

Faithful Friends Inc.

No Kill Animal Shelter

12 Germay Drive

Wilmington, DE 19804

www.faithfulfriends.us



NEWS

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For immediate release

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Animal Shelter Launches Match Challenge to fund the shelter operations **“Annual Double Your Love Campaign”**



(Wilmington) Faithful Friends Inc. no kill animal shelter launched its community giving match challenge this year! Any gift made between today and January 31st will be matched up to \$80,000 by a few generous supporters who love animals and believe in the agency's mission. Faithful Friends' mission is to end the neglect, abandonment and killing of pets in Delaware and enrich the lives of people by promoting and providing compassionate animal-related welfare and social services.

Faithful Friends Inc. no kill animal shelter was started by local citizens in 2001 who wanted to bring the national no kill goal to Delaware. The no kill national goal states that no adoptable, trainable or medically treatable animal should be killed in publicly funded shelters as they are now killed by the thousands in some publicly funded shelters in our state. About 14,000 or so homeless pets are killed each year in Delaware. The national goal also extends the protection to non-rehabilitatable unsocial or feral cats to live in managed colonies where cats are trapped-neutered-vaccinated and returned to the area they live. Local caretakers feed, monitor health and provide housing for the cats. This is a national model to reduce the cat overpopulation problem in a non-lethal manner.

According to Jane Pierantozzi, Executive Director, "This year, with the support of the community, we will rescue about 1,400 abused and neglected dogs and cats, spay/neuter over 2,000 low cost, help to keep families and pets together through low cost vaccination clinics and our free pet food and supply bank as well as provide pet therapy to 6,000 special needs children, adults and seniors in 40 facilities state-wide. Every life is precious and the animals are a gift to us whether we are feeding stray cats or enjoying our own pets. We believe this community can significantly improve the plight of homeless and abused pets by bringing national model no kill programs to Delaware."

The agency is a non-profit that has over 300 active volunteers and operates mainly on fundraising and individual gifts. Faithful Friends Inc. receives 1% of funding from the government. Here are a few of those helped at Faithful Friends through the community's support.

Lucy and Simba, 10 year old sister and brother



Lucy and Simba have had to change families three times in just three years. And now, as seniors, it is very hard on their little bodies to change again. They were adopted from a shelter, given away and then the family that took them had to give them up because they lost their housing. Lucy and Simba are darling 10 year old Lhasa's. They had very matted fur that made it hard for them to get around comfortably. After grooming and new spiffy winter wear, they are cozy and waiting for new homes while staying at Faithful Friends no kill animal shelter. Thanks to the community support for Faithful Friends through fundraisers like our annual match challenge they are getting good care until someone takes them home for the last time. They have some normal special needs due to aging like most of us they still have a love for life and like to snuggle.



Kevin and Athena were unwanted. Someone saw that a local bar has housing for homeless cats and they dumped them outside. Kevin was terrified but huddled by the bar door where someone kind picked him up. Athena was brave and walked up to someone to make a friend. Both are innocent victims of the cat abandonment epidemic locally. Some aren't fortunate and

end up hit by a car looking for food or refuge and some slowly die of illness or starvation. Others are fortunate that someone brings them home to care for them. Kevin and Athena ended up at Faithful Friends no kill animal shelter. We have responded to cats needing refuge but we rely all on private donations to give animal's excellent care and their best chance at a permanent loving home.

Photo opportunities at the shelter of the animals waiting for homes.

With your gift, this year Faithful Friends Inc. no kill animal shelter will:

- Rescue 1,400 homeless and abused dogs and cats
- Spay/neuter 2,000 dogs and cats
- Serve 2,500+ pets at low cost pet clinics and free pet food bank
- Serve 6,000 special needs adults/children through pet therapy state-wide
- Counsel 6,000+ people through the Pet 'life' line
- Coordinate 300+ volunteers state-wide

There are MANY ways to donate and all gifts are doubled up to \$80,000!

\$25 = \$50 and will cover 2 cat neuters

\$50 = \$100 and will pay for 300 cans of cat wet food

\$100 = \$200 and will pay for two dog spays

\$250 = \$500 and will pay for flea treatment for 50 dogs

\$500 = \$1000 and will pay for flea treatment for 120 cats/kittens

\$500 = \$1,000 and will pay for pet therapy for 200 challenged adults and kids for one year

Anyone interested in making a gift can go online by going to www.faithfulfriends.us or they can call 302-427-8514 ext. 0 OR go to www.firstgiving.com/faithfulfriends and make their own personal fundraising page and goal - this can be emailed to all your pet lover friends and they can make secure online donations with just the click of their mouse **OR just DONATE ONLINE or SEND IN A CHECK in to Faithful Friends Inc. animal shelter at 12 Germay Drive Wilmington, DE 19804 You can eheck their website weekly for an update on the goals.**