



# HORSE SENSE

Federal 501(c)(3) # 86-0927834

**PLEASE** - Help us save time and money  
by providing your current e-mail address - Thanks  
Follow us on Facebook

December 2022

*Happy Holidays*

*from*

*Chris*

*Dakota, Gracie, Freckles and Liber-T*

Session 3 Classes will begin the week of January 1<sup>st</sup>

### *Thank You for Your Support*

*H Adams, Amazon Smile, A Bedient, P Cocklin, Facebook Donors, MJ Fridley, Fry's/Kroger Shoppers, R&L Grabau, MaryAnn Hirschberg, Honeywell ECF, Hudson Family, K Hust, H Isaacs, Julie Keahey Charitable Fund, C&T Lindhorn, L Lorenz, A Masterson, Malena Family, E Migala, Morris Family, Network for Good, A Pruitt, A Sandoval, Smith Family, M Stevenson, J Voglemann, D&D Week, Lisa Wintermantel Memorial Rider Scholarship, M Wright*

### **Tax Deductions and Donations -**

This year, we ask that you make your year-end charitable donation to Stable Influence. Your gift directly helps people in **Our Community**. You can donate to our 100 for \$100 Campaign, help fill our Poop Bucket with \$10 bills, Adopt a Horse, Sponsor a Rider. Every donation goes to helping our riders be successful.

**Volunteers** - REMEMBER - Your mileage can give you a cents-per-mile deduction at tax time.

### **Support Us On Giving Tuesday**

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, November 29th! Donations made EARLY through Facebook to Stable Influence Charity

Programs on the 29th could be matched by Facebook! That's right! Your donation could be doubled when made early at Facebook during #GivingTuesday!

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/454872942649481/>

In addition to your contributions, you can also give back by sharing our social media posts and emails. Mark your calendars!

**BONUS** - AZ Charitable Tax Credit - use QCO Code 22306 on Form 321 to receive a tax credit on AZ State taxes for up to \$400 for an individual and \$800 for couple.

### **Black Friday is here -**

Do you shop on line? [www.smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0927834](http://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/86-0927834) or iGive.com e-Mails make a donation to Stable Influence when you shop. We all WIN. Just searching the iGive.com e-Mall will rack up donations for Stable Influence

Do you shop at Fry's Food Stores? Enroll your **Fry's VIP Card - #BH909** at [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com) - so the purchases you make anyway can also help our riders.

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## Cookies for Santa

As the air got colder the horses started to get their winter coats. The cold did not only mean longer hair, it also meant Christmas! All the horses, Dakota, Freckles, Diamond and Liber-T were excited for this Christmas. This was Gracie's first Christmas with the herd and Diamond was excited to show her how much fun it will be. They decided to invite Rocker and Wasabi from next door to join in the fun.

The Christmases in the past had been great but this year they were planning a special treat for Santa! They were going to make him cookies because we all know how much Santa loves his cookies. That's why he is so big and jolly!

The horses wanted to make their friend Santa cookies but how would they get the ingredients to make them? Freckles had the idea of asking the dogs. The horses all thought that was a good idea because the dogs have been in the house watching Chris bake cookies before. Especially Venus, she must know what they would need for the best cookies! She's been around the longest.

Dakota asked Midas, Venus, Minerva, Calypso, Artemis, Apollo and Prometheus if they would help with the special surprise for Santa and of course they all said yes! Even Red puppy wanted to get her paw into the action. As it was getting closer to Christmas Eve all the ingredients were gathered for the cookies. They had the sugar, eggs, butter, and flour. The boys, Midas, Apollo and Prometheus, made sure to get the horses some frosting and sprinkles to make the cookies for Santa really special and pretty!

Since all the horses all wanted to make cookies, Wasabi and Rocker came over from next door so they could all be together. The horses where so excited!

Now it was Christmas Eve. Diamond woke everyone up really early so they had enough time to bake and decorate the cookies before Santa got to their house that night.

Liber-T and Freckles made a big cookie shaped like a Christmas tree with green sprinkles. Dakota and

Liber-T decorated their gingerbread man shaped cookie with frosting and sprinkles! Diamond showed Gracie how to made lots of present shaped cookies covered in yummy red and green frosting. The boys, Rocker and Wasabi kept trying to steal samples, but also helped with decorating. Diamond watched over the baking so all the cookies came out perfectly baked.

The horses finished making the delicious cookies faster than they thought so they had time to play some games. Liber-T did not really want to play the games so she decided to clean up. She hid the cookies till Santa got there because Gracie was hovering - ready to "sample" as many as she could.

As it got darker the more excited the horses got. Finally they heard it - Santa's bells! They ran and got their cookies and waited for Santa and his reindeer to land! Santa was so happy to get all those beautiful cookies but he was happier to see his old friends again! Santa ate all the cookies and he had a special treat for the horses too! Santa gave Freckles apples. Santa gave Wasabi and Rocker oats. He gave Dakota and Diamond sugar cubes and he gave Liber-T peppermint stars because that is her favorite treat!

While the horses munched their delicious treats, Santa didn't forget and gave each of the dogs a delicious bone for helping get the supplies for the cookies. After everyone had finished their treats Santa had to leave to finish giving all the other horses and kids their presents. Santa promised to come and see them next year!

*Merry Christmas to all -  
- and to all a good Night*

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## WANTED - - RIDERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Spread the word. We talk to potential riders and volunteers all the time who say they've been looking for a program such as ours for years. If everyone would share our program with folks you know who may benefit from our services, we'd be able to help and serve more people. Referrals are very valuable in helping potential riders and volunteers to find us. Riders are why we are here. Your experience with our program is very powerful in sharing our program with others. Some riders and volunteers are here from FOREVER and some are just starting. Our volunteers want to keep busy with more riders to help and are always needed at each site. Tell your story to your friends, care givers, doctors and therapists. They may know someone who is looking for a therapeutic riding or would like to help out. Your Equine Assisted Activities experiences and volunteer opportunities bring participants to us. You can help to fill the extra rider spaces. Thank you to those who have referred friends to us. We are here to help. Spread the word - There are people out there we can help, they just don't know how to find us.

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### MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE

Donate on Giving Tuesday through Facebook and maybe double your donation - you have to act fast and early.

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/454872942649481/>

Enroll your Fry's VIP Card - Contribute to our 100 for \$100 Campaign

Donate and claim on AZ State Taxes for a dollar for dollar credit

Shop at Smile.Amazon.com or Igive.com for donations.

Support a Rider or Adopt a Horse - Add to our Poop Bucket Challenge \$10

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### WORD FIND

Find - your name - it could be up, down, side, forwards, backwards or diagonal up or down - Elizabeth, Irish, Jazzy, Josh, Julia, Natalie, Noah, Oliver, Phillip, Ruth

G	F	P	B	L	R	M	S	Q	Z	H	Y	A
I	B	O	H	C	D	B	A	C	S	Q	A	G
N	E	S	L	G	T	W	H	I	O	I	P	O
V	O	T	N	N	O	X	R	Y	L	R	F	G
J	J	A	B	O	A	I	E	U	I	Z	I	Y
E	H	L	H	V	L	T	J	E	V	G	R	D
W	T	Q	G	J	R	O	A	W	E	Q	U	V
M	E	R	P	D	I	B	C	L	R	A	T	P
Z	B	X	Y	W	S	H	Q	M	I	N	H	D
P	A	L	E	F	A	S	U	T	X	E	E	J
W	Z	R	A	M	Q	X	S	C	T	V	I	U
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R	L	O	O	P	T	J	A	Z	Z	Y	H	J
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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President - Chris Hudson**  
**Vice President - Kathy Wilke**  
**Secretary/Treasurer - Craig Hudson**

## **REMEMBER -**

**IF YOU SHOP ON LINE -**  
**NO MATTER WHAT STORE**  
Please . . . **SHOP THROUGH**  
Smile.Amazon.com, iGive.com or Goodsearch.com

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### **KIDS COOKING**

### **DAKOTA'S NO BAKE**

### **OATMEAL CHOCOLATE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES**

1 3/4 cups white sugar      4 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder      1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/2 cup milk                      4 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder  
1/2 cup butter                      3 cups quick-cooking oats

- Step 1 Line a baking sheet with wax paper.
- Step 2 In a medium saucepan, combine the milk, sugar, cocoa, and butter.
- Step 3 Bring to a boil and cook for 90 seconds. Begin timing from the moment the mixture starts to boil and keep a close eye on it. If it's boiling for too long, it can ruin the texture of the cookies. Alternatively, cooking for too short a period of time can prevent the cookies from forming properly.
- Step 4 Remove from heat.
- Step 5 Stir in the oats, peanut butter, and vanilla.
- Step 6 Using a teaspoon, measure out and drop the dough onto the wax paper. Make sure you give them enough space to accommodate easier serving down the line.
- Step 7 Allow them to cool until firm, about 35 minutes. Serve.

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### **Mission - - - Riders, Volunteers and Supporters -**

### **Find ONE New Donor for SICP**

Can you find us one new donor in 2023? Supporters, volunteers and riders -- please share stories and ask people and businesses you know to support Stable Influence. Many companies and people are looking to make a true difference in the lives of another. Our riders, volunteers and even parents benefit by participating in our program. Share a story about Stable Influence with people and companies you know and ask for a small donation - they may decide to help out. Although our riders pay a fee for services, it covers only 55% of the cost to run our program.

All non-profit programs rely and depend on donations to continue their mission - our mission is to offer the best in therapeutic riding. Fund raising and donations bridge the 45% difference between rider fees and our program costs. But, 45% is a big bridge to cross. We never waste a penny and don't buy it if we don't have the money. We keep our costs down by not owning property and having wonderful volunteer help. Now is a great time you can help increase our donor base. Sign up to support Stable Influence through Smile.Amazon.com, Fry's Rewards, make a donation and get dollar for dollar credit on your AZ State Taxes.

All donations go directly to helping our riders. Social media platforms - Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn are great to share stories and requests for support. There are people out there just waiting to be asked to support an organization like ours. Help find those folks and let them know we are here.

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## FUNDRAISING YOU CAN HELP

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### \*\*\* New Car Fundraiser \*\*\*

It is official - our wonderful 2001 Elantra with 310,000 miles on it has retired. We are fundraising to pay for a new vehicle. The goal is \$26,000 for a KIA Soul. We've gotten \$6,000 so far, but have a ways to go to finish paying her off.

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Do you buy GROCERIES ? ? ?

If you are already one of our Fry's shopper families - Thank you - you are automatically re-enrolled, but if not, it's time to enroll your Fry's VIP card on line for Stable Influence. Fry's shares \$2M with area non-profit organizations enrolled each year. There are 35 families signed up. Remember to enroll if you shop at Fry's! Our portion of Fry's donation depends on how many shoppers shop for us. The more shoppers- the more we receive. So, go to [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com) - Sign in or Select 'Create an Account' and follow the directions. SICP Fry's Number is 80063. Please enroll and join our Fry's Shopper Family.

Share our needs with your friends and family through Facebook and Twitter and ask them join in to support a cause you believe in so every time you shop you help our riders.. \$4,700 from Fry's since May of 2012. **This works all over the country and in ACME, Jewel-Osco, SavOn, Supersaver Foods, Shaws and of course Albertsons stores.** Fry's VIP card works at all Kroger owned stores around the country.

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**Honeywell, Motorola, Boeing and ???** companies often provide grants to organizations their employees support and Employee Giving Programs will send your donation directly to us. But you have to ask. APS, Boeing, Honeywell, Motorola, Target, United Health Care, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Schreiber Foods, all have supported their employees' support for us. Check with your company and ask if they will support our riders too.

### Arizona Charitable Tax Credit

Stable Influence is qualified as an Arizona Qualifying Charitable Organization. Anyone donating can use QCO Code 22306 to receive a tax credit on AZ State taxes for up to \$400 for a single person and \$800 for couple valid for donations made in 2022.

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### Everyone is shopping on Line Now - Have that Purchase do Double Duty !

Shopping on line at Amazon then adding a "Smile" to it is easy for everyone to do and by signing up to support SICP, it's easy for your purchases and browsing time to do double duty and support our riders. By choosing to shop through [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com) those stores will support Stable Influence Riders.

Most stores are in these malls. - \$1,178 from Amazon Smile since 2014. Help to increase those numbers up by signing up to support Stable Influence. You are shopping anyway - make it do double duty.

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100 for \$100 Plus

Our 100 for \$100 campaign is still going on. We are still looking for folks to help finish our campaign. I'm sure every one of our supporters knows of JUST ONE person who can donate \$100 for this campaign. They just might give if you ask. Companies and folks you know will help. Your stories about Stable Influence experiences help folks understand our mission and successes - share on your Facebook or Twitter account and ask your friends to support our mission.

Unlike most charities, over 90% of all donations go directly to help our riders. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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## Mark Your Calendar - 2022-2023

December 18	Break - Merry Christmas - No Class until week of January 1
January 1	Session 3 Classes Begin
February 12	Session 4 Classes Begin - 7-Weeks
April 2	Session 4 Break - 1 Week
April 9	Session 5 Classes Begin - 7-Weeks
May 28	Memorial Day Break
June 4	Session 6 Classes Begin - 8 Week Summer Session

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# STATE OF THE STABLE

2022 was again, another very crazy and different year for everyone. We've been helping for over 25 years and that is almost half way gone. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this past year. I wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. Stay safe and have a prosperous 2023 as we look forward to and pray for things to continue to move toward.

Summer 2022 was pretty hot this time. Two riders rode through August in New River. We didn't get as much rain this year as last, but we did get heat and lost a few rides due to very hot conditions.

Our 25<sup>th</sup> ride year began in September and we welcomed 2 new riders - 1 in Peoria and 1 in New River. Another 1 joined us in Peoria for a total of 11 by the end of November. Our numbers are low due to the loss of our Mesa site. However, folks feel we are offering a valuable service and 3 of our riders are coming from Mesa area to ride with us. Must be doing something right. We have classes in Peoria on Wednesdays and in New River Saturday mornings.

Our lessons are different than at most therapeutic riding programs. Our riders usually start their lesson by playing with their horse "on line". Riders are on the ground, before mounting up, and ask their horse to do various tasks. This develops a real connection with their horse and we've seen the horses look forward to their rider's interaction. Also, "On-Line" play is helping our riders with coordination, balance and focus. Many are getting some pretty cool things accomplished like sidepassing along a fence, circling, having their horse put a particular foot in a hula hoop and weaving cones. Riders learn when to be quiet and when to ask with a bit more authority. Elizabeth, Jazzy, Josh, Julia, Irish, Noah and Oliver are improving or learning on-line skills. The first time Noah asked Liber-T to yo-yo by wiggling the lead line, she stepped back with enthusiasm. She doesn't do that for me - but she knew Noah was just learning. SO COOL! Natalie and Phillip only ride to help them improve their balance and focus.

Officers - Chris, Craig continue to keep everything running smoothly. Sadly our VP, Bob Stapleton, passed away in July. In searching for a new VP, my sister, Kathy Willke, offered to take the position. She has supported Stable Influence since it's inception and makes all the little horse ornaments we give at Christmas time. Thank you for your service Kathy.

Staff - Instructors, Chris is our only instructor at this time and is the only one who works horses 3 or 4 days a week as well as handling daily cleaning pens and feeding the herd in New River.

Horses - You can Adopt a Horse to care for one of our amazing horses and as a bonus, you get "Carrot Privileges". The horses now all live in New River. In February we got a beautiful black and white paint mare - Gracie when a long time friend and volunteer passed away. Although Gracie had not been "ridden", she is very gentle. John said the grandkids and cousins would hop on her in her pen and just ride around. So far her training shows that she will be an amazing therapy horse. Freckles', continues to be my choice for riders starting to ride independently. Her medium movement and narrow barrel is still the best for those riders. She helps build confidence because she really doesn't want to go too fast. However, she can if the rider is truly ready. The quiet response she has gives riders time to process. But, if they are ready - so is she. Liber-T, still wants riders to "do it right" - but once she decides they are ready. In the beginning, she is very patient, but as the rider becomes more skilled, she wants more precision. This challenges our riders to be consistent and the payoff is amazing when the "right" thing is learned by her rider. Liber-T's more active and big movement is very helpful for riders who are very "busy". Since they are seeking movement - Liber-T gives it to them and they are better able to concentrate. It's quite wonderful to see how quickly the riders calm when riding her. Her love for the littlest riders is so fun to watch. She is so careful and asks for a cuddle from each. Dakota's very quite movement and nice wide back gives those needing support, the movement and broad support they require. Dakota will instantly respond to a rider who is attentive and focused. Horse upkeep costs have dropped a bit this year when Afire and Stetson moved away. But we did add Gracie. I was really worried about hay costs as prices have gone up almost double. But then, Exceptional Pets near us was getting out of the horse side of the business and gave us a 50% discount on any horse products. So, we purchased pellets and hay at a much reduced price. However, monthly costs for our horses, no matter how many riders we have, never drops or ends - the Equine Dentist's is due (about \$600), they get grain and supplements and every 7 weeks get their feet trimmed. We care for 3 horses in New River. The Hudsons support Liber-T.

Program - Our spring 2022 was challenging with rain and wind causing adjustments in riding schedules. Rider costs for last year were up, but we have not raised riding fees. New riders will come in at a slightly higher fee. We are behind for horse board and instructor salary. Currently, we are just meeting our basic costs, with very little reserve for emergencies. New riders join us each year, as others achieve their goals and move on to new activities. Our basic costs usually remain pretty stable. Horses cost - what horses cost by reducing the herd from 5 to 4, costs for horse care have remained level considering increased costs for everything. We got a special bonus when Exceptional Pets offered us hay and pellets for half price because they were closing the horse side of their business. Prices have doubled this past year, so this was a windfall bonus this year. When there are not enough riders to cover the costs, more donations are needed to fill the gap or we must increase rider fees. All our riders

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have always paid a discounted fee to mirror what anyone would pay for a riding lesson. As a non-profit, we can receive donations to bridge our expenses. We currently have no riders receiving scholarship money - as none have asked. There are no riders being sponsored. When we talk to potential new riders, they are excited to start until they find out there are fees. We cannot serve them without donations for scholarships or sponsorships. Fundraising and donations keep fees down for riders and hopefully, cover the difference. Our classes at Soft Wind Riding Club and Stable Influence are going well. Thank you MaryAnn and the Hudsons. And, of course, Craig for your support this past year

Facebook posts happen each week to keep everyone updated. And just for grins and giggles, I put up fun pictures and news. Share your stories and information with everyone you know and ask for support, especially since #Giving Tuesday and our status as an AZ Qualified Charitable Organization can benefit both us and the donor. Word of mouth is the best way to spread the word of how our riders are minimizing their challenges by riding in our program. Jot a message and share your story for everyone to enjoy. People don't know of the miracles you have seen our riders achieve unless you share stories.

**Fundraisers:** We have been awarded Arizona Qualified Charitable Organization Status. When doing your AZ State Taxes, use QCO Code 22306 to receive a dollar for dollar tax credit on AZ State taxes for up to \$400 for a single person and \$800 for couple valid for donations made in 2022. We had to retire our 2001 Elantra that has 310,000 miles on it and have a New Car Fundraiser to pay for the replacement. Without even breathing hard, you can shop through Smile.Amazon.com. They will donate a percentage of your purchase price. Fry's (Kroger) shoppers - you can join the 38 families who have enrolled their Fry's VIP Card and help to increase donations. Enroll your VIP card at [www.FrysCommunityRewards.com](http://www.FrysCommunityRewards.com) and select Stable Influence (#BH909). Every time you shop at Fry's, SICP shares the \$2M they have for Community Rewards in our area. Facebook is partnered with PayPal and is matching donations made through Facebook up to \$7 Million on #Giving Tuesday - but you have to be fast and early to get the matching funds. Go to the following link to donate:

<https://www.facebook.com/donate/454872942649481/>

As a non-profit, we must always and continually look to have fundraisers to bridge the gap between riders fees and costs to do our program. Got a fund raising idea - share it with us? You know - if each one our Supporters gifted us \$10 for our Poop Bucket Challenge and found 5 friends to join in, we would be well on our way to easily support our amazing horses.

If you like - you can Adopt a Horse to support one of our horses, or you can send a gift for our Horse Board Fund, add to our Poop Bucket Campaign or add to our 100 for \$100 Campaign so we can continue our mission to help riders with special needs.

**Donations** - Thank you for your continued support - the Smith Family, the Hudson's who support Liber-T and have been supporting Dakota, Freckles and now Gracie these past years,. Thank you to all the Fry's and Smile.Amazon shoppers, Boeing employees and Honeywell employees. Even little donations help, so keep spreading the word. Thank you to all who have donated this past year. See Page 1. Donations this calendar year were \$6,800, which was half of what was donated the same as last year.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it. As I said at the beginning - let's all pray for a better and more stress-free 2022. Stay safe and stay healthy.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

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### I WANT TO Help Stable Influence

**YOU** play a major role in the continued success of SICP through your tax deductible contribution. THANK YOU - your support makes a CRITICAL DIFFERENCE in the lives of Andra, Atlas, Audrey, Daniel, Elijah, Irish, Jenny, Julia, Lauryan, Liam, LoriAnne, Maya, Natalie, Oliver, Phillip, Ruth, and Sue. Donations in any amount helps guarantee our riders will continue to benefit from the proven benefits of therapeutic riding.

**Sponsorship:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 - Newsletter Sponsor
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 - Poop Bucket Challenge
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$25-\$199 - Friend of Stable Influence
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 - \$499 - Supporter of Stable Influence
- \_\_\_\_\_ 100 for \$100 Campaign
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Horse Board Sponsor
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$1,500 - Insurance Sponsor
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ A monthly pledge contribution
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other Donation

**Sponsorships for a Person with a Disability:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$420 - Six-Week Riding Session
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$2,940 - 42 Week Riding Session

**Other:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 - Adopt-A-Horse for a Month
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$3,000 - Adopt a Horse for a Year

Please mail your contribution to: Stable Influence Charity Programs, P. O. Box 54006, Phoenix, AZ 85078-4006

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