



2025 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

The Bond That Transcends Words

Dogs aren't just pets; they're soul companions. They weave themselves into our routines, our moods, our memories.

When they go, it's not just silence that fills the space, it's the absence of a heartbeat that once matched yours. That kind of loss is profound.

Every dog leaves behind a trail of lessons, laughter, and love. That legacy doesn't fade, it evolves into stories we tell, habits we keep, and sometimes, the way we love the next dog a little better.

Lessons from Gracie:

- Dessert before dinner: Joy doesn't need permission.
- Always greet your friends: Connection is everything.
- Show up: Presence matters more than perfection.
- Share: There's always enough love to go around.
- Bad situations can change: Hope is a walk around the corner.
- Be patient: The world moves at its own pace – sniff it all in.
- Love completely! ❤️





2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Goat Grumble

Pepper and Kramer arrived at Chester's Barn in late spring of this year and quickly stole our hearts. These cuddly brothers are inseparable and have become beloved members of our community outings. From nursing homes and schools to local businesses and events like Dairy Day, they've brought joy everywhere they go. When they are not curled up for a cozy nap, they're full of mischievous energy, stirring up chaos.



Mighty Mobey

Mobey joined Chester's Barn in late spring, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. When Mobey first arrived, he was very sick with shipping fever. After weeks of rest, care, and lots of love he's made an amazing recovery and is now thriving in therapy training. Mobey is busy learning about the world around him, live bands, sidewalks, and even those mysterious floating balloons that look suspiciously like toys. His best buddy at home...none other than Sammy the horse.



Maggie Mae

Meet Mags! She didn't rush into the world with boldness. While others were chosen she remained. She was in a litter of 7, while her siblings found homes quickly, Mags waited, watching, hoping. She was so shy that people overlooked her. At the tender age of 12 weeks Mags is now at Chester's Barn. Learning how to heal hearts with gentleness. Shy dogs often have a special magic in places like nursing homes.



Cow Moos

Ferdinand, Nila, and Tonka arrived on the windiest day of the season. It was an adventure to truck them to Chester's Barn. These bovine cuties came to us from a loving 4-H home where circumstances changed, and their caretakers wanted to ensure their friends didn't end up as beef. So we hitched up the trailer and packed in all 4,000 pounds of bovine charm!



Sugar and Spice

In August, a little horse with a big heart trotted into Chester's Barn. Her journey wasn't easy. Her previous owners loved her deeply but due to serious health challenges and hospitalizations, They had to make the heartbreakng decision to let her go. Sugar arrived with a mix of emotions in her eyes: a touch of uncertainty, a dash of sass, and a whole lot of sweetness. Around here, we say she's a little spice and a lot of sugar.





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Chester's Barn was a guest at over 30 events this year including a special one hosted by Adonia Salon during Mental Health Awareness Month in May. Moments like these remind us how deeply animals can calm, connect, and refresh us. This year alone, we reached over 8000 people, that's five times more than last year. Through every smile shared and every story told, we're spreading awareness, compassion, and healing power of animal connection. Our mission to bring joy and care wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers and incredible support of our community.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

2025 volunteer spotlight is Cole Howland! We decided to interview Cole to hear his thoughts on giving back and his love for animals.... here are his responses!



Q. What has been your favorite part about volunteering for Chester's Barn?

I like helping with the animals and seeing them. I like seeing the young kids and elderly people smile when the animals visit them.

Q. Do you have any advice for other kids who want to help animals in their community?

They should like animals as much as I do. Make sure you give animals a good place to stay, good food, and show them respect.

Q. What is your fav barnyard animal and why?

The goats because they're so little and cute. One of the ones at Chester's Barn, Kramer, I love to pick up and I'm best friends with him. I also like Mobey because he's cute. I think chickens are cute too.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Barn Raisers Donation



Ride with the Cowgirl Donation

Jan Kirshenbaum

June Janssen

Kermit Martin

Roxeanne Lyndaker

Hay Maker Donation

Beginnings Credit Union

Becky Wiseman

Countryview Excavating

David Lidberg

We could not make this work happen without our cherished volunteers. It was a busy year for all 50+ volunteers. Thank you for making this possible.



Consider a donation as the 2025 tax year comes to an end.

We are a 501C3. Scan the QR Code!

Or send a check to Chester's Barn:

4225 State Route 34, Scipio Center, NY 13147



Thank you to all of our supporters.

We love our community, supporters, and our animals. Thank you for your continued support!