integral role in our rehabilitation efforts. In 2023 alone, 686 volunteers dedicated nearly 31,000 hours to our mission. Empowering young people is central to our philosophy. By welcoming volunteers as young as six (accompanied by a parent or guardian), we provide hands-on experiences that build confidence, leadership, and a lifelong commitment to humane advocacy. Guiding an animal more than ten times their weight and size to safety is not only a task but a transformative experience, inspiring the next generation of equine welfare advocates.