



Brayhope Farm, Inc. 2024 Annual Report

At Brayhope Farm we believe the bond between humans and animals is mutually beneficial—a relationship that fosters the health and well-being of both.



**BRAYHOPE
FARM**

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“We played hooky today from school and went to Brayhope Farm! I can’t say how amazing this experience was for all of us. Very therapeutic, loving, and comforting. No judgement. Brayhope Farm is a family-run nonprofit donkey farm that is for special-needs families. Fully enclosed spaces to run, roam, and to walk around. Amazing morning. **One of a kind experience.**” — *Makenzie Cabrera*

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WELCOME TO BRAYHOPE FARM

Our mission is to provide members of the public with the **positive therapeutic effects** of animal-assisted activities in a **compassionate, safe, and professional** manner, and to achieve educational goals through community service programs. We seek to **enhance the quality of life** for people in the community who interact with our animals, as well as the animals themselves.



“We went to see the donkeys at Brayhope Farm in Phoenix, New York. The farm is very clean and the donkeys are gentle and happy. This is a great way for kids with special needs and adults alike to socialize and get out around animals, out in nature, and very relaxing! **Animals have been proven to help kids on the spectrum and with special needs cope**, and they help reduce anxiety.”

— *Stacey Lawson, Director, Special KidZ Sensory Gym*



LETTER FROM CEO DIANE NEDROW

My husband Andy and I—along with ten miniature donkeys, two mini mules, and a herd of dwarf goats—make up the main crew at Brayhope Farm. We're a 501(c)(3) farm located in Upstate New York (specifically Phoenix, in Oswego County). Our goal for visitors to the farm is to enjoy the calming, peaceful, and memorable experience that these tiny equine bring to our often challenging and complex world. Visits are free of charge.

Why? I had to reach deep within myself to pull up my “why” and put it into words. My relationship with animals goes way back to when I was very young. My first horse, Dawn, was very special to me. As soon as school was over, I'd be saddling her up and meeting with other horse

neighbors to trail-ride together. My golden retriever, Bridget, was there for me when I needed someone to talk to during the ever so common tumultuous teenage years. We'd take a walk to the river where she would happily retrieve sticks from the water while creating a sense of calm for me at the same time. The power of the human/animal bond is real and humbling.

Andy and I have always had and loved animals. He was raised on a dairy farm and I've had horses for most of my life. During COVID, in June 2020, we'd been without horses for four years and missed that part of our life. When we saw the donkeys Ralph and Gus looking for a new



home, we thought, “Why not?” Within the next year we added four more. And in 2022, another four. We obviously are enamored with the little guys and have a serious donkey/mule addiction!

I was fortunate enough to retire in 2023 and needed something to keep me busy. The Brayhope boys also needed a hobby! Being adorable comes naturally for them, and I've always had a soft spot in my heart for kids and animals. So why not put it all together and afford anyone (young or old) who's suffered or struggled with difficult life challenges to come experience the comforting benefit of donkey love? I want to share a bit of farm life with people who haven't experienced it, and enhance that experience for visitors who don't realize how gentle and loving donkeys can be. This is the “why” of how Brayhope Farm came to be.

We're here to learn and grow. I have a lot of ideas of what I would like Brayhope Farm to become and, thankfully, I'm very patient and know that all good things come with time. So . . . if you're a member of a group of people or know of a group that might enjoy and benefit from a farm visit, please reach out to us. Together we can spread some joy and happiness.

Diane Nedrow
CEO, Brayhope Farm



2023 saw the formal start of Brayhope Farm. We had our “soft launch” of farm visits that spring. Thanks to our volunteers, donors, and sponsors, 2024 was a year of outreach, connection, and growth. This Annual Report shares stories, photos, and news about what we've done in 2024—and where we're heading.



A FARM EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER

Thirty minutes north of Syracuse, set in the rolling rural pasturelands of Oswego County, is a unique charitable nonprofit that serves the special needs of New York State's children—**Brayhope Farm**.

This gentle place is situated in the Town of Schroepfel, outside the village of Phoenix. There's a great need for Brayhope's "Long Ear Love," here and throughout upstate New York. Nearly 1 in 5 public-school students in Oswego and neighboring Onondaga County has a disability. That's 14,000 children.

Brayhope Farm's donkeys and goats bring love, laughter, and sweet companionship to these children, and to their brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents, teachers, and other caregivers.

This is a place where families can experience the therapeutic effect of the human/animal bond, in a safe and fun environment. It's a place to set aside everyday burdens and enjoy playful, nonjudgmental activity that engages all the senses, builds confidence and trust, brings peace, and inspires happiness.

THE PUBLIC NEED FOR BRAYHOPE FARM

In 2023–2024 there were 2,418,513 students enrolled in Kindergarten through 12th grade in New York State public schools.

Of them, 459,771 (19%) were classified as having disabilities such as visual or hearing impairment, intellectual disability, autism, speech or language impairment, emotional disability, or others that make them eligible for special education and related services.

These students—and their moms and dads, brothers and sisters, nurses, teachers, aides, and caregivers—are among the main audiences served by Brayhope Farm. ***The loving connection between one student and one animal radiates outward to encompass all of their family and caregivers.***

Oswego County, 2023/2024 Academic Year:

K–12 students (public schools): 17,287.

Students with disabilities: 2,943 (17%).

Onondaga County, 2023/2024 Academic Year:

K–12 students (public schools): 62,965.

Students with disabilities: 11,091 (18%).

Not all special needs are purely physical. Some visitors to Brayhope Farm have been bullied in school, some are grieving a family loss, some are enduring emotional challenges such as cancer treatment.

This year Brayhope Farm served schools, families, and civic groups from New York's Oswego and Onondaga Counties. These counties include three cities, forty-one towns, dozens of villages and hamlets, and the Onondaga Reservation. *Total population: about 600,000 people.*

Oswego County: The Mohawk Indians knew well the great river that pours its water into Lake Ontario. They called the region “the pouring-out place.” Today New York's Oswego County, in the northwestern part of the state, occupies some 1,312 square miles—three-quarters of it land, and one-quarter rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and other salt- and freshwater.

Oswego County is home to two cities (Oswego and Fulton), twenty-two towns, and ten villages. Some of its larger centers include Brewerton, Phoenix, Pulaski, Central Square, Mexico, Constantia, and Minetto.



About one-third of households in Oswego County have children under the age of 18. Out of every four people in the county, one is younger than 18. The median family income is \$43,821. About one in ten families—and 17% of children under age 18—live below the poverty line. Almost 3,000 students in the county's public schools have a disability.

Onondaga County: The “People of the Hills” (*Onoda'gega*), one of the original Five Nations of the Haudenosaunee, were the source of this Central New York county's name. It's bordered to its northeast by Oneida Lake—the largest lake wholly within New York State. Onondaga's 806 square miles include 25 miles of New York State Barge Canal System, and parts of the Appalachian Plateau and Finger Lakes.

Onondaga County has one city (Syracuse), nineteen towns, and twenty-nine hamlets, and surrounds the independent Onondaga Reservation. Syracuse is the county seat and has its largest urban population; other significant centers include Lysander, DeWitt, Fairmount, Baldwinsville, Radisson, North Syracuse, Solvay, Mattydale, Westvale, Manlius, Galeville, Lyncourt, and Fayetteville.

As in Oswego County, about one in every three households in Onondaga County includes children under 18 years old, and a quarter of the county's population is under age 18. The median family income is \$51,876. About 9% of families—and more than 15% of children under age 18—live in poverty. More than 11,000 students in the county's public schools have a disability.



DEFINING “DISABILITIES”



The New York State Education Department defines students with disabilities as “those who have been identified as such by the Committee on Special Education and are receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Students with disabilities include those having an intellectual disability; hearing impairment, including deafness; speech or language impairment; visual impairment, including blindness; emotional

disability; orthopedic impairment; autism; traumatic brain injury; developmental delay; other health impairment; specific learning disability; deaf-blindness; or multiple disabilities and who, by reason thereof, receive special education and related services under the IDEA according to an Individualized Education Program (IEP), Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), or a services plan.”

Data in this report are provided by NYSED, as submitted by school districts, charter schools, Boards of Cooperative Educational Services, institutions of higher education, and NYSED program offices; and compiled from the U.S. Census Bureau.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteer Hours

In 2024, we had 14 volunteers contribute 279 hours of service in farm visits and outside events. Our volunteers include adults and children, some homeschooled and some with special needs.

Farm Visits

In 2024 we more than tripled the number of visitors hosted in our “soft launch” year of 2023. We had 316 visitors at the farm (including 84 with special needs, and 9 dealing with trauma). In addition to children and young adults, our visitors included parents, siblings and other family members, teachers, nurses, and caregivers. We had 50 farm-visit dates from the spring into early winter (April through November).

Some of Our 2024 Group Farm Visits and Special Events

In addition to visits throughout the year from families and individuals with special needs, Brayhope Farm hosted groups and organizations from spring through early winter. Here are some highlights.

April 21, 2024—We hosted eight students and two teachers from the **First United Methodist Church** (Phoenix) Sunday School. “Love Your Neighbors” was the theme of their visit.



May 19, 2024—We had an offsite event in support of **Special KidZ Sensory Gym** (Phoenix). Stacey Lawson, director of this wonderful special-needs experience, wrote, “Thank you so much for coming out to support our mission! Everyone loved the babies!”



June 5, 2024—We welcomed six students and six chaperones from the **John C. Birdlebough High School** (Phoenix) Special Education class.

July 28, 2024—Ten adults from the **Phoenix High School** Class of 1979 visited the farm as part of their 45th-Anniversary Reunion. Many thanks for your generous donation!

August was full of fun farm visits from families with children with special needs.

September 16, 2024—Two Special Education classes from **Michael A. Maroun Elementary School** (Phoenix) joined us on this great visit. Sixteen students and eight teachers and chaperones found happiness socializing with the donkeys and goats. This is what it's all about! Molly C. says, “Heartfelt thanks for a magical day for our kiddos!”



September 28, 2024— Harry Potter, Kevin, Sweet Pea, and Sugar Ray traveled off the farm for the first time, to the **CountryMax Fall Festival** fundraiser in Oswego. The boys were stellar ambassadors for Brayhope at this interactive event—a big hit with young and old, happy just doing their job of bringing joy.

“Today on Farm Animal Day we are celebrating the animals from Brayhope Farm! These sweet mini donkeys visited our Oswego store this past Saturday and were such a hit with everyone they met. To learn more about Brayhope Farm and all of the wonderful therapy work they do for their community, visit BrayhopeFarm.org.”—*CountryMax Stores*



October 4, 2024—Brayhope Farm was the setting for an onsite **Barnyard Paint Party** fundraiser, courtesy of Arts and Tails.



October 5, 2024—We had another fun morning, spending time with thirty-two students and ten chaperones from **ARISE Independent Living Center** (Oswego). Such a great group of young adults and their aides!





October 8, 2024—Five homeschooled students and a teacher from **Onondaga County** came to the farm to enjoy a visit with the donkeys, mules, and goats. A good time was had by all!

October 13, 2024—Brayhope Farm participated in the Halloween “Trunk or Treat” event benefiting **Families First / CNY Support Group for Autism and Special Needs**. This was our second year at this event—a little rainy and chilly, but that didn’t keep the kids away! So many great costumes and big smiles. Many thanks to BJ’s Wholesale Club (Clay, NY) for donating candy for the event. Jessica P. of Oswego wrote, “Thank you for the treats and it was nice meeting you. I showed my son your brochure and the donkeys. He wants to visit some time, and so do I!”



October 18, 2024—We just knew it was going to be a beautiful day—lots of sunshine, fall colors, and making new friends from **Citi BOCES**—one student along with her mom, her nurse, and her advocate. She enjoyed the animals as much as they enjoyed her and her chaperones. Mom said, “We cannot thank you enough for today. We love what you are doing, we appreciate you, and we cannot wait to come back.”



October 21, 2024—Seven members of the **Oswego YMCA “Friends for Life” Respite Program**, along with four chaperones, came to Brayhope Farm on this beautiful fall day—we loved the weather, and meeting our new visitors! They had so many great questions about the donkeys and goats and enjoyed connecting with them. The group had a picnic lunch at nearby William J. Farley Jr. Community Park in Phoenix, with its playground built for special-needs recreation. One of Brayhope's future goals is to have our own lunch pavilion right here at the farm, to offer an even more complete respite experience.



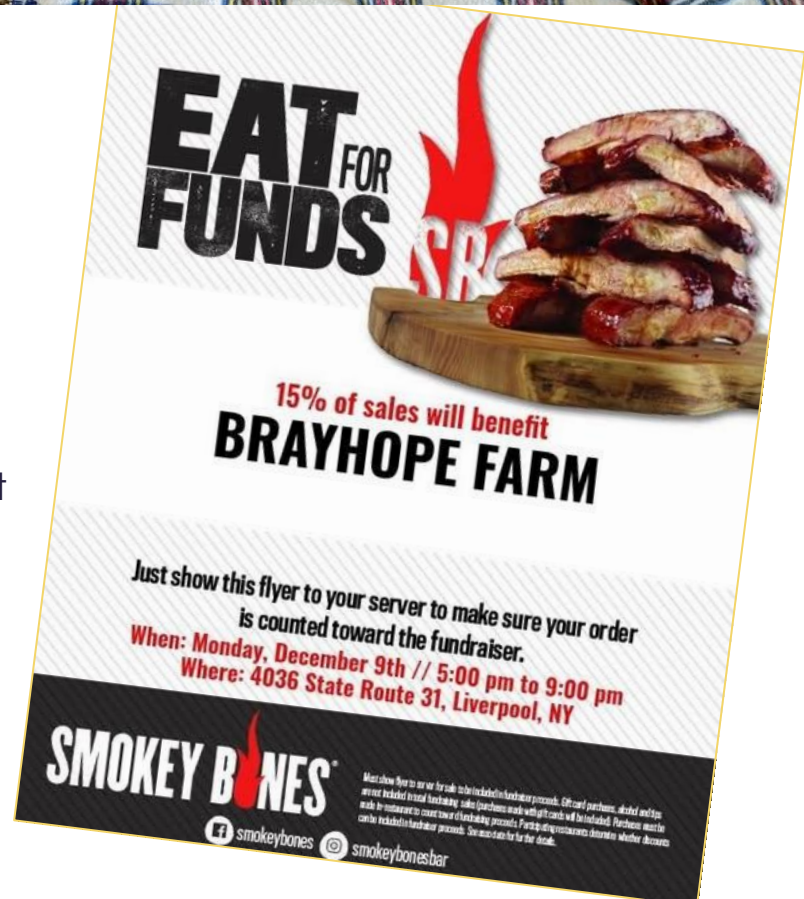
November 8, 2024—We welcomed seven students and five parents from the **Oswego Homeschool Association**. They braved the windy cold and were rewarded with donkey and goat love! A huge thank-you to our volunteers for helping with their visit. You guys rock.



November 16 and 17, 2024—The Brayhope barn was the scene of our 2024 **holiday photo shoot** fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated, generously donating \$860 to support our mission. And thanks to Jessie Palmer's Arts and Tails for coordinating this fun event.



December 9—One of Liverpool's favorite eating places, Smokey Bones on State Route 31, donated 15% of its dinner sales to Brayhope Farm in its December **"Eat for Funds"** fundraising dinner. Thanks to everyone who pigged out and ponied up!





OTHER BRAYHOPE FARM RELATIONSHIPS

Bowling for Autism is a charitable nonprofit based in Pennsylvania and Central New York. It holds bowling events to raise funds for local organizations that support individuals (and their families) with autism and other mental and physical disabilities. “Bowling for Autism is pleased and excited to announce that our recipient for the 3rd Annual Bowling for Autism CNY (April 26, 2025, at Bville Sports Bowl in Baldwinsville) is Brayhope Farm. Their mission is to bring some therapeutic comfort to the public through interaction with mini goats and donkeys. They are focusing their efforts on those with special needs. You really can feel a little of that weight disappear just by being there.” — *Kelly and Chuck, Bowling for Autism*

“Bowling for Autism will help support Brayhope Farm’s next project to make improvements necessary for their walkways to the goat and donkey enclosures to be more accessible for people in wheelchairs and walkers.”



Can Make Money Redemption Center (County Route 57, Three Rivers Plaza, Phoenix)—Thank you to everyone who donated bottles and cans in 2024 to benefit Brayhope Farm, and to the hardworking team at Can Make Money! Little donations add up, a nickel at a time. For example, 920 cans or bottles = one donkey hoof trim (all four hooves, of course).

Constellation Nuclear Energy—We're grateful that the nation's largest producer of reliable, clean, carbon-free energy generously donated proceeds from its annual fundraising to support Brayhope Farm's programs and farm visits.

Erin's Angels of Central New York is a nonprofit devoted to mobilizing the community, individuals, and resources to provide food for kids in need. We're grateful that Erin's Angels shares grant leads and opportunities with Brayhope Farm, and is a constant resource of helpful knowledge. CEO and founder Sheila Dion is a strong advocate for promoting other nonprofits in our community.

European Motor Club of Central New York—The wind was brisk and chilly on October 26, but that didn't stop ten members of this enthusiastic group from visiting the farm. Their generous donations help us bring smiles to hundreds of children and their families.



Heid's of Liverpool—

"Yesterday we had the pleasure of meeting Diane and Andy Nedrow with Brayhope Farm, the recipient of our 2024 Heid's Trunk or Treat donation," said Mildred Winslow of Heid's.

"During our visit to Brayhope Farm we learned more about their mission to strengthen the bond between humans and animals for mutual health and well-being."



In July OCFCU, Phoenix Branch, donated \$2,500 to Brayhope Farm as part of their annual CU Cares Program. The credit union wrote: "Home to about 10 mini donkeys and mules, Brayhope Farm encourages visitors to interact with the animals to learn how gentle and calming they can be. They believe the bond between humans and

animals is powerful, humbling, and mutually beneficial. We thank Brayhope Farm for their mission to spread joy and happiness within their community in unique ways!"

RFH's Hide-A-Way, a popular American restaurant located on County Route 57, Phoenix, has helped spread the word about Brayhope Farm by inserting flyers in their takeout orders. Many thanks to this longtime neighbor, located just down the road from the farm.

The **Richard S. Shineman Foundation** has been very generous with advice and guidance as we build our nonprofit. The mission of the Shineman Foundation is to be a catalyst for change to enhance the quality of life in Oswego County. The Foundation uses its resources to stimulate economic vitality, to encourage strong bonds that strengthen the community, and to build the capacity of its non-for-profit partners.

Small Town Girl Marketing designed our website, BrayhopeFarm.org. Sheila Dion (founder and CEO of Erin's Angels of Central New York) is the force behind this successful marketing company.



MEET THE ORIGINAL BRAYHOPE BOYS



Above left: **Ralph** and **Gus** are a bonded pair. They were our first mini donkeys! These boys love to go on walks and love to be fussed with.

Above right: **Spencer** and **Owen**, another bonded pair, are sweet and spicy! Spencer is a shy donkey. Owen is a sassy mini mule.



Left: **Barney** and **Fred** are a bonded pair. Barney is inquisitive and loving. Fred, our other mini mule (along with Owen), is quite rambunctious.



Above left: **Harry Potter** and **Sugar Ray** are two of our friendly yearlings! Harry is always upfront. Ray is a little shy. Above right: Our two other yearlings. **Kevin** is their leader and **Sweet Pete** demands attention.



VOLUNTEERING AT BRAYHOPE FARM

Thanks to Our Volunteers

No nonprofit is an island! Brayhope Farm is an amazing ecosystem of volunteers, animals, and the kids (and grownups, too) who visit. We couldn't do what we do without the volunteers who help with the heavy lifting of day-to-day farm work—caring for the donkeys, mules, and goats, feeding them, watering them, brushing them, cleaning their stalls and the rest of the barn and pasture. Our volunteers assist with transportation when we bring the animals to off-site events. They direct traffic at the farm. They spend quality time with the children who visit . . . set up for holiday photo shoots and art events . . . and help things run smoothly in a hundred other ways. Of course, we value our corporate sponsors, our individual donors, and our nonprofit partners. But there's a special place in our hearts for our farm volunteers! And we gratefully say "Thank you."

Dennis Tucker

Chairman of the Board of Directors

"As our volunteers get more experience around the donkeys, we teach them new things. On any given day, instead of cleaning stalls and buckets they might learn to halter, lead, and hold while grooming, or how to pick hooves, or safely apply fly spray, or turn the donkeys out into the pasture. *Everyone does a great job!*"



Our Volunteers Help on the Farm

There always are chores that need to be done on the farm to enhance the lives of the donkeys and to provide visitors with a clean and safe place to visit. Pasture-picking (a polite way of saying “picking up poop”—but don’t worry, you don’t have to use your hands!) . . . scrubbing grain and water buckets . . . raking



up stones . . . sweeping and cleaning inside the barn . . . and (the best part) brushing and loving the mini donkeys and mules and goats. Our volunteers are happy to help with all of these farm chores and more, as needed.

Our Volunteers Help During Farm Visits

Some volunteers prefer the social side of the farm and like to interact with our visitors and the Brayhope Boys. They come to the farm during school visits and other activities (usually an hour or so long) to help introduce the donkeys and mules to our visitors, and to share insight on what Brayhope is all about. We’re grateful to have extra volunteers to oversee visits—it ensures that everyone has a great experience. Kind of like a Walmart greeter, but in a farm setting and with cute critters!

MANAGEMENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Diane J. Nedrow, Founder and Chief Executive Officer



Diane Nedrow, founder and CEO of Brayhope Farm, Inc., has lived in the Phoenix, New York, area for most of her life. In the 1990s she owned and operated Jog & Trot Tack Shop, a local business that grew to carry livestock and domestic pet food, along with health-care products for horses, dogs, cats, and other animals. The store (later known as Phoenix Feed and Tack) participated in the community through product donations for fundraisers and for giveaways at horse shows; hosting feed/grain seminars; and sponsoring an open house with free pony rides, local musical entertainment, and a hot-dog cookout by the local Boy Scouts troop.

Diane has had horses for most of her life. “There were a few years I was without them,” she says, “and during those times I missed the farm lifestyle.” Her husband, Andrew, who grew up on a dairy farm, also was fond of the horses they had kept together. During the COVID pandemic, Diane and Andy decided that they needed to re-establish their farm and in 2020 added two miniature donkeys (Ralph and Gus) with the help of Tammy Lozipone. That number grew to ten before the end of the next year. “The donkeys are so affectionate, calm, and loving that we decided we should share them with others,” Diane says, and the idea for Brayhope Farm was born.

Diane retired from the Town of Schroepel Justice Court in 2017, after serving part-time as court clerk for 23 years. She retired from full-time work with the United States Postal Service in 2023 (after 21 years of service). Her USPS work included management of people, processes, and finances—experience that she now brings to Brayhope Farm.

“I’m fortunate in my retirement to enjoy a quiet life,” Diane says, “to witness the joy and happiness, the sense of calm, that Brayhope Farm’s donkeys and goats give visitors, not to mention the benefit to the animals. They thrive with the positive interaction, love, and lots of brushing! It’s very fulfilling for everyone.”

Dennis B. Tucker, Chairman of the Board of Directors



Dennis Tucker grew up in Phoenix, New York, attended Phoenix Central Schools, and worked and played on the family farm on Oswego River Road. Between Scouting and 4-H, summer trips to Beaver Lake Nature Center and the Adirondacks, and everyday life in a rural/agricultural community, animals have always been important to him—a love he now shares with his young daughter.

Dennis graduated from the University of Rochester with a degree in Political Science, minoring in Social Psychology. His professional career has been in corporate and nonprofit communications. He was senior writer at Auragen Communications in Rochester; communications director of All Saints’ Church in Midtown Atlanta;

president of newspaper-features distributor Empire Syndicate, Inc.; and for nineteen years was publisher at Whitman Publishing. An active numismatist, from 2016 to 2024 he served on the U.S. Treasury Department’s eleven-member Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee, a group that advises the Secretary of the Treasury on coin and medal designs and themes.

Dennis has held membership and committee positions in groups including the American Numismatic Association, the Rittenhouse Society, and the Filipino American National Historical Society. He has taught and lectured nationwide on numismatics, publishing, U.S. history, and related topics.

“I’ve seen the way Brayhope Farm connects kids and adults with animals, and the comforting and therapeutic benefits for everyone involved,” Dennis says. “I’m proud to serve on the board of this active and community-spirited nonprofit.”

Lynett Bertollini-Greco, Director, Treasurer



Lynett Bertollini-Greco is a native and lifelong resident of Phoenix, New York, and a 1985 graduate of John C. Birdlebough High School. She is a former member of the board of Erin's Angels, a nonprofit that helps relieve food insecurity in Central New York.

Lynett's career started in real estate in 1998. She served as the first woman in the history of the Town of Schroepel to fulfill the term limit as town supervisor (2014 to 2021). Her professional experience in business finance, office management, nonprofit, and public administration is an asset to Brayhope Farm's board.

"As town supervisor, I saw charitable nonprofits like Brayhope Farm bring support and comfort to our community's children and others with special needs," Lynett says. "That's what motivates me to volunteer for this great cause."

She describes her three children as her most blessed accomplishments.

Jason Connolly, Director, Recording Secretary



Jason Connolly is a lifelong resident of Phoenix, New York. He serves the community as a volunteer firefighter for Phoenix Enterprise Fire Company #1, which provides EMS and fire protection to the Village of Phoenix, the Town of Schroepel, and the Town of Lysander, as well as mutual aid to neighboring departments.

Jason is a former constable in the Town of Schroepel and a current member of the Town of Schroepel Zoning Board of Appeals. He works for Constellation Nuclear Energy. One of his passions is musical entertainment, playing

guitar and singing a wide range of music from outlaw country to alternative rock, in an acoustic duo that performs around the Syracuse area.

“I’ve known Diane Nedrow since I was a kid and we were neighbors on Oswego River Road,” Jason says. “When she told me her ideas for Brayhope Farm, I signed up right away. This is a unique Central New York resource to help people with special needs.”

Kevin W. Dix, Director



Kevin Dix grew up in Phoenix, New York, and lives just outside the village, in the Town of Schroepel. He and his wife Jamie have raised five children in Phoenix. Kevin runs a local business and has served the community as a school-board member and in various law-enforcement roles.

He worked at his family’s hardware store, Marv Dix Supply, while in school. After graduating from John C. Birdlebough High School in 1977, he was hired by Sheriff Ray Miller as a corrections officer for the Oswego County Sheriff’s Department, and then by Sheriff Charles Nellis as a full-time Road Patrol deputy. He served twenty-four years in the safety

department, engaged in accident investigation, firearms training and armory, general topics instruction, and recruit field-training, and was a member of the ESU tactical-response unit. Since retiring from the Oswego County Sheriff’s Department in 2004, Kevin has worked as a patrol officer for the Village of Pulaski and as a coroner for the Oswego County District Attorney’s office. He owns Delta IX Supply, a training, security, and photography firm. He has also worked for Constellation Nuclear Energy in Scriba; and at the New York State Preparedness Training Center in Oriskany.

Kevin’s public-education service has included more than twenty years on the board of Phoenix Central Schools (1999-2021), and the board of the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation, BOCES (2011-2021).

“Brayhope Farm helps children and adults with special needs,” says Kevin. “I’ve seen how people light up when they connect with the farm’s animals. I’m inspired to support this important mission.”

Tammy Lozipone, Director



Tammy Lozipone has lived in the Rochester, New York, area her entire life. She has more than twenty-five years of experience as a project manager for various manufacturing facilities. Tammy's passion for volunteering her time with nonprofits began when she organized the candy-sale fundraiser for her kids' school PTA in 2006. Since then, she has held the position of secretary of the board of directors for Cornell

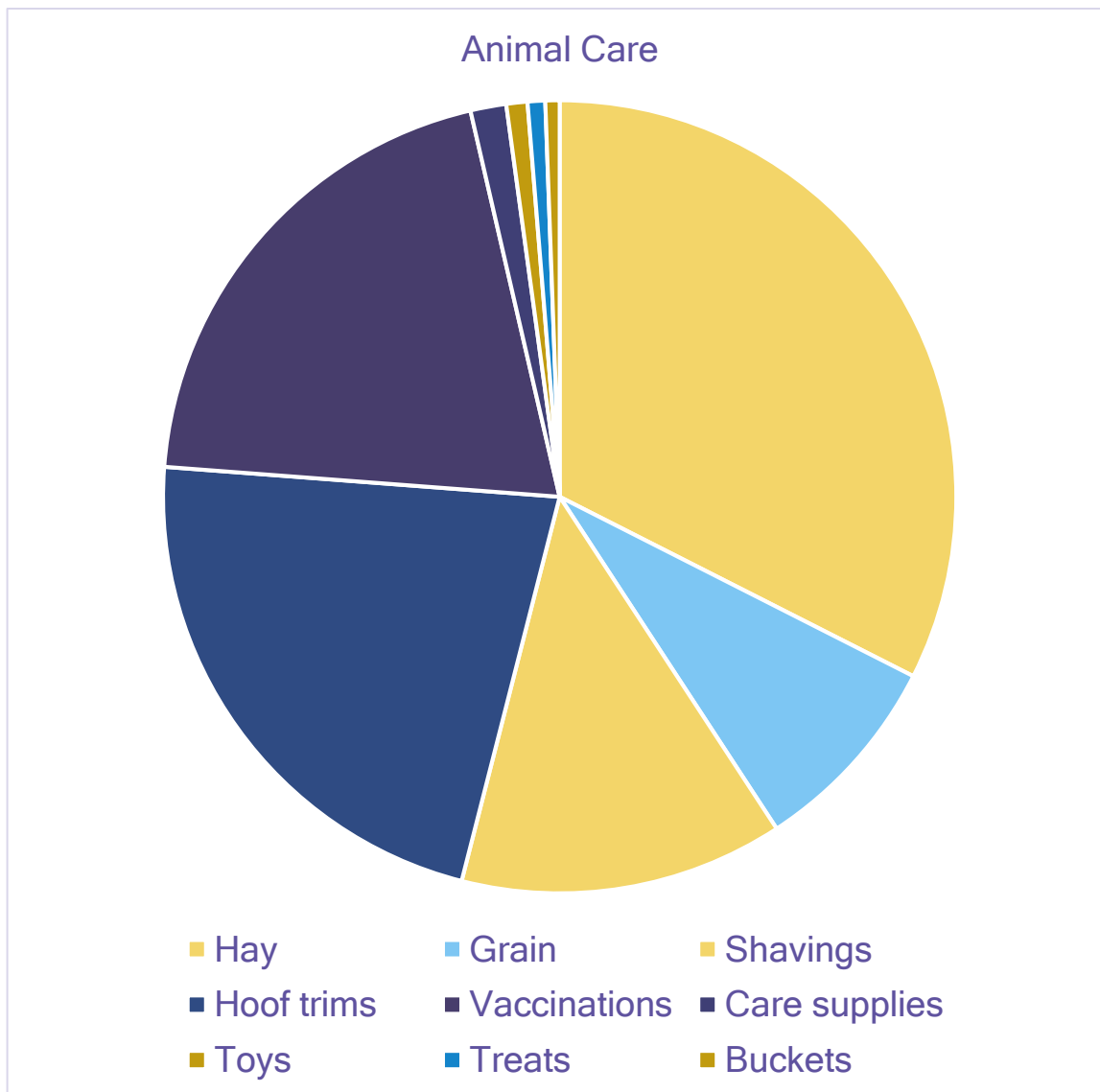
Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Wayne County and secretary of Begin Again Horse Rescue (BAHR) in Lima, New York, for nine years. While at BAHR, Tammy served as secretary of the board, chairperson of the Adoption and Farm Inspection Committee, and co-chair of the Fundraising Committee.

Tammy's love for equines started in her pre-school years. "It's a phase I never outgrew," she says. In 2020 she decided to pursue equine rescue independently. She met Diane Nedrow when Diane inquired about two miniature donkeys that Tammy was networking in hopes of finding a safe home. Gus and Ralphie were the first two donkeys Diane rehomed, eventually launching Brayhope Farm.

Tammy lives in Walworth, New York, on a ten-acre farmette. She owns five horses and enjoys training them and competing in horse shows. "The horses bring me immense joy," she says, "and they're a source of significant stress relief from my hectic career." The comfort and peaceful feelings the horses bring her were the catalyst for Tammy joining Brayhope Farm's board. "I wholeheartedly believe in our mission, and I'm excited to be part of helping other people in the community discover the magic of a donkey hug."

FINANCIALS

One of our largest expense categories is healthcare for the Brayhope Boys—hoof trims and vaccinations account for 46% of our annual animal-care expenses. Keeping them well fed is number two, with hay and grain at 35% of our animal-care budget. Wood shavings, for bedding, are 14%. The remaining animal-care expenses are for fly spray and other care supplies, toys, treats and salt blocks, water and feed buckets, and miscellaneous barn supplies.



Among administrative costs for 2024, insurance accounted for 29%, promotional expenses were 26%, and our web services, email, mail, and client-management systems were 27%.

Major Donation Opportunities for Animal Care

- Your donation of **\$2,500** will buy a year's worth of hay for the donkeys, mules, and goats.
- Your donation of **\$2,300** will keep the Brayhope Boys' hooves trimmed year-round by a professional blacksmith.
- Your donation of **\$2,100** will pay for vaccinations to keep everyone healthy.
- Your donation of **\$1,400** will buy enough wood shavings for twelve months of comfortable bedding.
- Your donation of **\$900** will pay for grain for a year—breakfast and dinner for everyone.

Major Donation Opportunities for Administrative and Farm Costs

- Your donation of **\$2,000** will pay for the farm's insurance for a year.
- Your donation of **\$2,000** will buy a year's worth of web and email hosting and our nonprofit CRM (customer relationship management) software and support.
- Your donation of **\$1,000** will pay for our portable toilet setup and service for one full season of visitors (spring, summer, and fall).

Your check for \$20,000 will pay for an entire year of animal care, administration, and day-to-day farm operations.

Every donation helps us offer free farm visits to people with special needs, homeschoolers, special-education classes, and their families, teachers, and caregivers.

We're grateful for our supporters who always step up when the "Brayhope Boys" need help. In October we let everyone know we needed more grooming brushes for the growing number of visitors to enjoy brushing the donkeys and goats. Donations poured in—four, then seven, and within a week twenty-six new brushes. Thank you for your generosity!

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In 2024—our first full year of programs—we more than tripled the number of visitors to the farm. As we look to the future, we plan to increase the number of special-needs groups who visit. But our focus isn't just on numbers. We aim to continue providing a unique, beneficial experience . . . a compassionate, safe, and professional environment that enhances the quality of life of our visitors and our animals. We also plan to continue attending off-site activities with the mini donkeys, to support other nonprofits and increase awareness of our mission.

Safety will remain a constant priority. In 2024 we created a Biosecurity Plan to reduce and prevent biological risks including infectious disease and the spread of pathogens. This gives our volunteers and management guidelines for equipment and provisions; hygiene and sanitary conditions; cleaning and disinfection; general medical procedures; care for sick animals; and quarantine management.

In 2025 we plan to improve farm accessibility for visitors who use wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility assistance. We want to contour the grounds, possibly pave the entrance, widen the gateway entries, add benches, and make similar improvements.

We want to build a pavilion so that school groups and other visitors have a relaxing place to enjoy lunch at the farm without having to go off-site. This will be a major construction project, and we appreciate all the help we can get!

At the Board of Directors level, in 2024 we continued to strengthen our governance and build our committee structure. We approved the creation of an Advisory Council that will bring in outside voices and talent to advise, assist, and work with the Board and management.

In 2024 Brayhope Farm joined the Equine Welfare Network and became a Member of the EQUUS Foundation. We're under review to become Guardian-level members of EQUUS, which is recognition of an organization's commitment to transparency and accountability.



In 2024 we were very successful with our programs for special-needs visitors, especially children and young adults. While these groups will continue to be our main audience for 2025, an exploratory committee will investigate our potential to connect with and serve the needs of other audiences, such as senior citizens, veterans, and people with mental-health challenges. This committee will report its findings and any recommendations to

the Board by year's end.

We look forward to bringing even more happiness and love in 2025 and beyond. And we thank you for sharing our mission.



**BRAYHOPE
FARM**

BrayhopeFarm.org

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