



ARPA-17

ARP Application - Jefferson County

Status: Active

Date Created: Oct 31, 2021

Applicant

John Funkhouser
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PO Box 626
Charles Town, WV 25414
304-728-6868

Internal Section

Certification

Digital Signature

John Clarke Funkhouser
10/29/2021

Contact Information

Organization Name

West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association

Address

PO Box 626 Charles Town,WV 25414

Website (if applicable)

wvtba.com

Phone Number

304-728-6868

Email Address

wvbreeders@gmail.com

Project Summary

1. Brief description of the proposal

The WVTBA requests an annual grant of \$15,000 for the next four years (\$60,000 total: 15,000 per year from 2022 through 2025). These monies would be used to help those breeders and owners who have suffered

during this pandemic by funding the Annual WVTBA Breeding Showcase in the Fall of 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 to include monetary awards for participants. It would also promote our West Virginia bred horses, and the sales of such horses to out-of-state interests. We export horses and import out of state monies which are then reinvested into local communities. The monetary awards would be going to West Virginia horse breeders, owners and farms who will reinvest it into our local businesses.

2. Purpose and key anticipated outcomes

The purpose of this grant is to raise the awareness of the West Virginia Thoroughbred breeding program and our WVTBA brand by : attracting breeders of West Virginia bred horses to participate in the Annual Show and to breed and foal in West Virginia; highlighting the quality of our horses and program; ensuring West Virginia is competitive to other states in the Mid-Atlantic region that financially back their state thoroughbred breeding shows; and incentivizing the long term investment for WV breeds. The money will also help local horsemen and horsewomen financially by raising the cash payouts which would help offset their costs to compete, ship in and out, and pay staff at the Breeding show. Our horse show is also unique in that we have five initial classes, so the money is spread out to a wide array of breeders, rather than just the few winners. these increased awards would allow us to pay out even further than first, second and third, which would spread the wealth to a much broader number of people. Breeding thoroughbred horses is a minimum four year long investment to the races, with uncertain outcomes, and in this industry, people need incentives to look forward to. These monies would be used to incentivize breeders, promote our breeding program, highlight our best West Virginia bred horses, attract investments from in and out of West Virginia - which in turn creates economic impact throughout the state, prepping bloodstock for successful sales, promoting the event in publications to bring "Day tripper" and "Weekenders" to the area and Jefferson County's show grounds, showcasing retired racehorses (RRP and TIP), Partnering with the Saddles and Smiles and youth, publicizing on social media, gaining earned media and writing article highlights for the Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred magazine, etc.

3. Individuals or communities served

Breeders and owners of West Virginia-bred thoroughbreds, local businesses, farm employees, and local communities and producers of agricultural goods and services.

4. How the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated this request

Breeders and owners have taken a devastating hit to our industry during pandemic. Hollywood Casino at Charles Town and Mountaineer Racetrack closed for several months in 2020, preventing breeders and owners from making a living. The revenue to breeders comes from two state breeders' awards programs: The West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund (WVTDF) and the Supplemental Purse Awards. They both decreased substantially due to the pandemic. The WVTDF declined roughly 15% in 2020 compared to 2019. The Supplemental Purse Awards which are normally 10% of the winner's share of the purses were only 0.26% in 2nd Quarter of 2020, a 97% decline. This is a direct impact of the pandemic, which closed the race track for several months and thus prevented all breeders and owners from running their horses and thus their ability to make a living and discouraged future long-term investment in West Virginia breeding. Current foal crop is down over 20%; and the two to three long-term affect of this decline could also impact racing entries and WV horses eligible to race year over year. The WV Foal Crop of 2021 is down 21% from 2020 and breeders will be making their breeding arrangements now for breeding back in the spring of 2022. The award of this grant to the WVTBA will be an incentive to retain WV breeders and attract new WV breeders to our area. An active, vibrant WV Breeding program is integral to support racing in West Virginia.

5. Amount of funding requested

60,000

6. Amount of any bids or cost estimates received to date, if applicable

7a. Amount of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

0

7b. Source of matching funds raised or committed by your organization

WVTBA has covered the costs of the Annual Breeding show in the past with help from partner sponsors. The Grant Award would incentive and grow the Annual Breeding show comparable to other Mid-Atlantic states' breeding shows.

8. How ARP funds, if awarded, will be used

All monies awarded to breeders and owners for this horse show will be reinvested into the surrounding communities through local feed stores, blacksmiths, veterinary practices, farmers of hay and straw, tack companies, exercise riders, trainers, hotwalkers, grooms, etc. A four year grant for this horse show would be a positive and direct financial impact to the breeders/owners and their numerous employees, all of who have struggled since the tracks closed due to Covid, and all who have many more bills to pay before their young horses will ever run at race tracks, where they will finally have the ability to earn money and recoup some of their investments.

9. How long it will take you to complete the project if awarded funding

4 years, however this project will most likely grow in popularity, scope, size and sponsorships. (This is an Annual Show --- not held in 2020 due to Covid)

Proposal Details

1. Please describe the problem or need which your project seeks to address

Breeders experienced a massive disruption in 2020 when the pandemic shut down the two racetracks in the state, preventing all horses from running and thus preventing all breeders of such horses to earn any monies, and also created an uncertainty of when the track was going to open again, therefore many horses were pulled from training, lost months of potential earnings and fitness due too the unknown of when things would open back up (many owners had to stop training their horses because there was no way to make any money to pay their training bills) and created a massive shortfall because of it. This proposal won't repair the total damage of shortfalls, but it will significantly help those affected most by them and will signal a commitment of the local community and government to support our industry.

2. Please describe goals and expected outcomes of your proposal.

Our goal is to have the best Horse Show in the Mid-Atlantic region, that promotes our industry and the future stars of West Virginia.

3. Please provide your project timeline

Four years

4. Please provide your project's total proposed budget.

\$60,000 for four years (15k per year - 1st show is Fall of 2022 to include 2022 WV Foal Crop). Additional monies will be raised via sponsorships on an annual basis

5. Please list any partners in this proposal, and the partner's role and your relationship with them.

Partners: Saddles and Smiles (local 4H co-sponsoring an afternoon Horse Show after the WVTBA Breeding Show which highlights youth riders), Charles Town Horsemen Benevolent & Protection Association, West

Virginia Racing United, Gowers Feed (Ranson), Southern States (Ranson), TriState Veterinary, Valley Equine Associates, PLLC, Taylor Mountain Farm, Javier Contreras Racing, WV Breeders Classics, LLC, Lawn Care, and Matt McGowan provided funding, promotional support, volunteering, raffle sponsorships and in-person attendance.. The Aftercare Charles Town local organization (and a class associated with the National Retired RaceHorse Project) will highlight the value of retired race horses for second careers in various disciplines)

6. Please describe your plan for sustainability of the project or initiative after the grant award has been exhausted.

Once established, the WVTBA horse show will be sustained by sponsorships and local and regional interest as a calendar-worthy Annual Event that is widely attended.

Organization Information

1. Please provide your organization's mission statement.

The West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association, Inc. is a 501c (5) non-profit association that works for the benefits of thoroughbred horse breeders and owners to promote the thoroughbred breeding and racing agribusinesses in West Virginia

2. Describe the history of your organization, tell us about your current programs and activities

The West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Association (WVTBA) was founded in 1968 with the purpose to foster and promote the thoroughbred breeding and racing industries in West Virginia. The WVTBA is in charge of registering all WV-bred horses; maintaining all information regarding members and resident mares; collecting and distributing monies for the WV Futurity; naming the WV bred horses of the year and having an Annual Awards Ceremony which provides awards for the WV-bred horses of the year. WV-bred horses make up the field for the prestigious, nationally acclaimed stakes races---the West Virginia Breeders Classics, held yearly in the fall (2021 was the 35th anniversary of the WV Breeders Classics, which was founded by Sam Huff and Carol Holden). The WVTBA supports and is aligned with the Charles Town Horsemen Benevolent Protection Association in continuing the positive economic impact of: jobs created, support of local farming, agribusiness grown and local reinvestment in the community of monies generated by the thoroughbred breeding and racing industries.

3. Please describe three significant accomplishments of your organization.

WV Futurity
Annual Awards Ceremony & Annual Stallion Farm Tour
West Virginia Thoroughbred Breeders Horse Show

4. Please list your Owner(s), Board of Directors, senior staff members, or other key members of your organization:

John Funkhouser, President
Javier Contreras,Vice President
Clissy Funkhouser, Treasurer
Nancy Camp
Leslie Cromer
Dennis Finger
Karen Freer
Judy Grams
Diana McClure

Cynthia O'Bannon
David Walters
Leigh Myzk - Secretary

5. Please list the staff involved with this project and describe their roles and responsibilities:

John Funkhouser - President
Javier Contreras,Vice President
Mary Sell - Member and West Virginia Racing United representative (Comprised of: WVTBA, CTHPBA, Mountaineer Horsemen's Benevolent Protection Association; and Jockeys Guild (U.S.)
John Funkhouser and Mary Sell are the lead representatives. The WVTBA Breeders Board, an annually audited organization, will have full oversight of the financial disbursements provided by the grant and ensure compliance with documentation and reporting compliance under the ARPA U.S. Treasury Guidelines.

Cash flow statement for applicant's most recent fiscal year

 2020 Cash Flow.pdf
Uploaded by John Funkhouser on Oct 30, 2021 at 11:28 am


Two years of audited financial statements

 2019 2020 WVTBA Audited.pdf
Uploaded by John Funkhouser on Oct 31, 2021 at 12:56 pm

Current operating budget


2021 Budget.pdf
Uploaded by John Funkhouser on Oct 30, 2021 at 11:29 am

If the applicant has not been audited, please include an unaudited balance sheet and income statement as prepared by the applicant


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7. List any federal, state, local or private grant awards or funding received in the last three years and the current status of those funds. If your organization has previously received funds from Jefferson County, please list the amount, nature of the project(s) and current status of the funding and project(s).

2021 - WVTBA raised approx. 6,000 in funding privately - which did not cover the fixed costs of the WVTBA breeding show, the remaining costs are being covered by the WVTBA

8. If you have made an application for funding for this project from other sources (city, state, private or non-profit organizations) please list the same here.

N/A

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

1. Please explain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how it relates to your request.

Breeders and owners have taken a devastating hit to our industry when the pandemic hit. Hollywood Casino at Charles Town and Mountaineer Racetrack closed for several months in 2020, preventing breeders and owners from making a living. The revenue to breeders comes from two state breeders' awards programs: The West Virginia Thoroughbred Development Fund (WVTDF) and the Supplemental Purse Awards. They both decreased substantially due to the pandemic. The WVTDF declined roughly 15% in 2020 compared to 2019.

The Supplemental Purse Awards which are normally 10% of the winner's share of the purses were only 0.26% in 2nd Quarter of 2020, a 97% decline. This is a direct impact of the pandemic, which closed the race track for several months and thus prevented all breeders and owners from running their horses and the ability to make a living.

2. How will ARP funding, if awarded, aid in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?

A four year grant for this horse show would be a direct financial impact to the breeders/owners. All monies awarded to breeders and owners for this horse show will be reinvested into the surrounding communities through local feed stores, blacksmiths, veterinary practices, farmers of hay and straw, tack companies, exercise riders, trainers, hotwalkers, grooms, etc. It will help the breeders and their local communities.

3. Are you requesting lost revenue due to COVID-19

Yes

If yes, please explain

Please see 2020 Audited Financial Statement (loss of 7081.11) and documentation of the decline in WVTBA revenue in memberships, foal and stallion registrations.

Upload supporting documentation for revenue loss

pdf

2020 WVTBA Audited.pdf

Uploaded by John Funkhouser on Oct 31, 2021 at 12:56 pm

Supplementary Information

1. Please enter contact information (name, email, and phone) for at least one third-party reference.

Maria Catignani, mcatignani@cthbpa.com, 304-725-1535

2. Please include any supplementary information or documentation (such as letters of support, newspaper articles, etc) which you feel will be essential to the County's review.

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Attachments

pdf

ARPA-17 WV Thoroughbred Breeders ARP Request 06-23-2021.pdf

Uploaded by Michelle Gordon on Nov 2, 2021 at 1:34 pm

pdf

ARPA-17 WV Thoroughbred Breeders ARP Request Email 06-23-2021.pdf

Uploaded by Michelle Gordon on Nov 2, 2021 at 1:34 pm

History

Date	Activity
Oct 29, 2021 at 10:19 am	John Funkhouser started a draft of Record ARPA-17
Oct 31, 2021 at 7:28 pm	John Funkhouser submitted Record ARPA-17
Oct 31, 2021 at 7:28 pm	approval step Application Review was assigned to Michelle Gordon on Record ARPA-17

Date	Activity
Oct 31, 2021 at 7:28 pm	changed the deadline to Nov 01, 2021 on approval step Application Review on Record ARPA-17
Nov 2, 2021 at 1:34 pm	Michelle Gordon added attachment ARPA-17 WV Thoroughbred Breeders ARP Request 06-23-2021.pdf to Record ARPA-17
Nov 2, 2021 at 1:34 pm	Michelle Gordon added attachment ARPA-17 WV Thoroughbred Breeders ARP Request Email 06-23-2021.pdf to Record ARPA-17