



Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit

Inspiring healthy relationships between
people and their companion animals.



2019 COMMUNITY REPORT

Letter from Our Board Chair

Dear FAMD Supporters,

While we navigate our way through an incredibly challenging COVID-19 environment, it is a pleasure to reflect upon 2019 and all of the accomplishments Elaine and her team delivered with the support of our terrific volunteers, board of directors, and community partners. 2019 was another successful year in our history where we continued to focus on finding homes for our animals and improving the lives of those who live in the communities in which we serve. Some 2019 highlights:



- **Animal Adoption and Education Center - High-quality care and adoption services.** We celebrated our first anniversary in our new AAEC. The animals are much healthier and certainly happier in their new environment where they have more spacious “apartments”, natural light, clean air, and an outdoor space.
- **Saving all adoptable animals.** For the 20th consecutive year, we saved 100% of all adoptable animals, with 2,008 new homes being enhanced through adoptions, the highest in our history. This is a cornerstone value of our organization and a true differentiator versus other animal welfare organizations.
- **Volunteers.** Our volunteers are the heart of our organization. They enable us to ensure the animals receive the best care and love. In 2019, 289 volunteers spent 14,440 hours caring for the animals, implementing our programs and events.
- **Delivering innovative outreach and education programs.**
 - ♥ **Read to Rover** - Children can improve their reading skills by reading to a dog at the adoption center. The kids are in a comfortable and non-judgmental environment and the dogs get much-needed love and attention. In 2019, we had 42 children participate in the program.
 - ♥ **Veteran Pet Adoption Program** - Retired or active military are eligible for reduced adoption fees. In 2019, we helped 11 veterans find their new best friends.
 - ♥ **Feed Fido** - In 2019 we provided families in need with 6,400 pounds of food. This ensured that families experiencing financial challenges were able to keep their beloved pets in their homes, where they belong.
 - ♥ **Blue Star Service Dogs** - Shelter dogs are paired with vetted prisoners at the Thumb Correctional Facility in Lapeer, Michigan to be trained as support dogs for veterans and first responders. The benefits of this program are two-fold: better trained and socialized dogs and inmates who learn and practice empathy and responsibility.
 - ♥ **Hope’s Heroes.** This program funds medical and surgical expenses for animals in our care with extensive health issues (i.e. heartworm treatments) or injuries. In 2019 we treated 137 animals through this program.
 - ♥ **Doggy Day Out.** This program, which began in 2019, provided outside adventures for many of our dogs. These excursions included shopping trips to Lowes, JoAnn Fabrics, and a fan-favorite - Starbucks for “Puppacinos.” Some of our dogs enjoyed a day of snuggling on the couch at a volunteer’s home. We even had a dog adopted as a result of this program.

Planning for the future. While we continue to find our way through the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 is going to be a year of significant change at Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit.

- After 24 years, Elaine Greene will retire as our Executive Director on July 1. Elaine has been the foundation of our organization and the strongest of advocates for our animals. She has overseen our growth from a small Dearborn-based group of passionate animal lovers to one of Southeast Michigan’s largest and most respected animal shelter and community outreach organizations. We are so grateful to Elaine for her incredible work and commitment to FAMD. Elaine’s passion for FAMD remains strong, and she now serves as a member of the board of directors. Succeeding Elaine is Kim Cross, who joined us in 2018 as the Development and Marketing Director. We are truly fortunate to have an outstanding and experienced leader to assume the role of FAMD’s CEO and President. Kim is an experienced senior leader in both the corporate and non-profit sectors, including Merrill Lynch and Goldman Sachs, as well as her own firm,

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Philanthropy Services LLC. She also worked for Leader Dogs for the Blind and Wayne State University. Under Kim's leadership, FAMD has a completely new marketing and branding strategy as well as enhanced community outreach and fundraising programs.

- We are also hard at work to fundraise for Phase 2 of the Animal Adoption and Education Center capital campaign project to bring all of our services under one roof. Phase 2 of the project will cost \$5.1 million, and include the animal intake and medical evaluation and treatment operations, as well as expanding our education and outreach programs. To date, we have raised or have pledges totaling \$1.6 million. The Fundraising Committee is working every day to get this project completed as soon as possible so we can all come home.

FAMD continues to grow and change to meet the increasing needs in our community for excellent animal care and educational programs. The staff, volunteers and board are so thankful to our donors and supporters - we could not do it without you! We are successful as an organization because our entire community comes together by supporting our events, capital campaign, volunteering, fostering, and, of course, adopting our animals.

On behalf of the entire Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit organization, thank you for all that you do for our animals, staff, and community.

With gratitude,



MaryAnn Wright
Board Chair, Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit

Board of Directors

Officers

Board Chair, MaryAnn Wright
President, Laurie Buhr
Treasurer & Financial Director,
Jim Street
Medical Director, Dr. Jeffrey Dizik
Secretary, Sue Ringey

Directors

Lisa Bahash
Alexandra Cattelan
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Al Kammerer
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Jackie Lovejoy
Steve Pitsillos
Richard Truett
Julie Walker

Our Mission

The Friends are dedicated to the rescue and protection of animals in the community, while inspiring healthy relationships between people and their companion animals. As animal advocates, we are committed to:

- Saving all adoptable animals
- Providing high-quality animal care and adoption services
- Delivering innovative outreach programs and activities that promote learning
- Promoting animal welfare legislation
- Embracing environmental responsibility with Earth-friendly practices and facilities

About FAMD

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit (FAMD) was founded in 1993 by inspired volunteers who believed that homeless animals in our region deserve a second chance at life. Building on our strong sense of animal welfare, FAMD has grown in the past 26 years to an organization of great impact in the companion animal welfare community. We are a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization.

Every year, our dedicated staff and volunteers love and care for thousands of animals who find refuge at our shelter - including those who are lost, abused, abandoned, injured or ill. All animals adopted from FAMD are vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and microchipped for identification.

Fundraising Events

Your support of FAMD events helps us raise funds, make new Friends, and care for thousands of homeless animals each year while finding them loving homes.



Mutt Strut “Walk and 5K Run”

In 2019 we held the 14th annual Mutt Strut, with Dearborn Family Pet Care returning as the presenting sponsor. For the third year in a row, the event included a dog-friendly 5K that took runners through the scenic Gateway Trail and onto the University of Michigan campus. After the 5K and the shorter, leisurely strut through downtown Dearborn, FAMD supporters and their dogs spent the afternoon at Ford Field Park visiting pet-themed vendors, entering games & contests, and running the lure course. While not only being a fun day out for dogs and their humans, the event raised over \$90,000 to support FAMD and our programs! ♥

“Fore the Animals” Golf Invitational

On July 22, 2019, a sold out crowd of 145 golfers spent the day at the Dearborn Country Club golfing “fore” the animals of FAMD. The weather cooperated nicely, and the blue skies provided the perfect backdrop for a day of golf, food, fun and friends. The on-course games, tin can raffle and putting contest returned, which gave the golfers an extra chance to win some themed prizes. While the storms that had rolled through the area the weekend prior made things challenging - the club had no power and we were not allowed in the clubhouse - everyone came together to raise over \$50,000 to support FAMD and our programs. ♥



Black Tie and Tails Gala

Building on our “home” theme, which has been incorporated into the past two galas, the theme of the 19th annual Black Tie and Tails was “Home is a Four-Letter Word.” This theme celebrated both the first year anniversary in our new Animal Adoption and Education Center, and the love an animal receives when they are adopted into their forever home. As in previous years, the gala was held at the Dearborn Inn, and generously presented by MaryAnn Wright and Bob Sayles. The night included a program celebrating the work of Friends, live and silent auctions, music by the Rick Lieder Band, dancing, and the Adoptable Pet Parade - a favorite of the attendees. Thanks to our wonderful supporters, the event raised over \$150,000 to care for the animals who come through our organization! ♥

Big Heart Winner – Dr. Good

Our 2019 Big Heart Award winner was Dr. Cheryl Good, DVM. This award is given to recognize the dedication and compassion of an individual who unselfishly gives their time and talent to saving and providing sanctuary to animals. When Friends was formed in 1993, Dr. Good was one of the original members. Since that time, she has been both on the board, and served as the organization’s medical director for many years, going above and beyond to help animals in need. Dr. Good shared, “I have been involved with Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit for over 25 years. In that time, I helped to change the culture and improve the conditions for the homeless pets of Dearborn. I wholeheartedly continue to support the FAMD vision and mission, because by adopting from them you will definitely get back more than what’s humanly possible!” ♥



Third Party Events



“Remaining a voice for those who cannot speak, MIAWF proudly supports local animal welfare groups, like FAMD, who are on the front lines doing the amazing and challenging work necessary to help the animals in need in our community. They are my heroes. We are pleased to be going on 15 years of support for Friends.”

Michelle Mullen
MIAWF Founder

While not hosted by FAMD, there were three major third-party events held in 2019 that benefited our organization and the animals we care for. We are honored to be one of three organizations chosen to receive funding from Michigan Animal Welfare Foundation’s Fur Ball, held in April, and their Bowl 4 Animal Rescue, held in August. In 2019, between both of these events, FAMD received \$30,774. The Fur Ball, held at the Suburban Showplace Collection in Novi, is a gala event with dinner, auctions, and a program highlighting the work of FAMD and other local animal organizations. This year marked the 14th annual Bowl 4 Animal Rescue, a bowling event held at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills. On Columbus Day, longtime FAMD supporter Pat D’Ambrosio held his 6th annual famous Pat’s Paw-sitively Pasta dinner at Park Place Catering. This pasta dinner raised over \$17,000 for FAMD. Pat used his family’s secret recipe to cook wonderful sauce and meatballs, and offered both eat-in and to-go options so everyone could attend. ♥

Featured Programs – Read to Rover & Doggy Day Out

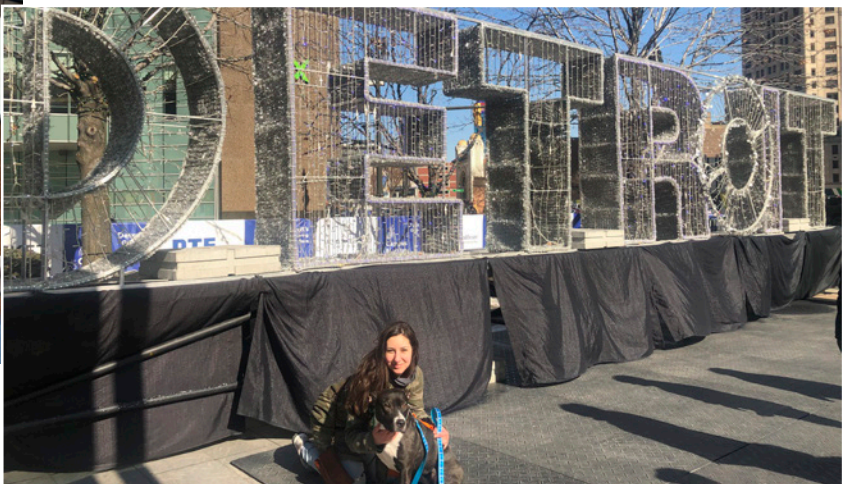
Read to Rover

We began the Read to Rover program at FAMD in March 2019 to coincide with March is Reading Month. This program is open to children of all reading levels, and allows children to practice their reading skills by reading to a shelter animal. By doing so, the children gain confidence and improve their reading, while shelter animals are comforted and get some extra attention. Shelter animals make great reading buddies, as they are a non-judgmental audience and allow children to become more comfortable reading aloud. During our first year of the program, we had 42 students who participated, many of whom returned for additional reading sessions! ♥



Doggy Day Out

In November of 2019, FAMD began our Doggy Day Out program which falls on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. This program allows community members to take a dog out of the shelter for the day. They can go on adventures outdoors, visit stores such as Lowes or JoAnn Fabrics, enjoy “Puppacinos” at Starbucks, or just head home for a day of movie watching and snuggling on the couch. In 2019, 21 dogs were able to spend time out of the shelter and go on new adventures with the help of 16 volunteers who were eager to take them. We even had one adoption that was a direct result of this program! ♥



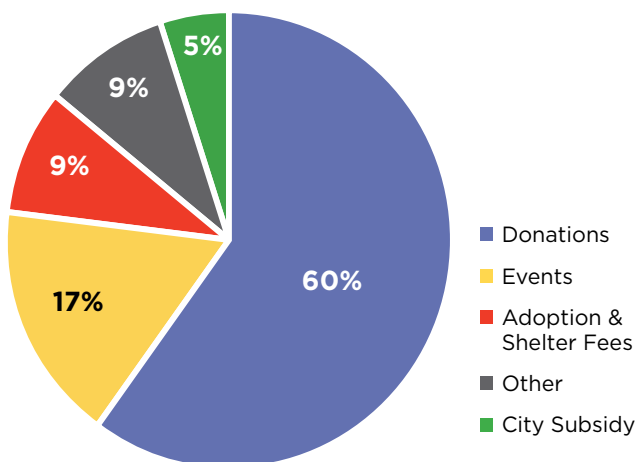
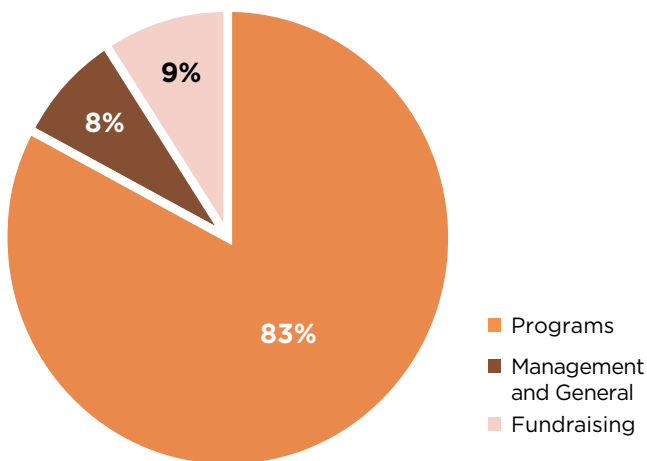
Improving Our Community

Because of Friends like you, 2019 was a huge success! Thank you to all of our supporters, volunteers, adopters, donors and community members who changed the lives of thousands of homeless animals in need.

Our programs include:

- Low-cost spay/neuter vouchers
- Low-cost microchipping vouchers
- Feed Fido food pantry for low-income families
- Read to Rover
- Blue Star Service Dogs
- Veteran Pet Adoption Program

Financial Operations



DIFFERENCES MADE

2,552

Animals cared for (1,008 dogs and 1,514 cats) plus 112 other domestic animals and wildlife

100%

Adoptable animals saved for the 20th straight year

12,883

People visited our adoption center

289

Registered volunteers

14,440

Volunteer hours

703

Animals fostered by loving families

199

Low-cost spay/neuter vouchers distributed

65

Low-cost microchip ID vouchers distributed

6,473

Pounds of food distributed through our Feed Fido program

We Love Our Volunteers!



Shelley Heath is FAMD's 2019 Heart & Soul Award winner. She's a fantastic volunteer who always goes the extra mile to care for the animals and the people who love them. Shelley spends the majority of her time working with the dogs and helping them find their forever homes. When she's not volunteering at the shelter & adoption center, she's fostering kittens from home. ♥



Sophia Beydoun is one of FAMD's outstanding volunteers who has a big heart for the animals. Sophia assists at numerous community outreach and fundraising events throughout the year, gaining support for FAMD and shelter animals. She cares for the sick animals, giving them extra comfort to heal, and matches adopters with their perfect pets at the adoption center. ♥

Gerry Weigand started as a volunteer with Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit in 2019. Since that time he has made such a positive impact at the adoption center. Gerry tends to the cats, making sure each and every one of them is fed, cleaned, and comforted. He excels at working with the nervous cats, helping them to feel comfortable while they wait for their forever home. ♥



Our Donors

Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit is grateful for our donors who provide the necessary funding that enables us to help thousands of animals every year. We would especially like to thank the following donors who gave, in total, at least \$1,000 during 2019.

\$100,000.00 to \$499,999.00

Edward C. and Linda Dresner
Levy Foundation
Jeanette Hood Revocable Trust

\$50,000.00 to \$99,999.00

J. Ferrantino Charitable
Foundation
Marvin & Marlene Kraska

\$25,000.00 to \$49,999.00

Community Foundation for
Southeast Michigan
Downriver Veterinary Associates/
Lincoln Park Animal Hospital
Allan Leonard
Michigan Animal Welfare
Foundation
Sharon Sheldon
The Paws Clinic
MaryAnn Wright

\$10,000.00 to \$24,999.00

Bernice Barbour Foundation
Laurie Buhr
Alexandra Cattelan
Pat D'Ambrosio
Dearborn Family Pet Care
Allan & Lynne Kammerer
PNC Bank
Matt & Meg Swis
VetSelect Animal Hospital of
Dearborn
Julie Walker
Dr. David & Rande Wright

\$5,000.00 to \$9,999.00

AK Steel Corporation

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Caputo Animal Hospital
Dr. Jeffrey & Lisa Dizik
Fairlane Ford
Howard & Donna Inch
Morrison Animal Hospital
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Gabrielle Senatore
United States Steel

\$1,000.00 to \$4,999.00

Robert & Mary Ann Abraham
Affiliated Veterinary Emergency
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Dearborn Firefighters Burn Drive
Marjorie Diedrich
Dan Durack
Enterprise Holdings Foundation

Exchange Club Of Dearborn
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Fairlane Town Center
Gary & Jewel Feldhus
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Fifth Generation, Inc.
Ford Motor Company
Ford Road Animal Clinic
Joy Geng
Ghafari Associates LLC
Tom & Nancy Gioia
Ethan & Anne Glass
Mark & Dr. Cheryl Good
Google Matching Gift Program
Sumathi Govindaswami
Greektown Casino
Kevin & Margaret Green
Elaine Greene & Michael DeLaney
Dr. Steven & Tara Grekin
Jim & Nancy Grosfeld
Nicholas Guzenski
Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
David & Sis Hamilton
Happy Howie's
Brett & Monica Horger
Judge William & Julie Hultgren
Alice Humphries
Jack Demmer Automotive Group
Frederick Johns
Suzanne Johnson
Ken & Karen Kellett
Mike Kirk
Kroger Company, Community
Rewards Program
Gary & Sue Kuhlmann
Patricia Ludwig

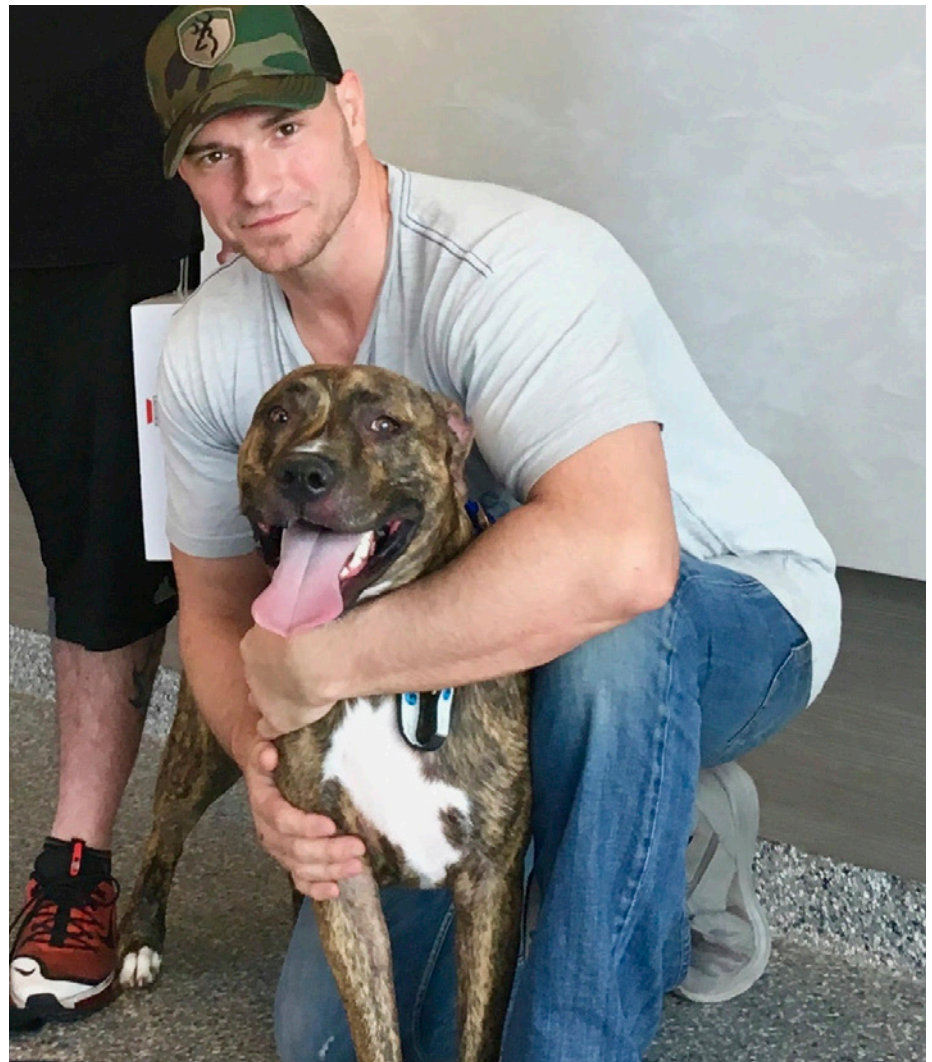
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\$1,000.00 to \$4,999.00

Larry & Carol Marantette
Ed McDonnell
Mark Mercatante
Michigan Legacy Credit Union
Phyllis Moore
Richard Murray
Michael & Patricia Naef
Officer Collin Rose Memorial
One Dearborn, Inc.
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OthersFirst
Pet Supplies Plus
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Phoenix Contractors, Inc.
Dreama Pinkowski
Polaris
Donna Potter
Raymond James Charitable Endowment Fund
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Elizabeth Ronan
Jeanne Salathiel
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Margaret Sherk
The Skillman Foundation
Hilda Staab
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Deborah Stewart
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Suzanne Tack
Taktix Solutions
Team Wellness
Dr. Shelly Temperley
Patricia Tokarski

V2Soft
VCA Inc.
Margaret Wade

Norma Wallis
Dennis & Carole Zikowski
Kristine Zilka



BISSELL Pet Foundation is proud to support the lifesaving work at FAMD. They work tirelessly for the homeless pets of Detroit, where the stray population is endless, and FAMD is required to take in every pet that comes through the door. Our five-year partnership has allowed hundreds of cats and dogs to find happy homes through BPF's Empty the Shelters adoption events. We look forward to saving many more lives together in the future!

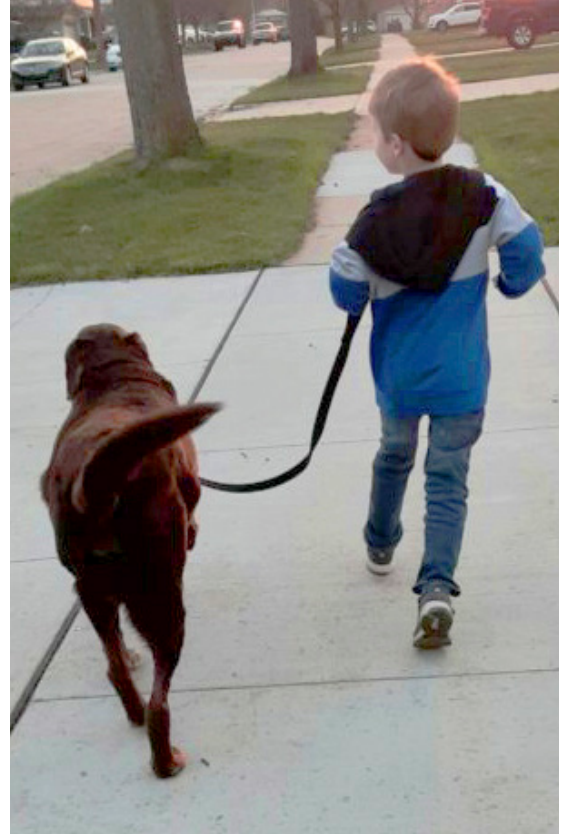
Cathy Bissell
Founder Bissell Pet Foundation

Happy Tails

Big Ben

This is an update regarding our senior dog, Kordo, now named "Big Ben." Big Ben is a blessing for our family, more than we thought possible. The first time I saw this old, overweight, brown, goofy-looking dog at the Dearborn Animal Shelter, he looked a little sad and beaten down. After two more meetings with Kordo, we adopted him into our home. He is the most loving, cuddly, well-behaved and sweet dog ever - he brings us so much happiness! He is so attentive to everyone in the family, and I think he mostly likes having a little boy to play with. He runs and jumps in the snow and fetches tennis balls like there is no tomorrow! He loves to go for walks and he's lost a bit more weight. I hope that more people find out how much a senior dog can light up their life. We are in awe and very fortunate to have this sweet companion in our home.

- Leibengood Family



Kismet

Just wanted to express my gratitude to your shelter for my recent adoption. My best friend of 14 years had passed from cancer in November. He was the type of cat that instinctively knew how to make my days brighter through any situation. I was devastated, and the upcoming holidays seemed all the more difficult. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving I met Polar at the Taylor PetSmart. I wasn't planning on adopting another so soon, but there was an instant connection to her curious gaze. She came home with me on December 3rd and I know she was meant to be in my life. Her new name is Kismet and she's amazing - so full of love. Thank you again for the excellent care you provide to these animals that bring so much joy to us adopters! - Dana

Gracie

We adopted Gracie, formerly known as Ladybug, in June of 2019. We just passed 6 months with our Gracie girl and truly couldn't be happier. She is a sweet, silly, joyful little lady who loves to cuddle, chew Nylabones, and go on walks. She is currently in her 3rd round of obedience school at a facility where they also train police dogs! We are working up to getting her to follow commands with just hand signals, no verbal, and do things like stay for extended periods of time off-leash. Gracie has brought us so much happiness since adopting her, and we feel very lucky to be her family. A few weeks ago we got a puppy named Archie. They are BFF's! Thank you for all you do, especially in these challenging times. -Lia Fabbri





Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit



Visit Us:

Animal Services and Administration*

2661 Greenfield Road
Dearborn, MI 48120
Monday - Saturday: 8am - 4pm
Sunday: Closed

MaryAnn Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center*

16121 Reckinger Road
Dearborn, MI 48126
Monday: Closed
Tuesday - Saturday: 12pm - 4pm
Sunday: Closed

*Please visit our website for the most up-to-date hours.

Join the Friends Legacy Society

The Legacy Society recognizes those who honor Friends for Animals of Metro Detroit through a gift designated in their estate plans. If you have chosen us as a beneficiary of your will or trust, IRA or life insurance, please join today by contacting Kim Cross, President & CEO, at 313.943.2697 ext. 1005 or kcross@metrodetroitanimals.org

Contact Us:

Website: www.MetroDetroitAnimals.org
Email: Friends@MetroDetroitAnimals.org
Phone: 313-943-2697
Fax: 313-943-2262
Tax ID number: 38-3171570
Facebook: @MetroDetroitAnimals
Instagram: @MetroDetroitAnimals
Twitter: @MetroDetAnimals