



NEWS

FROM HOMEWARD PET

WINTER 2016

From Foster Homes to Forever Homes

Learn how your support is helping to expand our foster program in 2016



One of the most rewarding volunteer experiences in animal welfare is providing foster care to an animal in need. Helping a puppy or kitten learn to be part of a family, and being the first to show that young companion the joys of the human-animal bond can fill your heart.

Everyday Homeward Pet Adoption Center's foster families open their hearts and homes to cats and dogs who need some time away from the shelter. In 2015, Homeward Pet placed more than 520 cats and dogs into foster care, which had a huge impact on homeless animals. With more than 500 Homeward Pet residents cared for outside of the facility, staff were able to help a larger number of animals in need.

Providing a temporary home for animals is just the start. Foster volunteers create a wonderful support system for kittens and puppies and provide them spaces to socialize, grow and play until they are ready for adoption. Young animals should not stay at the shelter until they receive their secondary round of vaccinations. Fortunately, Homeward Pet can place litters of any age with a foster family where they can safely develop. The shelter also accepts dozens of motherless kittens or 'bottle babies.' 'Bottle babies' require our most experienced foster families who are willing to feed, clean, teach and love them around-the-clock. Thanks to our dedicated fosters, there is always someone welcoming these newborns into their home.

Homeward Pet's foster program and network of foster volunteers also enables the shelter to take in homeless dogs

or cats who need a little extra training, care or attention. A cat with poor litterbox habits for instance, is routinely placed in a foster home where volunteers can provide feedback on what will help that cat to be successful. Homeward Pet staff passes this information along to adopters, to ensure the cat has a smooth transition into his or her new home. In other situations, an animal may need a quiet space to recover from surgery like our adoptable dog, Clover. When Clover needed eight weeks to recover from a torn ACL, Homeward Pet volunteers, Cathie and Mark happily took her into their home. Other dogs like Brody, have had a longer stay at Homeward Pet and need a 'kennel break,' a few days out of the shelter to socialize and play. Homeward Pet's foster program even offers fully funded hospice care for those terminal four-legged friends who need an inviting and comfortable space to live out their days.

Volunteers helped make 2015 a remarkable year for the animals in our care. The cat foster program has been especially successful in helping more than 400 kittens last year alone. As we look forward in 2016, Homeward Pet is working hard to improve the dog foster program so it too can thrive. Providing foster care is key to broadening Homeward Pet's reach and capacity, and fulfilling our mission to give animals a second chance. As Homeward Pet's foster program grows, and more volunteers help a dog recover from surgery, or provide temporary care for 'bottle babies,' the number of matches made and forever homes found for homeless animals will continue to grow. For additional information about Homeward Pet's foster program, or to become a foster volunteer please visit our website at www.homewardpet.org.



Matches Made. Lives Saved. Communities Served.



As one of Washington State's leading no-kill animal shelters, Homeward Pet Adoption Center's mission is to give homeless animals a second chance through our rescue, shelter and adoption programs.

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Interested in expanding your impact on homeless animals? Join Homeward Pet's Board of Directors. To learn more contact Terri Inglis at terri@homewardpet.org

Homeward Pet Adoption Center

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Homeward Pet Adoption Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2015 in Reflection

Thank you for helping us make 2015 another great year for our animals! Last year, we found forever homes for 1,635 cats, dogs, kittens and puppies, and surpassed 26,000 total adoptions since we started as a cat-only rescue in 1990.

With your support, we also worked hard to implement programs that will keep Homeward Pet on the leading edge of animal welfare for years to come. Our Dog Behavior Team added six new members, and we now have a well-trained group of 17 volunteers and staff providing daily training and socialization to our dogs. We are putting the final touches on our Level 3 Cat Volunteer training so that we can provide better socialization for our extremely shy and extra-energetic cats. We began a Medical Foster Program to find temporary homes for animals whose medical needs are still being assessed, so they can be monitored and treated in a quieter environment. We also made shelter improvements to benefit our animals; including new, more sanitary flooring in our Dog Isolation Room as well as new Cat Suites for felines who prefer a bit more space. We also created unique promotions including the "12th Man's Best Friend" dog adoption month and our senior animal-focused "Oldies but Goodies," promotion which helped spread the word about Homeward Pet through radio and television exposure.



For 2016, Homeward Pet is focusing on providing even more for our animals and our community. Our upcoming Cat Behavior Team will help Homeward Pet cats be less stressed and more engaged with potential adopters. We will be developing Adoption Classes that will inform families how to provide proper care for a puppy or kitten, and show first-time adopters the hard work, and absolute joy, that goes along with adding a four-legged friend to their family. Our Staff Picks Program will continue to highlight the adoptable animals that have become the favorites of our counseling staff, and we are improving our Dog Foster Program to help even more puppies and adult dogs this year.

In Homeward Pet's first 26 years, we have developed many unique programs including; a Kennel Enrichment Program designed to provide mental stimulation for our animals; Pay It Forward Program to help our longest residents find their forever homes; and the Last Litter Program, which aids pet owners in the community with free spay/neuter surgeries. Our commitment to doing even more is as strong as ever. With your support we can continue to make forever matches and give animals a second chance at life and love!

Sincerely,

Terri Inglis

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Homeward Pet Calendar

February 27 26th Anniversary Adoption Event

March 19 Easter B' egg Hunt

March 26 Annual Fur Ball Auction & Dinner - Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, WA

April 2 Value Village Donation Drive

July 15-17 Kirkland Uncorked

A composite image featuring a smiling dog on the left and a grey cat with yellow eyes on the right. In the center is a circular logo for the Homeward Pet Adoption Center, which contains a stylized illustration of a dog and a cat. To the right of the logo, the text "You're Invited!" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below this, a blue rounded rectangle contains the text "FUR BALL AUCTION & DINNER 2016" in white. At the bottom, the event details "Saturday March 26, 2016 at the Meydenbauer Center" and the website "www.homewardpet.org/auction or call 425.488.4444" are listed in white text.

You're Invited!

FUR BALL AUCTION & DINNER 2016

Saturday March 26, 2016 at the Meydenbauer Center
www.homewardpet.org/auction or call 425.488.4444

Be There For Them Every Day of the Year

Thank you to our Guardian Angel Kennel Sponsors!

Homeward Pet's Guardian Angel Kennel Sponsorship program is a wonderful way to show your love and support for homeless dogs and cats. Sponsoring a kennel for a dog or cat benefits them in every way ranging from medical care, to food and supplies. Pat, one of our longtime kennel sponsors, recently sponsored Jack's kennel, our diabetic senior who needs a little extra care.

"Jack's journey with diabetes captured my heart. My Sasha was diabetic and required insulin twice a day. She lived to the ripe young age of 15 and when Sasha was with me, we quickly adapted to her insulin shots and she was as normal as every other dog I ever had."

Make a difference for a special animal like Jack by becoming a Guardian Angel Kennel Sponsor. See the difference you can make in a homeless animal's life.

Anonymous (2)
Diane Bode and John Hinson
Richard Bryant
Nicole and Rascal G.
Todd Hadley
Jackie and Rem Husted
Koda's Arc
Pat Maguire

Victor Nosce
Jen Rose and Hidetake Jo
Gene and Donna Rowe
Waggy Maggie Shine
Neil and Shannon Stamp
Lester and Linda Tucker
Eric Vernon and Karen Kesler
Bradley Wells and Jeff Buckelew



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Volunteer Spotlight



At three weeks old, Jack and his two sisters were found abandoned and motherless in Ellensburg. This litter of 'bottle babies' were transported to Homeward Pet where our clinic gave each of the kittens

a standard intake exam. It was noted that Jack's prepuce was swollen, likely from his hungry littermates nursing on him prior to their arrival. All three kittens were placed with a foster family, where Jack was kept separate from his siblings. When Jack was brought to the clinic to be neutered, staff noticed he developed a substantial amount of scar tissue from the trauma he sustained before arriving at the shelter. The scar tissue affected Jack's ability to urinate, and the clinic tried

two different procedures in an attempt to resolve the issue. Ultimately, it was decided that Jack needed to undergo a perineal urethrostomy (PU) surgery, which would reroute his urinary tract, allowing him to urinate without any complications. A PU surgery is a complex procedure, typically completed by a surgeon outside of the shelter. However, in Jack's case, Dr. Vince at Seattle Veterinary Specialists, volunteered to come into Homeward Pet on his day off to perform the procedure. On January 4, Dr. Vince performed a 45-minute long PU surgery and now, several weeks later, Jack is in good spirits and good health. "I hate to see a four-legged friend in pain. As a veterinarian for 15 years and a board certified veterinary surgeon for the past six years, I have been able to treat a lot of patients and gain a tremendous amount of experience. Since I have the skills and occasionally have the time, I am happy to put my skills as a surgeon to helping pets in pain or in need," Dr. Vince says.

Thank you Dr. Vince for dedicating your time and technical skills to Homeward Pet Adoption Center!

Homeward Reflections

2015 Impact Report - Last year, 1,635 animals found their forever homes. 938 cats and kittens and 697 dogs and puppies were adopted.



GIVING BACK

128,452 pounds of pet food collected for local area food banks and partner agencies.



566 volunteers donated 55,355 hours to care for Homeward Pet animals.

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Homeward Pet Turns 26!

Celebrate our 26th anniversary and join us for our annual adoption event in February!

2016 is here and Homeward Pet is celebrating our 26th year of creating meaningful matches in our community. With your generous support, we have found forever homes for more than 26,000 animals! We have set our goals high this year and look forward to continuing to touch the lives of animals and families alike.

Join us during one of our biggest campaigns of the year by donating \$26. Your gift will help us reach our goal of 260 donations in support of cats and dogs in need. Each donation provides essential vaccinations, food, microchips, leashes, collars and more to ensure every animal can start their second chance off right.

Looking to add to the family? Make sure you don't miss Homeward Pet's 26th anniversary adoption event on Saturday, February 27th! Every animal will have a reduced adoption fee of \$26, which is one barking deal for a lifetime of love! The event will also include a photo booth, afternoon tours and more! Homeward Pet hopes to see you there! For additional information about Homeward Pet's anniversary month please visit www.homewardpet.org.



A Huge Thanks to Our Holiday Giving Tree

Homeward Pet would like to recognize and thank all of our supporters who participated in the 2015 Holiday Giving Tree Campaign. Thanks to your generosity, Homeward Pet accumulated an astonishing amount of food and supplies that will help homeless dogs and cats in 2016. Thank you for your kindness and Happy New Year!

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PONY MAILBOX & BUSINESS CENTER

Apple

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Happy Tail ~ Jo Jo

"I had the privilege of walking Jo Jo at Homeward Pet during my volunteer shift and knew he was the dog for our family.

We were excited to do a meet and greet with Jo Jo and our sweet pitty Libby, who was also a Homeward alumni. They got along great so we made it official and Jo Jo is now a member of our family.

Libby is so happy to have a buddy to play with and it is really quite fun to watch them during their antics. Our two cats, one which is also a Homeward alumni, are letting Jo Jo know who the boss is so the status quo is maintained. Now our family is complete, well maybe until I find another great dog at Homeward Pet.

Thanks Homeward Pet for helping us make it possible to open our hearts and home to another beautiful, loving and sweet shelter pet. Please remember to adopt your next pet from a shelter as you will be providing another loving creature a home!"

Martha