

**For Immediate Release
Horses of Tir Na Nog Press Release**

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Horses of Tir Na Nog
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Adoption *PARTNERS*

Dakota was first rescued by County of San Diego Department of Animal Services in October 2012, when she was found abandoned in the Tijuana Valley Regional Park in Hollister. At the time, this former racing thoroughbred was emaciated and believed to be about 24 years of age.

Through Animal Services' Adoption Partner program she was placed with Ferdinand's Familia, San Diego's only all-species rescue. Here she was able to complete her recovery, and over the next four and a half years she received the veterinary care she needed, including the removal of several melanomas. Volunteers have enjoyed taking her for rides throughout the area. However, now at twenty-nine years of age, Ferdinand's Familia recognizes that this girl needs a quiet place to retire, away from the activity of their busy rescue. They reached out to Horses of Tir Na Nog to offer her a home.

"As Dakota is a horse originally rescued by Animal Services and then placed with another Adoption Partner, we are honored to now work with Ferdinand's Familia to provide Dakota with the retirement she needs. This is what our partnership is all about, helping the animals," explained Amy Pat Rigney, Administrator, of Horses of Tir Na Nog.

The Adoption Partner Program is an innovative partnership program that has saved the lives of thousands of animals rescued by Animal Services. Animal Services currently maintains a list of 214 non-profit Adoption Partners that covers a wide variety of species and breeds.

Ferdinand's Familia is San Diego's only all-species rescue. A humane education program of compassion through vegetarianism and vegan living, Ferdinand's Familia offers tours and classroom presentations to all communities. All donations to Ferdinand's Familia are tax-deductible.

Horses of Tir Na Nog is the longest-operating equine sanctuary in San Diego County and is currently caring for over fifty equines. Horses of Tir Na Nog is an adoption partner with County of San Diego Department of Animal Services and works in compliance with American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) Rescue and Retirement Guidelines.

EDITOR: Dakota will be transported from Ferdinand's Familia on August 10 and will be available for photos and video at the ranch.