



Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue

The Little Rescue with a Big Heart

January 2017

Sharing Hope with the Community

Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue began with a strong desire to make a positive difference in the lives of animals and the people of Laurie, Missouri and neighboring communities.

Founded May 18, 2016 and recognized as a non-profit organization effective July 13, 2016, Caring Hearts has quickly become a beacon for the community. By providing pet food, emergency veterinary assistance as well as low-cost spay/neuter assistance to pet owners in need, we have helped to improve the lives of dogs, cats and their owners during difficult times. None of this would have been possible without the generous donations of Caring Hearts supporters. We at Caring Hearts want to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who has supported our mission of hope for the community.

Our Work has Just Begun

In 3 short months, Caring Hearts has provided medical assistance to 25 dogs and 5 cats as well as supplemental food to 2 cat colonies and numerous pet owners in the community. This important work helps keep pets in their homes and reduces the burden on local animal shelters. Our work has just begun, but we are encouraged by the animals helped so far and the amount of support we have received by fellow humans who share our passion.

About Us

Caring Hearts is made up of a small group of dedicated volunteers who are passionate about helping the injured, sick, lost and abandoned animals in the community, and committed to spreading awareness to help reduce the number of animals euthanized due to over-population. We are supported 100% by donations and fund-raising efforts; however, we are exploring the opportunity of running a small thrift shop to help generate much needed funding for the animals.

Upcoming event

March 4th - Meet us in person at the 16th Annual Lake West Business Expo from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the West Lake Christian Academy. Address: 17178 N. Hwy 5, Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

Mission Statement

To make a positive difference in the lives of dogs and cats by promoting health and well-being through community outreach, animal welfare education, and low-cost spay/neuter assistance, thereby making the world a better place one life at a time.



Sassy



Sassy was the very first dog helped by Caring Hearts. This past November, Sassy was hit by a car, resulting in a badly broken leg. A visit to the veterinarian confirmed that surgery was needed to repair her broken leg. Sassy was in trouble - if she couldn't find a way to get the surgery, she would be permanently crippled and live in excruciating pain, or be euthanized to end her suffering. Faced with the unthinkable, Sassy's owner reached out for help. Thanks to generous donations, Caring Hearts was able to help cover the cost of the surgery which involved pins and a plate to repair Sassy's leg.

Sassy's owner shared that Sassy is 'the love of her life' and 'couldn't imagine life without her'. We are so honored that we were able to play a role in saving this precious life.



The Little Rescue with a Big Heart

Furry Facts

- ONE unaltered female dog and her offspring can produce 67,000 puppies in only six years
- ONE female cat and her offspring can produce 370,000 kittens in only seven years
- Sterilized animals live longer, happier lives
- Each year, approximately 2.7 million animals are euthanized due to overpopulation
 - 1.2 million dogs
 - 1.4 million cats

How You Can Help

1. Pet owners can do their part by having their animals spayed or neutered so that he or she does not contribute to the pet overpopulation problem
 - This is the **single most important** step you can take
2. Adopt your next pet from an animal shelter rather than buying them from a breeder or pet store
 - Encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do the same
3. Support your local shelters
 - ADOPT a rescue animal
 - If you can't adopt, FOSTER
 - If you can't foster, VOLUNTEER
 - If you can't volunteer, DONATE
 - If you can't donate, EDUCATE

Reasons to adopt a pet

- You will save a life
- If you adopt an adult pet, there's a possibility you can avoid some of the hassles related to house-training and teething, which are associated with puppies and kittens - of course, if you prefer a puppy or kitten, rescue groups and shelters have plenty of those available as well
- You'll save money because adoption costs less than buying an animal from a pet shop or breeder
- Perfectly "perfect" animals of all breeds, shapes, ages and sizes are available at shelters and rescue groups - just because an animal ends up there doesn't mean there is anything wrong with them - they are just in need of a second chance.

Contact Us

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- Email: caringhearts8@yahoo.com

Visit us Online

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/caringheartsrescue/>
- Website: <http://caringhearts8.wixsite.com/caringhearts>

Additional Ways to Donate

- Amazonsmile
- Employer Match Programs (i.e. Mastercard, GE, CarMax, Boeing, etc.)

Board of Directors

Teresa Ensor – President and Co-Founder
Laura Cullom – Vice-President and Co-Founder
Judy Tookey – Secretary

Carla Miget – Treasurer
Lisa Ganapini
Marlene Evans

Martha Moulder - Advisor
Doris Zieman - Advisor



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The Little Rescue with a Big Heart

April 2017

Changing the World One Life at a Time

The vision of Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue is to *make the world a better place one life at a time*, and thanks to the generous support of Caring Hearts donors and volunteers, that vision has become a reality.

In just 5 short months, Caring Hearts has provided medical assistance to 44 dogs and 11 cats as well as supplemental food to two cat colonies and numerous pet owners in the community. This important work helps keep pets in their homes and reduces traffic in already over-crowded local animal shelters. The outpouring of love and support for the animals of Laurie, Missouri has been overwhelming and humbling. Thank you to everyone who continues to help create a better life for animals in need.

Caring Hearts THRIFT STORE

Caring Hearts recently opened a THRIFT STORE at 113 North Main Street in Laurie Missouri, between the Bookery and Live Love Lake across from Lake Oasis gas station. We are open Friday, Saturday and Monday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. If you get a chance, come on by and see us – you might just find a treasure you can't live without! The proceeds from every purchase help with veterinary expenses, supplemental food, bedding and low cost spay/neuter assistance for animals in the Laurie community and surrounding areas.

Doing some spring cleaning? Consider donating your gently used items to Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue. Your donations are tax deductible and will go to a great cause! Since we have limited space at the Thrift Store, please call to schedule a time when we can meet you to pick up your donations. We can be reached at 573-789-9247. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Vision

To make the world a better place one life at a time.

Finding Daisy

When Hirsh met Daisy it was love at first sight...for Hirsh anyway – it took Daisy a little longer to warm up. You see, Daisy was a shy girl, extremely fearful and suspicious of humans.



Caring Hearts co-founder, Laura Cullom originally met Daisy at a local animal shelter, and quickly realized Daisy was going to need some special attention if she was ever going to have a chance at finding a forever home, so Laura took her home to foster, in hopes of Daisy gaining some much needed confidence.

After several months with Laura, Daisy was officially up for adoption. Although doing better, she was still fearful and was considered a flight risk too - she consistently looked for ways to 'escape', and boy could she run fast! We all knew it was going to take a very special person to be the right fit for Daisy, and that's when Hirsh entered the scene. He was kind, gentle natured, patient, and absolutely adored Daisy. Daisy had found her forever home!

Everything was going great, and Daisy was slowly coming out of her shell. Then our worst fears were realized. Daisy got startled during one of her regular walks and broke free. She was gone in a flash. Instant panic set in – how would we ever catch her? She runs like the wind and is fearful of everything that moves, including people. Hirsh was beyond heartbroken, as were many others who knew and loved Daisy.

Hirsh spent countless hours, day and night, posting pictures of Daisy all over town and online, knocking on doors, compelling the community to help him, calling anyone and everyone he could think of that might be able to help find her. One day turned into two, and then a week went by, and then another. Sightings of Daisy were few and far between and the weather wasn't helping - there was snow, sleet, freezing rain, thunder storms, even tornadoes. All hope seemed lost, but Hirsh never gave up. He contacted a dog tracker in Michigan who drove to Indiana to help find Daisy. Efforts were unsuccessful, but Hirsh followed the tracker's guidance and kept trying.

After more than two weeks on the run, Hirsh finally caught Daisy in the middle of the night using a live coyote trap loaned to him by the local animal control. DAISY WAS HOME! Dehydrated, emaciated, the pads of her feet worn down, and her now shredded leash still dangling from her collar, but Daisy was home... safe at last!

Update: Daisy has since fully recovered from her ordeal, and has gained a new appreciation for kibble, a warm bed, and her new best friend, Hirsh.



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THANK YOU

A huge THANK YOU to our amazing volunteers and supporters!! Without your help, we would not be able to give dogs and cats the chance at a better life. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

All Donations Make a BIG Difference

Donations are always needed and appreciated!

Here are some ways you can donate.

- Mail: PO Box 1684, Laurie, MO 65038
- Online: www.caringheartsanimalrescue.org
- Thrift Store: 113 North Main Street, Laurie, MO
 - Shop at Caring Hearts Thrift Store
 - Donate gently used items
- Amazon Smile: a simple way for you to support Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the charity of your choice.

Furry Facts

- Every day, **5,500** healthy dogs and cats are killed at shelters due to the fact that they don't have a home and the shelters don't have the space
- Pet owners can do their part by having their animals spayed or neutered so that he or she does not contribute to the pet overpopulation problem - this is the **single most important** step you can take
- Adopt your next pet from an animal shelter rather than buying them from a breeder or pet store - encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do the same
- Support your local shelters: Adopt, Foster, Volunteer, Donate, Educate

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Best Friends



Last month, Caring Hearts Treasurer, Carla Miget and Co-founder, Laura Cullom attended a 7 day workshop at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah titled 'How to Start and Run an Animal Sanctuary'.

Although the beauty of the sanctuary was breathtaking, they both admitted that the training was very intense – "like drinking from a firehose", but far surpassed their expectations and completely transformed their way of thinking about animal rescue.

Two of the original Best Friends founders, Jana de Peyer and Faith Maloney hosted the class and shared both successes and failures in the process of building the Best Friends sanctuary we know and love today. Faith Maloney confessed, "We made every mistake there was to make, but we still made it work." I'd say so – Best Friends is the largest animal sanctuary in the United States and the most loved sanctuary in the world. You cannot visit Best Friends and be left unchanged.

The information Carla and Laura learned will initially be shared with the greater Caring Hearts team, but is also intended to be shared with other rescue groups in the future. Everyone doing rescue work can benefit from the guidance provided by Best Friends.

The biggest take-away from the training is the reality that there is a role for all of us to play, and it's going to take every one of us doing our part to create a world where there are no more homeless pets. Together, we truly can Save Them All.





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July 2017

A Better Life for Dogs and Cats

Caring Hearts reached a milestone by helping our 150th animal this summer! None of this would have been possible without the support of our generous community and amazing volunteers. Here are the 155 animals helped so far:

- 109 - Emergency Veterinary Assistance
 - 30 cats
 - 68 dogs
 - 1 bunny
- 11 - Spay/Neuter Assistance
 - 1 cat
 - 10 dogs
- 35 - TNR Program(Trap/Neuter/Return)
 - 1 in foster care
 - 13 transferred to local shelters
 - 21 returned to cat colonies

We continue to be humbled by the outpouring of support in the form of time donated by our selfless and committed volunteers, financial donations and contributions to the Thrift Store to help raise money for the animals. YOU – the volunteers, donors, supporters, and those who have a passion to make life better for animals in need – YOU are truly the backbone of this organization and the reason so many animals have received the medical care they so desperately need. We cannot thank you enough for your commitment to the animals!

All Donations Make a BIG Difference

Donations are always needed and appreciated! There are lots of different ways you can help.

- **Donate your time** – volunteering is a great way to meet new people and have fun with others who share your passion for animals
- **Thrift Store:** 113 North Main Street, Laurie, MO
 - Shop at Caring Hearts Thrift Store
 - Donate gently used items
- **Financial Donations**
 - Mail: PO Box 1684, Laurie, MO 65038
 - Online: www.caringheartsanimalrescue.org
- **Amazon Smile** - a simple way for you to support Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the charity of your choice.

Peanut's Rescue Story



Meet Peanut. He was only a year old when he was rescued by a Good Samaritan. This compassionate soul welcomed Peanut into her home even though she knew there was 'something wrong with him'. What made this act of kindness even more remarkable is that Peanut's newfound mom already had 3 other rescue dogs she was trying to care for. But there was just something about Peanut, and she admitted, "I just love animals and can't stand to see them suffer".

After a visit to the vet, Peanut's mom learned what was wrong - Peanut was born with a birth defect that had grossly displaced his 'boy parts'. The older he got, the more painful and life threatening his condition. She was given the shocking news that Peanut would need complicated, reconstructive surgery to live. In fact, the vet didn't expect him to survive more than a week without it. This was serious.

Caring Hearts was thankful to play a role in getting Peanut the help he needed, but we didn't do it alone. Blue Moon stepped up to help, and words cannot express our gratitude for the lifesaving reconstructive surgery performed by the amazing and talented vets at Linn Creek.

In the end, Peanut's life was saved because of people working together, but it started with the compassion of one woman who simply put, "just loves animals".



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Newcomers Welcome

Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue received a warm welcome at the **West Lake Newcomers Club** June luncheon. It was an honor and privilege to share our mission with this wonderful group of women. We left feeling more connected to the community and more committed than ever.

We also received two generous donations from the Newcomers Club, which we quickly put to good use helping animals in the community. We cannot thank the West Lake Newcomers Club enough for supporting our mission!

The need is great, but we are reminded every day that we are not in this alone. We are surrounded by a compassionate and generous community that makes it possible for Caring Hearts to continue changing the lives of animals each day.

Mission

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Vision

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Hope for Community Cats



Two of the kittens helped by TNR

In an effort to reduce needless deaths due to overpopulation, Caring Hearts is leading an aggressive TNR (Trap Neuter Return) program, spear-headed by our very own Teresa Ensor, Co-founder and President of Caring Hearts. She and her grand-daughter 'Jo-Jo' have successfully trapped, transported for spay/neuter, and returned 35 cats and kittens in only two months.

Cats reproduce at an alarming rate – and many die in the process. One female cat and her offspring can produce as many as 370,000 kittens in only 7 years.

Sterilized animals live longer, happier lives, and more than 5,500 cats and dogs are euthanized every day because they do not have a home and shelters do not have space for them. This is why Caring Hearts is a strong supporter of spay/neuter programs.

If you have any questions about Caring Heart's TNR program or want to help cats in need, please reach out to us at 573-789-9247.



Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue

The Little Rescue with a Big Heart

Non-Profit 501 (c) 3

October 2017

Caring for the Community

Ten short months ago, we provided assistance to our very first rescue dog, and since then we have helped more than **230 animals** with emergency veterinary care and low cost spay/neuter assistance. Of the animals helped, 100 were cats, and over half of the cats were spayed/neutered through our TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) program. This will ensure healthier lives for the cats and reduce the number of kittens born without a place to call home.

Along with emergency veterinary care assistance, Caring Hearts also provides supplemental pet food to owners in need. We believe every human with a sincere desire to love and care for a pet should be given the opportunity to do so. Giving back to the community in this way prevents beloved pets from being relinquished to already overcrowded shelters and keeps the pet healthy and happy in their homes. What could be better?

Testimonials

"It's good to know there are good caring people that are doing the right thing for these animals. Too often I see the abuse & neglect go unchecked. It's a relief to see kindness directed to those who depend on us. All a pet wants is to love & be loved back." ~ Steve Svoboda

"Thank you so much for helping with our fur baby Niki Lynn! I am so happy with your rescue organization and I really want to be involved! My residents and animals are a true passion for me! I want to help all I can! I'm sharing and trying to raise money to donate and help! Once again thank you." ~ Christy Wickham

"Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue is an amazing organization. They do so much to give back to our community!!!" ~ Sarah Rucker

"These guys are the BEST! SAVED MY PUPPY FROM DEATH. Thank you, thank you thank you!!!!" ~ Jamielee Romero

"Just wanted to say a HUGE THANK YOU to the good people of Caring Hearts, had it not been for your help, we would've surely lost our boy PD. I'm happy to say that he pulled through and is now back home slowly recuperating and doing better and better each day. All the help was truly God sent and we praise the Lord every day and thank Him for blessing the world with folks like you, and for the incredible gift of our beautiful boy with us again. May the Good Lord ALWAYS bless you all and keep you close to His heart. AMEN!!" ~ Brian Roberts



Hugo's Hero



Hugo was only 5 weeks old when Teresa Ensor, Caring Hearts Co-Founder, heard the little stray kitten crying for help in her backyard. Once she was able to catch him, she noticed there was something seriously wrong with his back leg, so she took him to Laurie Animal Hospital.

X-rays showed a badly broken femur that would require surgery to repair. Hugo was treated for fleas as well as Capilaria (internal parasites), and the next day, Dr. Tichy performed the difficult surgery of pinning the bone in Hugo's leg together, which was a challenge since Hugo barely weighed ½ pound.

Once Hugo was stabilized, 2 abscesses ruptured in his 'good leg'. This poor little guy couldn't catch a break! All the while, his caretaker and veterinary assistant Sarah Rucker was quickly falling under his spell. "He would curl up and look at me with those eyes as if to say *Take Me Home.*"

Sarah knew it wouldn't be easy to convince her father to let her take in another animal. She already had 3 dogs, a hamster, 2 degus, 2 snakes and a rabbit. As she expected her dad initially said "NO CATS", but after spending a month and a half at Laurie Animal Hospital, Hugo was finally ready to go to his new home...and Sarah's dad finally said "YES".

When asked about Hugo's veterinary care expenses, Sarah said, "Caring Hearts took care of everything!" We were happy to help, but Sarah was really Hugo's hero.

We cannot thank the wonderful and caring staff at Laurie Animal Hospital enough for taking excellent care of Hugo, and Sarah for giving this sweet guy a loving, safe place to land.

Update from Sarah: *Hugo gets along great with all the other animals and fits right in as if he was always meant to be part of the family. Sarah's dad "loves Hugo" and neither of them could imagine life without him.*



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Non-Profit 501 (c) 3

The Thrift Shop is Expanding

It's hard to believe, but we have already outgrown the original space we secured for the Caring Hearts Thrift Store only 6 short months ago. Due to the outpouring of support in the form of wonderful donations, we need more room!! As luck would have it, the space right next to our current location just became available – so we are moving in!

Our amazing and selfless volunteers have worked through the brutal heat of summer, sorting and pricing out of hot storage units with no air conditioning. They were not looking forward to the winter with no heat, so we are very excited to provide a heated and cooled area for them to sort and price all the wonderful donations from the community.

If you haven't come by to check us out, we'd love to meet you! We are located at 113 North Main in Laurie Missouri, at the intersection of Hwy 5 and Hwy O, next to the Bookery. People often tell us we are *"the friendliest Thrift Shop in town"*, and have *"the nicest stuff"*. Well, we can't take credit for the nice stuff, but we certainly enjoy what we do, and it apparently shows!

Donations

Caring Hearts is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 and all donations are tax deductible.

About Us

We are made up of a small group of dedicated volunteers who are passionate about saving animals and making a positive difference in the community. Caring Hearts Dog and Cat Rescue is supported solely by donations and fund raising efforts. Everyone affiliated with this organization is a volunteer – no one is paid.

Mission

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Vision

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Dawn Leach - Advisor

Random Act of Kindness

A few weeks ago, a woman stopped by the Caring Hearts Thrift Store looking for an outfit for a job interview. Her life had been hard, and she'd made her share of mistakes, but she was trying her best to get back on track.

She found a dress she liked and tried it on and it fit, but she didn't have the money to pay for it. So one of the volunteers working at the store that day bought the dress for her and wished her the very best on her job interview. The woman was overcome with gratitude and went on her way.

A couple weeks later, this same woman came back to the store, holding her head a little higher and beaming from ear to ear. She was also wearing the dress. She was so excited and couldn't wait to tell us, "I got the job!"