

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



**BARTLETT, PRINGLE & WOLF, LLP**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND CONSULTANTS

# RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the Board of Directors of  
Return to Freedom, Inc.:**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Return to Freedom, Inc. (a non-profit Organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, cash flows and functional expenses for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Organization and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Organization's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

*Bartlett, Bringham + Wolf, LLP*  
Santa Barbara, California  
January 31, 2025

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**December 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b><u>ASSETS</u></b>		
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,082,290	\$ 454,665
Receivables	-	4,700
Inventory	17,312	20,041
Prepaid expenses	-	4,500
Total current assets	1,099,602	483,906
Property and Equipment:		
Computers	8,300	18,763
Equipment	342,380	355,825
Leasehold improvements	597,966	687,543
Total property and equipment	948,646	1,062,131
Less accumulated depreciation	(593,820)	(611,683)
Net property and equipment	354,826	450,448
Other Assets:		
Investments	380,785	402,366
Total Assets	\$ 1,835,213	\$ 1,336,720

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**December 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b><u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u></b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 28,649	\$ 94,616
Accrued expenses	219,744	229,379
Current portion of notes payable	3,836	3,836
Total current liabilities	252,229	327,831
Long-Term Liabilities:		
Notes payable, net of current portion	959	4,795
Total long-term liabilities	959	4,795
Total Liabilities	253,188	332,626
Net Assets:		
Without donor restrictions	1,374,025	796,094
With donor restrictions	208,000	208,000
Total net assets	1,582,025	1,004,094
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,835,213	\$ 1,336,720

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Changes in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions:		
Operating Revenue and Support:		
Special events, net of related expenses of (\$504) and \$940 in 2023 and 2022, respectively	\$ 67,575	\$ 45,201
Contributions	1,102,930	1,144,882
Grants	124,000	705,729
Bequests	1,689,377	106,699
In-kind donated facilities	31,500	27,000
In-kind contributions	58,975	69,640
Product sales	18,736	23,679
Interest and dividend income	9,457	7,020
Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	28,322	(64,448)
Miscellaneous income	85,239	10,396
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
Total operating revenue	<u>3,216,111</u>	<u>2,075,798</u>
Operating Expenses:		
Program services	2,026,452	1,966,220
Management and general	315,101	304,729
Fundraising	248,082	272,450
Total operating expenses	<u>2,589,635</u>	<u>2,543,399</u>
Income (loss) from operations	626,476	(467,601)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(48,545)	-
Increase (decrease) in net assets without donor	577,931	(467,601)
Changes in Net Assets With Donor Restrictions:		
Contributions with donor restrictions	-	-
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
Increase (decrease) in net assets with donor restrictions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in net assets	577,931	(467,601)
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>1,004,094</u>	<u>1,471,695</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 1,582,025</u>	<u>\$ 1,004,094</u>

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Change in net assets	\$ 577,931	\$ (467,601)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	86,584	94,622
Loss on disposal of fixed asset	48,545	-
Realized and unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(28,322)	64,448
Loan forgiveness	-	(166,261)
(Increase) decrease in:		
Receivables	4,700	697
Inventory	2,728	(2,339)
Prepaid expenses	4,500	(4,500)
Increase (decrease) in:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(75,602)	72,764
	<u>621,064</u>	<u>(408,170)</u>
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities		
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Purchases of investments	(47,940)	(174,649)
Sale of investments	97,843	218,821
Purchase of property and equipment	(39,506)	(36,395)
	<u>10,397</u>	<u>7,777</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Payments on notes payable	(3,836)	(3,836)
	<u>(3,836)</u>	<u>(3,836)</u>
Net cash used by financing activities		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	627,625	(404,229)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>454,665</u>	<u>858,894</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 1,082,290</u>	<u>\$ 454,665</u>

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

	<u>Program Services</u>	<u>Management and General</u>	<u>Fundraising</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 537,401	\$ 94,408	\$ 94,408	\$ 726,217
Employee benefits	62,793	11,031	11,031	84,855
Animal maintenance	626,665	-	-	626,665
Automobile expenses	26,776	-	-	26,776
Bank fees	-	6,388	-	6,388
Contract services	67,817	36,991	18,496	123,304
Depreciation expense	86,584	-	-	86,584
Direct mail program	-	-	101,128	101,128
Donated services	58,975	-	-	58,975
Dues and subscriptions	-	7,667	-	7,667
Equipment rental and maintenance	2,661	-	-	2,661
Grounds and facility maintenance	165,900	-	-	165,900
In-kind donated facilities	29,925	1,575	-	31,500
Insurance	42,456	18,195	-	60,651
Investment fees	-	5,030	-	5,030
Merchandise fees	-	-	16,434	16,434
Office expenses	-	51,967	-	51,967
Professional fees	154,068	81,849	4,815	240,732
Rent	148,500	-	-	148,500
Travel and business meals	15,931	-	1,770	17,701
Totals	<u>\$ 2,026,452</u>	<u>\$ 315,101</u>	<u>\$ 248,082</u>	<u>\$ 2,589,635</u>

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2022**

	<b>Program Services</b>	<b>Management and General</b>	<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>Total</b>
Salaries and related expenses	\$ 540,452	\$ 94,944	\$ 94,944	\$ 730,340
Employee benefits	60,081	10,555	10,555	81,191
Animal maintenance	672,379	-	-	672,379
Automobile expenses	22,419	-	-	22,419
Bank fees	-	6,017	-	6,017
Contract services	68,578	37,406	18,703	124,687
Depreciation expense	94,622	-	-	94,622
Direct mail program	-	-	123,476	123,476
Donated services	69,440	-	-	69,440
Dues and subscriptions	-	8,366	-	8,366
Equipment rental and maintenance	2,937	-	-	2,937
Grounds and facility maintenance	103,620	-	-	103,620
In-kind donated facilities	25,650	1,350	-	27,000
Insurance	37,146	15,920	-	53,066
Investment fees	-	5,005	-	5,005
Merchandise fees	-	-	18,610	18,610
Office expenses	-	53,887	-	53,887
Professional fees	134,173	71,279	4,193	209,645
Rent	117,000	-	-	117,000
Travel and business meals	17,723	-	1,969	19,692
Totals	<u>\$ 1,966,220</u>	<u>\$ 304,729</u>	<u>\$ 272,450</u>	<u>\$ 2,543,399</u>

*See accompanying notes*

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 1 - Nature of Activities**

Return To Freedom, Inc. (the Organization) was formed as an animal sanctuary and educational retreat. The Organization provides a home for animals that may otherwise be slaughtered, abused, or left to roam without food or water. The focus of the Organization is wild horse rescue and sanctuary, education, and preservation of diverse natural herd groups.

**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

A) Presentation

Net assets, revenues, gains and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, the net assets of the Organization and changes therein are classified and reported as follows:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions

Net assets available for current support of Organization activities and not subject to donor restrictions. These net assets may be used at the discretion of the Organization's management and Board of Directors.

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions

Some donor-imposed restrictions are temporary in nature, such as those that will be met by the passage of time or other events specified by the donor. Other donor-imposed restrictions are perpetual in nature, where the donor stipulates that resources be maintained in perpetuity. Gifts of long-lived assets and gifts of cash restricted for the acquisition of long-lived assets are recognized as revenue when the assets are placed in service. Contributions restricted by donors are reported as increases in net assets without donor restrictions if the restrictions expire in the reporting period in which the revenue is recognized. All other donor-restricted contributions are reported as increases in net assets with donor restrictions, depending on the nature of the restrictions. When a restriction expires, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statements of activities and changes in net assets as net assets released from restrictions.

B) Cash and Cash Equivalents

All highly liquid financial instruments with a maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase are considered to be cash equivalents. Amounts held as investments are not considered cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of the statement of cash flows.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

C) Property and Equipment

Property and equipment acquisitions are recorded at cost, or if donated, at fair value at the date of donation. Depreciation is provided over the estimated useful lives of the respective assets on the straight-line basis. Amortization of the leasehold improvements within an operating lease shall be amortized in accordance with ASC 840 over the shorter of the useful life of the improvements or the lease term, including additional renewal periods that are reasonably assured.

The estimated useful lives of the assets are as follows:

Computers and equipment	5 - 7 years
Leasehold improvements	5 - 15 years

D) Donated Services

The financial statements include \$58,975 and \$69,440 recorded for donated services provided to the Organization in unrestricted contributions and program expenses for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. A substantial number of other volunteers, including the Board of Directors, have donated significant amounts of their time to the Organization. However, no amounts are reflected in the financial statements for these other donated services since no objective basis is available to measure the value of such services.

E) Investments

Investments are primarily investments in debt and equity securities that are carried at market value, with realized and unrealized gains and losses reported as changes in net assets without donor restrictions. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific identification method.

F) Income Taxes

The Organization is a not-for-profit corporation as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is generally exempt from federal and state income taxes on related income pursuant to Section 509(a)(1) of the Code. The Organization is not considered a private foundation for income tax purposes.

G) Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and other supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Expenses that can be specifically identified with a specific program or supporting service are charged directly to the related program or supporting service. Expenses that are associated with more than one program or supporting service are allocated based on time spent in the various functions as estimated by the Organization's management.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)**

H) Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

I) Recently Adopted Accounting Pronouncements

Effective January 1, 2023, the Organization adopted ASU 2016-13 Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (ASC 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments, issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board. The purpose of the standard is to improve transparency and requires the recognition of estimated credit losses expected to occur over the remaining life of certain financial assets. The new standard did not have a material impact on its' financial statements.

**Note 3 - Liquidity and Availability**

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of the balance sheet date, consist of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,082,290	\$ 454,665
Receivables	-	4,700
Investments	380,785	402,366
Less net assets with donor restrictions	<u>(208,000)</u>	<u>(208,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 1,255,075</u>	<u>\$ 653,731</u>

**Note 4 - Board Designated Net Assets**

In 2010, the Board of Directors adopted an investment policy designating \$500,000 of an anonymous contribution as board designated net assets. Once this fund grows to \$1,000,000, a portion of the funds can be used for capital improvement projects upon Board approval. The Organization uses the income generated from board designated net assets for operations and the principal is maintained under the discretion of the Board.

In 2019, the Board unrestricted all non-donor-restricted funds in the endowment account and permitted them to be used for operations.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 5 - Investments**

Investments consist of the following as of December 31:

	2023		
	Cost	Market	Excess of Market Over Cost
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 15,688	\$ 15,688	\$ -
Corporate stocks and mutual funds	136,620	216,287	79,667
Exchange-traded funds	153,148	148,810	(4,338)
	\$ 305,456	\$ 380,785	\$ 75,329
	2022		
	Cost	Market	Excess of Market Over Cost
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 36,821	\$ 36,821	\$ -
Corporate stocks and mutual funds	179,456	220,152	40,696
Exchange-traded funds	153,148	145,393	(7,755)
	\$ 369,425	\$ 402,366	\$ 32,941

**Note 6 - Fair Value Measurements**

The Financial Accounting Standards Board provides a framework for measuring fair value under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and requires certain disclosures regarding fair value measurements for all assets and liabilities that are being measured and reported on a fair value basis. This enables the reader of the financial statements to assess the inputs used to develop those measurements by establishing a hierarchy for ranking the quality and reliability of the information used to determine fair values.

The framework requires that assets and liabilities carried at fair value are classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 6 - Fair Value Measurements (continued)**

- Level 1: Quoted prices for identical assets and liabilities traded in active exchange markets, such as the New York Stock Exchange.
- Level 2: Observable inputs other than Level 1 including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in less active markets, or other observable inputs that can be corroborated by observable market data. Level 2 also includes derivative contracts whose value is determined using a pricing model with observable market inputs or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3: Unobservable inputs that are not corroborated by market data.

The Organization has various processes and controls in place to ensure that fair value is reasonably estimated. A model validation policy governs the use and control of valuation models used to estimate fair value. This policy requires review and approval of models, and periodic re-assessments of models to ensure that they are continuing to perform as designed. The Organization performs due diligence procedures over third-party pricing service providers in order to support their use in the valuation process. Where market information is not available to support internal valuations, independent reviews of the valuations are performed and any material exposures are escalated through a management review process.

During the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, there were no changes to the Organization's valuation techniques that had, or are expected to have, a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value:

*Cash and cash equivalents:* The carrying amount approximates fair value because of the short maturity of those investments.

*Corporate stocks:* The fair value of corporate stocks is the market value based on quoted market prices.

*Mutual funds:* Mutual funds are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of shares held at year end. The NAV is based on the value of the underlying securities which are valued based on quoted market prices, when available, or market prices provided by recognized broker dealers.

*Exchange-traded funds:* Exchange-traded funds are generally valued at or near the NAV of the underlying assets held, however they trade on a stock exchange like a common stock. Therefore the market price of the exchange-traded fund is readily determinable by the current trading price on the stock exchange on which they are listed.

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Organization's assets measured at fair value, on a recurring basis, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Note 6 - Fair Value Measurements (continued)**

	<b>December 31, 2023</b>			
	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Cash equivalents included in investments	\$ 15,688	\$ 15,688	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual funds and corporate stocks	216,287	216,287	-	-
Exchange-traded funds	148,810	148,810	-	-
Total assets, at fair value	\$ 380,785	\$ 380,785	\$ -	\$ -

  

	<b>December 31, 2022</b>			
	Total Fair Value	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Cash equivalents included in investments	\$ 36,821	\$ 36,821	\$ -	\$ -
Mutual funds and corporate stocks	220,152	220,152	-	-
Exchange-traded funds	145,393	145,393	-	-
Total assets, at fair value	\$ 402,366	\$ 402,366	\$ -	\$ -

**Note 7 - Income Tax Matters**

The Organization has adopted the accounting for uncertainty in income tax positions contained within accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. This guidance requires the evaluation of tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing the Organization's financial statements to determine whether the tax positions are more likely than not of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. Tax positions not deemed to meet the more likely than not threshold would be recorded as a tax benefit or expense in the current year. Management evaluated the Organization's tax positions and concluded that the Organization had taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements to comply with the provisions of this guidance.

However, the conclusions regarding accounting for uncertainty in income taxes will be subject to review and may be adjusted at a later date based on factors including, but not limited to, ongoing analysis of tax laws, regulations, and interpretations thereof. The Organization files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and in the state of California. The Organization is no longer subject to examination by U.S. federal tax authorities for the years before 2020 and by state of California tax authorities for years before 2019.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 8 - Endowment**

The Organization’s endowment was established for the purpose of attracting additional major donations and for the long-term needs of the Organization. The endowment includes one donor-restricted endowment fund. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Directors to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

The Board of Directors of the Organization has interpreted the State Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (SPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary.

As a result of this interpretation, the Organization classifies as permanently restricted net assets (a) the original value of the gifts donated (b) the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment, and (c) accumulations to the permanent endowment made in accordance with the direction of the applicable donor gift instrument at the time the accumulation is added to the fund.

In accordance with SPMIFA, the Organization considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- (1) The duration and preservation of the fund
- (2) The purposes of the Organization and the donor-restricted endowment fund
- (3) General economic conditions
- (4) The possible effect of inflation and deflation
- (5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- (6) Other resources of the Organization
- (7) The investment policies of the Organization

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Board-designated endowment funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Donor-restricted endowment funds	-	197,895	197,895
Total Endowment	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 197,895</u>	<u>\$ 197,895</u>

Changes in endowment net assets for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 were as follows:

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 8 - Endowment (continued)**

	<u>Without Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>With Donor Restrictions</u>	<u>Total</u>
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 197,895	\$ 197,895
Release from board-designated funds	-	-	-
Endowment net assets, end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 197,895</u>	<u>\$ 197,895</u>

**Return Objectives and Risk Parameters**

The Organization has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by the endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the Organization must hold in perpetuity. Under this policy, as approved by the Board of Directors, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to produce results that exceed the price and yield results of the S&P 500 index. The Organization expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an average rate of return of approximately 5 percent annually. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

**Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives**

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Organization relies on a growth and income model in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Organization targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity and fixed income investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

**Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy**

The Organization has a policy to appropriate for distribution amounts recommended by the investment committee such that real return from the fund remains positive. This is consistent with the Organization's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held in perpetuity as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment returns.

**Note 9 - Net Assets Released from Donor Restrictions**

During the years ending December 31, 2023 and 2022, \$0 in net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the restricted purposes or by occurrence of other events specified by donors.

**RETURN TO FREEDOM, INC.**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 10 - Net Assets With Donor Restrictions**

Net assets with donor restrictions as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 are comprised of the following:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Land purchase	\$ 10,105	\$ 10,105
Endowment	<u>197,895</u>	<u>197,895</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 208,000</u>	 <u>\$ 208,000</u>

**Note 11 - Accrued Liabilities**

Amounts included in accrued liabilities are as follows at December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Accrued vacation	\$ 35,596	\$ 36,809
Accrued salaries	10,101	10,101
Accrued payroll taxes, interest and penalties	161,925	161,925
Accrued credit cards	<u>12,122</u>	<u>20,544</u>
 Total	 <u>\$ 219,744</u>	 <u>\$ 229,379</u>

**Note 12 - Notes Payable**

On March 17, 2021, the Organization financed equipment through a \$15,343 note entered into with John Deere Financial. This note is payable in 48 monthly installments of \$320 beginning April 17, 2021. The note includes a security interest in the equipment until payments in full are received. This note matures on March 17, 2025. The outstanding note balance was \$4,795 and \$8,631 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

On March 26, 2021, the Organization received a Second Draw PPP Loan in the amount of \$166,261. The loan has an interest rate of 1.00% and maturity date of March 26, 2026. This loan was fully forgiven on March 28, 2022. The PPP loan forgiveness was recognized as grant income during the year ended December 31, 2022.

Future minimum principal payments are as follows for the years ending December 31:

2024	\$ 3,836
2025	<u>959</u>
	<u>\$ 4,795</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**Note 13 - Commitments and Contingencies**

In 2013, the Organization learned that the independent contractor responsible for disbursing payroll taxes failed to do so during the period of 2011 through 2013. Nonetheless, per Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations, the Organization is liable for the unpaid taxes. In accordance with this regulation and relevant accounting principles, the Organization has accrued liabilities equal to the outstanding amount payable per the latest communication from the IRS. For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the accrued liability amounted to \$161,925.

**Note 14 - Retirement Plan**

The Organization has adopted a retirement plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b). Substantially all employees are eligible to participate on the first anniversary of their employment commencement date. The Organization's contributions to the plan are at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Organization's discretionary contributions plus actual earnings thereon is based on years of continuous service. A participant is 100 percent vested after six years of credited service. The Organization did not make any contributions to the plan during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

**Note 15 - Related Party Transactions**

Lease Obligation

The Organization leases its administrative office and ranch facilities from the President of the Organization and a family member. The facilities include approximately 300 acres of grazing pastures, horse barns, and veterinary facilities. As a condition of the lease, the Organization is responsible for maintenance expenses of the property. Beginning in July 2012, the Organization agreed to pay \$4,000 on a monthly basis through July 2024. In August 2014, this lease was renewed with similar terms through July 28, 2015 and continued under an automatic month to month renewal feature. On July 1, 2022, the Organization entered into an amended month to month lease agreement which increased the annual rent due from \$60,000 to \$144,000.

For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Organization paid a total of \$148,500 and \$117,000, respectively, in rent payments.

Management estimates the full value of the property at \$15,000 a month. The Organization has recorded the donated use of facilities at the estimated fair market value of the facilities less the actual amounts paid as in-kind donated facilities. For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Organization reported \$31,500 and \$27,000, respectively, in donated facilities.

Management elected not to apply the recognition requirements of Topic 842 under the short term lease exception. Lease payments are recognized as lease cost on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

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**Note 16 - Employee Retention Credit**

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Organization applied for the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) totaling \$219,473 under the CARES Act and received a refund during the same year. The ERC was recognized as grant income during the year.

**Note 17 - Subsequent Events**

Subsequent events have been evaluated through January 31, 2025, the date that the financial statements were available for issuance.