## Hello Friends and Supporters!

## Celebrating our 5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary



#### Ways to Donate:

Canada Helps: https://www.canadahelps.or g/.../edens-way-farmsanctuary/ PayPal Giving Fund Canada: https://www.paypal.com/fun draiser/charity/4523568 By E-Transfer: edenswayfarmsanctuary@g mail.com



On July 5, 2019, my husband and I moved to a beautiful farm property in Kamloops, BC, nestled between the South Thompson River and sage filled hills, with the intent to start a farm sanctuary and build a small retreat centre for people. Five years later, we have given sanctuary to over 75 'former' farm animals who were rescued or rehomed to us. It has been amazing and incredibly rewarding journey, despite the never-ending work, stress, and tears. Reflecting back, each year has had its own highs and lows, and twists and turns, but through it all, we hope we have grown stronger and even more committed to the mission and vision of this sanctuary.

We are grateful beyond words for your support! To everyone who donated, volunteered (once or regularly), visited us, followed us on social media, & encouraged us with kind words - we cannot thank you enough! As the saying goes, "it takes a village" - we rely on a community of supporters to help provide and maintain a safe haven for the sanctuary residents for the years ahead.

Please celebrate this anniversary milestone with us and if possible, please consider making an extra donation to the sanctuary!

Kind regards,
Jaye Dueck
Sanctuary Founder and Executive Director









#### The Year So Far

- 2024 got off to a rough start with a bitter cold snap that melted into unusually muddy conditions for the animals followed by two tragic losses in our family in February and March. With little emotional resources left after these traumas, we have since been focusing our energy on caring for the residents and ourselves.
- Spring was welcomed with an unusual amount of rain and cooler temperatures (welcome, and much needed!!) and it was a busy and expensive time with spring health checks, vaccinations, sheep shearing, cow and goat hoof trimming), repairs, and planting a garden to grow the residents' favorite treats – sunflowers, corn, and squash.
- With the economic challenges faced by so many people, donations to the sanctuary are way down this year, and especially this spring/summer. Our biggest challenge that we face right now is paying for hay for the year ahead. Thankfully, with all the rain, there is an abundance of hay, and we have an excellent (and very fair) local farm source. However, we expect to pay \$12,000 this year and the sanctuary bank account has been running on less than \$1,000/month!!! However, my husband and I remain committed to paying out of pocket for infrastructure costs and to make up for the drop in donations to ensure the residents continue to receive the best possible care.
- Thankfully, until the last day or so, there have not been any
  wildfires in the Kamloops area and the cool/rainy spring was a
  huge relief! We hope to get through the rest of the summer with
  no nearby fires or other emergencies and can have a little bit of
  time to rest and regroup.

### **Community News & Events**

- We offer Sanctuary Tours (private, public, and customized tours for schools/organizations, such as the Kamloops Hospice Society) from April to September. They continue to be impactful experiences for visitors, and we hope the residents, as ambassadors, help to inspire more compassion towards farm animals.
- As part of our Volunteer Program, we started Monthly
   Community Work Parties and they have been a wonderful
   way to have people come out to try volunteering on a one-time
   basis, meet some of the residents, and build a sense of
   community.
- Unfortunately, our annual Easter Celebration event (a major fundraiser for us) was cancelled at the end of March due to one of the family emergencies. Due to the heatwave this month, we also cancelled our plans to host another Christmas in July.
- We launched our **Pen Pal Program** this spring with a school, and we are excited to start exchanging letters with them!







#### A Big Shout Out to our 2024 Volunteers!!!

- Murray (my husband) and Jesse (my stepson) who work daily on our farm – helping to take care of the animals and maintaining the daily farm operations
- Sarah for her dedication to maintaining the website and helping with all sorts of sanctuary admin work over the years.
   We were so impressed by her talents that we hired her as a casual paid employee for the sanctuary.
- Pat and Jack for faithfully coming out Sunday mornings to clean the cow paddock and more as well as for their trusted experience/knowledge working with farm animals
- Rob for building wood rabbit houses and tunnels for their indoor habitat and doing other construction projects (siding on the pig house, building a hay feeder, and building a chicken coop that will go inside the peacock aviary).
- Kirsten for bravely coming out every weekend through the winter. She is starting the vet tech program at TRU this fall. We wish her the absolute best and hope that she comes back to volunteer when she can.
- We also have a small but mighty team of regular and casual weekend volunteers (Katie, Sienna, Rochelle, Emilie).
- I would also like to express my gratitude to the commitment of the volunteer Board of Directors: Lois Salmond, Diane Marsh, and Deanna Bistriceanu

### A Heartfelt Thank you to the 2024 Resident Sponsors!!!

- Alix and Gavin Blue and Finnegan
- Deborah Jimmy, Isaiah, and Jeremiah
- Shawna Mo, Miriam, Ari
- Anne M Finnegan
- Kristel Olaf and Zachariah
- Erin Clementine and Priscilla
- Claudia Daisy
- Lisa Ezekiel
- Catherine Blue and Olaf
- Curtis and Cathy Olaf
- Andrea Daniel
- Maureen Maggie
- Jodi Wyatt
- Emma Lila
- Marina Ezra
- Terry Dervis Murphy

#### **New Arrivals**

- Dervis Murphy Chitty (a neurologically challenged Nigerian goat)
- Penelope (a senior dairy goat who the owner wanted to have her safely 'retired' to a sanctuary)
- Albert and Walter (goats rehomed to us when their owner's circumstances changed)
- Liam (a rejected bottle lamb who the owner surrendered to us)
- Llyod (a Giant Pekin duck rehomed to us when the owner's circumstances changed)
- Seven 'retired' hens

# In Loving Memory

- Ari (one of the Indian Runner ducks)
- Jimmy (our rooster)
- Emily (one of the colony rabbits passed away from cancer – May 16, 2024)
- Bonnie (our senior/palliative Giant Flemish rabbit passed away after a 2 year battle with kidney disease and arthritis) – June 14, 2024
- Four of our red-headed hens (Rita, Rosa, Rhoda, Rena)



Dervis & Penelope



Bonnie



Ways to Help Jimmy

- Make a donation (one time or recurrent)
- Sponsor a resident
- Follow us on social media
- Like and comment on our posts
- Share our posts on your social media
- Leave a review on our Facebook page
- Tell friends and family about the sanctuary
- Volunteer
- Visit Us

#### **Fall Plans**

- Complete more construction projects for the residents (e.g., new horse/goat shelters)
- On September 22, the sanctuary will be hosting our first Animal Caregivers
   Wellness Retreat Day. As a psychologist (in my 'day job') and with personal experience, I have a special interest in helping animal workers better care for themselves, and in turn the animals they care for.
- Expand our search for grant opportunities as we branch into animal-assisted therapeutic programs and volunteer work for at-risk youth and other vulnerable groups.
- Begin planning some of our 2025 programs, such as expanding our school tours.

#### **Contact Information**

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