

# The Safe Haven Way

2025

*“With the changing seasons comes new beginnings.”*

It has been four busy seasons of growth and change here at Safe Haven Farms! Indoor winter art projects give way to spring plantings to a “fun in the sun” summer and finally reaping the benefits of a good harvest come fall. During these seasons, we have added new day program and equestrian participants to the fold plus new direct care associates. The joy of greeting our new four-legged friends in the barn – horses, Willow and Happy, and miniature donkeys – Millie and Peter, has made animal care seem more like fun than a daily chore. Through all these seasons we have observed the resilience and positive development of our “farmers” and see how your generous gifts have put smiles on their faces. With your support, Safe Haven Farms continues to advance our mission, inspiring adults with developmental disabilities to pursue meaningful experiences each day.

Throughout the year, your charitable gifts aid with program growth, animal care, plus facility and property maintenance, all vital components in keeping our services ongoing and thriving. As a nonprofit organization we rely on your continued support. Our advancements are only made possible with the help of donors, volunteers, and supportive community members like you – our mission is a 24/7 undertaking, and we need your support to continue this work as we look forward to 2026.

Please know that we are deeply appreciative of your time in considering a year-end gift to Safe Haven Farms. Adults and children with developmental disabilities desperately need our compassion, our support, and our voices. With your help, we can continue to make a difference for more adults and children in need.

With much gratitude!

*Janie Rattman*

Executive Director, Safe Haven Farms

## Upcoming Events in 2026

Berns Garden Center Craft Fair  
Sat., January 24<sup>th</sup> – SHF will be there

Share the Love Fundraising Dinner  
Spring 2026 – Date TBD

Farm Days – Community Open House  
Spring & Summer Events 2026

Autumn Social Event & Fundraiser  
Something New in 2026 – stay tuned!



# We are Safe Haven Farms

## Executive Director

Janie Rattman

[janie.cochran@safehavenfarms.org](mailto:janie.cochran@safehavenfarms.org)

## Board of Directors

Pam Lockwood

**President**

Leslie Odioso

**Vice President**

Kay Brown

**Secretary**

Kathleen Schnelle

**Treasurer**

Chad Blevins

Natalie Harbin

Karl Matson

Brian McGuire

Tricia Neeley

Larry Proctor

Denny Rogers

Lisa Williamson

Ken Wilson

## Property

Sarah Fraley

Tom Soard

Robert Fraley

Edna Fraley

Don O'Brien

Jeffrey Razor

## Animal Care

Tracey Bridges

Paytin Wells

Lauren Doty

Ashley Doty

Ryan Weber

Emilee Knot

Kyndra Adkins

Kyle Teeters

Kira House

Lacey Pate

Grace Harris





## Share the Love 2026



**151 Guests 6,450 Raffle Tickets Sold**  
**\$26,521 raised to support Safe Haven Farms**  
**THANK YOU!!!**

### Raffle Winners

Cincy Dining Package – Leslie Shoals      Golf Lover's – Doug Schnelle  
Bourbon Trail Getaway – Rich Tereba      Autumn in the Rockies – Doug Loftus

### Ohio Harness Horseman's Association

Each year the Ohio Harness Horseman's Association hosts their "Charity Night at the Races" events in support of local nonprofits. Miami Valley Gaming hosted the Spring event and selected 10 area charities to participate. Safe Haven Farms was one of those lucky organizations and was there to cheer on our horse "Twin B Seamonster". Unfortunately, "Seamonster" didn't finish in the top 3, but the good folks at OHHA still awarded Safe Haven Farms \$2,000 for our participation in a fun and engaging event with great food and wonderful fellowship. Thank you, OHHA and Miami Valley Gaming for making this special night possible.

### Thank you to our Sponsors

Impact Autism Foundation  
Todd & Karen Spidare  
Blevins Financial  
McCloy Family Foundation  
Truepoint Wealth Counsel  
First Financial Bank  
ViaQuest, Solutions for Independence  
Miami Valley Gaming  
Energy Alliances  
Bricker Graydon, LLP  
Messer Construction  
Warren Co ESC  
The Knolls of Oxford  
Mike & Leslie Odioso  
Mei & Sheldon Carpenter  
Kent & Teresa Hall  
Butler Rural Electric Cooperative  
Insurance Associates of Middletown  
Two Silos RV & Boat Storage





# 2026 Day Program Highlights



Program In Kind Items Needed  
Candle donations – plain or scented  
white cupcake liners  
clear plastic bags w/ties



# Community Highlights

Safe Haven Farms is honored to have the local community support our mission. We would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following Middletown Area fraternal organizations who have made contributions to cover the cost of new patio areas, repairs/improvements to the horse barn, LED lighting in our community center, new fencing, deck repairs, and so much more.

**Thank You!**



Middletown Elks 257



**LODGE 501**  
**MIDDLETOWN, OHIO**  
**CHAPTER 183**



Middletown Eagles 528

This past July, a group of advocates traveled to Washington D.C. to advocate for a change in the HCBS (Home & Community Based Services) Medicaid “settings rule” that would change the housing landscape for adults with developmental disabilities. Lifting or amending the current settings rule will allow adults with I/DD (Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities) to receive services in a residential setting of their choice, including farmsteads, larger group homes, and campus-like settings that are presently restricted under the current language.

The “Ohio” delegation led by Ashley Kim Weiss, Executive Director for Together for Choice, met with U.S. Congressmen and U.S. Senators – or their Legislative Directors – to ask for their support in lifting or amending the settings rule.

Megan Thompson, Executive Director, Bittersweet Farms, spoke to the need to change the settings rule so that they can build and provide housing for the over 200+ individuals on their waiting list. Michael Metz, Owner/Founder of Metzcort Adult Day Services, presented his vision for a campus-like setting in Harrison, Ohio that proposes 40 apartments/condos to accommodate up to 160 people. Bill and Jenny McCloy, McCloy Family Foundation, advocated for planned, intentional housing that will reduce Medicaid costs through shared services. Ohio Representative Mike Odioso and his wife Leslie shared their late daughter Audrey’s experience of an enriching life in her home at Safe Haven Farms.

## Ohio Delegation Advocates in D.C.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### Meet Jessica

**Jessica** joined the day services program in 2024 and has been bringing smiles, laughter, and entertainment to daily activities from day one. She is ready for any task and is such a hard worker in the gardens. Jessica was essential in filling the CSA boxes all summer long. She cares deeply for the other participants often seen helping them in and out of the van, carrying items for them, and showing them to their locker each morning. She has a great sense of empathy and is supportive to her family and friends. Jessica is living her best life at Safe Haven Farms.



GE Aerospace



**GE Aerospace** has been a member of the Safe Haven Farms extended family since the founding of the farm. Each year multiple GE teams visit the farm to address large and small property projects. These devoted volunteers are always ready to meet any challenge on our “to do” list with passion and enthusiasm. We are extremely grateful that they look forward to working at SHF as much as we love having them bring their many talents to get the job done.

**Kathleen Schnelle** joined the SHF board in 2023 and now serves as our treasurer. Kathleen grew up on the west side of Cincinnati and graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a bachelor's and a master's degree. She is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and a Senior Tax Manager and Shareholder at Truepoint Wealth Counsel in Blue Ash.

Kathleen is married with three kids and a dog, living in Liberty Township. She has two kids at Lakota East High School and one at the University of Cincinnati. A lot of her time is spent cheering on her kids and supporting them in their many activities. She enjoys traveling, reading, and relaxing with friends and family. They are a passionate soccer family and have season tickets to FC Cincinnati.

Kathleen brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the Safe Haven Farms' board of directors, and we are honored to recognize her service.

### Meet Kathleen





# COMING SOON!

Thanks to the investment of the following corporate and private foundation donors, Safe Haven Farms will be adding an outdoor musical enrichment area, Spring 2026. This outdoor space will feature drums, chimes, congas, bells, and a cavatina plus seating options for those who just wish to listen to the sounds of a midday concert. Featured in the center, thanks to memorial donations, will be a special bench honoring our dear friend and former resident, Patrick O'Lenick. It is our hope that both residential and day program participants will enjoy many hours of music exploration and perhaps some creative ensemble collaborations.

**Thank you for supporting this special program addition!**



## **Sign up for Kroger's Community Rewards program!!**

By linking your Kroger Plus customer card to benefit SHF, you will help us earn rewards from Kroger. First time users need to set up an account at [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com): click on the register button in the upper right-hand corner and follow the prompts to create an account. Use your email and password to log in and select your community rewards partner in the Account Settings. **Enter KA609** or Safe Haven Farms in the search box; confirm your selection and select Save. Next time you shop at Kroger's check the bottom of the receipt to confirm that you have selected Safe Haven Farms as the non-profit you choose to support.



**Safe Haven Farms**  
A Community of Choice

MAILING ADDRESS:  
P.O. BOX 62034  
CINCINNATI, OH 45262

STREET ADDRESS:  
5970 NO MANS ROAD  
MIDDLETOWN, OH 45042

[WWW.SAFEHAVENFARMS.ORG](http://WWW.SAFEHAVENFARMS.ORG)

Your gift today will have a positive impact on  
programs in 2026 and beyond!

To give, go to [www.safehavenfarms.org/donate](http://www.safehavenfarms.org/donate)

