



Dear Friends,

We were off to a great start this year. We were finally fully staffed. The vaccine clinic was as successful and popularly attended as ever. We had booked travel clinics through the summer. We purchased some much-needed software to help with the medical records and clinic. We had even hired a part time office manager! All this success was greatly welcomed as the prior years had brought us some challenges.

Along comes Covid-19. On March 16<sup>th</sup> we abruptly shut down the office for what we thought would be only two weeks. For us, it felt like the world stopped and we did not know what to expect. Would we really re-open? When? Would we have to lay off staff? Would we be able to meet our obligations? What would we do with the cats in the office? Would any of us get Covid? And what would that mean to our ability to run CDC? How would that affect all of our livelihoods? How about the dogs in foster care, would anyone want to adopt at such an uncertain time? And how about all the homeless cats/dogs that needed help? How could we help the community which so heavily relies on the services offered at the vaccine clinic? All questions that we could not answer at the time.

Two weeks led to two months, not only because of the guidelines issued by the state agencies but also by the restrictions imposed by manufacturers who were not allowed to sell surgery supplies to veterinary clinics for elective surgeries (spay/neuter is considered elective).

During the time that we were closed (mid-March to mid-May), we painfully laid off the veterinarians and newer staff.



The remaining staff took turns at the office caring for the 21 office cats, the wildlife and feral cat colony on our office grounds, and the normal office duties. Since we had no idea what lay ahead of us, we held off on bringing in more foster dogs and cats, especially since the veterinary offices were only open for sickness/emergency visits. Luckily, most of the dogs in foster care had recently been adopted and only a few remained. One of the highlights during this time was the overwhelming desire by the public to adopt shelter/rescue pets. We were able to adopt out some of our longest resident cats.

We reached out to donors; we applied for emergency funding and grants from other organizations; we applied and received a PPP loan (this was a triumph); negotiated for certain expenses to be forgiven/reduced for a time; we offered limited veterinary products on-line to our vaccine clinic clients; we continued to work on transitioning to the new software; handled human resource issues regarding layoffs; continued to sell dog beds to raise additional funds. We also took a step back to examine some of our business practices not only to address ways to be more efficient but at the same time, to set new protocols, guidelines, and procedures (which were refined as we went along) for the safety of our staff and clients and to adhere to Covid guidelines and state directives.

We reopened mid-May at a slower pace due to all of the Covid-19 precautions and restrictions and slowly increased the number of surgeries performed at the office location. In August, we started traveling to rural counties and shelters. We have not re-opened our heavily attended vaccine clinics, but instead offer limited wellness appointments to those clients on surgery days. We have slowly resumed bringing in more foster pets.

Due to the interruption in revenue sources, we have also focused on having a larger presence on social media for fundraising for specific situations and items. Highlighting the needs of our foster pets and the t-shirt fundraiser generated both monetary and in-kind donations. And our supporters always come through. We applied and received two grants which were much needed shots in the arm.

But like other small businesses, (we are not unique this way), we too, have also had a few setbacks. We had staff exposure to Covid which disrupted our ability to do surgeries and had to re-schedule hundreds of surgeries. Disruptions are the new norm and we are getting accustomed. Our office ambassador kitty of 10 years, Herbie, passed away. →

We are hanging in there and simply could not do it without the support of our donors, rescue friends, and dedication of our volunteers and staff. We would like to thank everyone that has and continues to support us. We are the little engine that could and will continue to chug along.



# A True Rags to Riches Dog



When we adopted Bloomberg he was very nervous and stand-offish. He didn't know if we could be trusted. His new brother, Oscar, wanted to play with him constantly but Bloom was having none of it. After about a month, and endless unwarranted love, he finally started to let down his guard. He started wagging his tail like a helicopter, begging for walks, and laying as close as possible to us. Now, he gives endless amounts of kisses and steals all of the covers. He still acts like he owns the yard and plays like a puppy. He really dislikes the mailman and his man bun and wants attention from the UPS truck. It has been an absolute gift to see this little man come out of his shell. He has a VERY big personality and is just the most handsome old man. He is SO SO SO loved!  
 Fostered by Penny Bachman-Jaffe & Kellie DiFrischia.  
 Loved for the rest of his life by Lindsey & Molly.



Bloomberg was pulled from a rural Ohio shelter in dire health. His abdomen was badly distended because of a hernia. Surgery was delayed because of a serous skin infection that left his chances of survival at 50%.



Byers Airport Subaru made an almost \$24,000 donation from the 2019 Share the Love event ! And the 2020 Share The Love event is being held until January 4, 2021. We are incredibly grateful for the partnership with Byers Airport Subaru as it also provides opportunities for grants with The ASPCA. This year, we received 2 smaller grants to help our homeless dogs and cats. One grant was to get our dogs/cats adoption ready (spay/neuter, vaccines) while the other grant was pure gravy as a \$100 dollar award for each dog/cat we adopted out in the month of October.

MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM THE

Thank you George, Lindsey & The Byers Gang !



# The Story of Willys Nos & Shelby Jane



Willys entered our hearts and home on Christmas Eve, 2018. At the time, Shelby was 12 years old. She had some vision issues and lost her brother, Hemi, a yellow lab, on August 28, 2018. Shelby was a Shih Tzu Poodle mix that loved every human she met, but was always cautious with other dogs. After being introduced to Willys (formerly known as Taco) on a walk in our neighborhood, we could see that both dogs were comfortable with each other. In a matter of days, they bonded to the point where they napped and slept side by side. Willys instantaneously became Shelby's protector and guide. He treated Shelby as his Queen "B" – always allowing her first choice of treats, toys and blankets.

During the pandemic, we had to say goodbye to Shelby. Willys was by her side and was truly as heartbroken as we were. Gradually Willys emerged from his depression as a more loving and compassionate dog that desired our love and attention.

The impact Willys has made on our life is difficult to put into words. Watching his personality unfold from a cautious dog entering a new environment, to taking on the "responsibility" of a senior dog, then turning into an outgoing family member full of personality is indescribable. (In addition, he is a Home Depot favorite customer and a regular Zoom Meeting participant at the animal health company where I am employed).

We will forever be grateful for all of the efforts and accomplishment of the employees that work extensively to save and find homes for deserving dogs and cats. Their love and our love for them was difficult to describe. Fostered by Kristol Das & Eric, Maeve, Rhea and Treva Palowski. Loved For The Rest of his life by Kelly and Chad.

Adopter, Donor,  
Dog Lover

COLUMBUS DOG CONNECTION 

I have experienced, first hand, the incredible work Columbus Dog Connection by attending their events, donating and, most recently, adopting my dogs. As a dog advocate, I am most impressed about their passion for helping dogs in every possible way: fostering, adopting, medical support and advocating through legislation. Jenny H. Upper Arlington



THE BIG GIVE.  
THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION

JUNE 10  
10 a.m.

SUPPORT US  
ON 06.10.20

Thank you to The Columbus Foundation for the 2020 Big Give. We were fortunate to receive \$11,384 in donations. Special thanks to Ridhi Singh, Anne Jennings, Jenny Hensley, Melanie Schlosser, and Melissa Smart for their extra efforts in making our posts awesome.

## OUR VILLAGE

Joyce & Bill \* Our Foster Families & Vaccine Clinic Volunteers

Dr Kristy Clay \* Dr Molly McLeod \* Dr Audra Hanthorn \* Gahanna Animal Hospital  
 Dr Andrea Jesnsen \* Hague Water \* Dr Devon Horne \* Northwest Vet Hospital  
 Medvet \* Pet Palace \* JT Lawn Services \* Bob Orenchuk \* City Paws \* Wendy Schutt

Hausfrau Haven \* Cott Systems \* Danny Morris \* Amy Morton \* Rainbow Cleaners \* Mutts On The Move

Beth Shoenerberger \* Jan Hinch \* Julie Sloat \* LaBoit \* Dr Cory Brown \* Rutherford Funeral Home \* The Chloe Foundation  
 Kathy Clevenger \* Becki & Todd Edwards \* Patty Fox \* Linda & Michael Stickney \* Clyde R. Fobes Fund \* Vet Cremation Services

Columbus Humane \* Peg & Rick Kaplan \* The Kaplan Foundation \* Julie & Ryan Brink \* Citizens for Humane Action  
 Pet People \* The Columbus Foundation \* Dr Donn & Gayle Griffith \* The Hildreth Foundation \* Susan Powell \* Sandy Horvath

Donna Maibuum & Ed Thomas \* Penny Bachman-Jaffee \* Gwen Hoogendoorn \* Wildlife Dave Wood \* Becki Kelso

All the donors who give through their employee donation program



## In Loving Memory of Bill Hague



Bill holding Rickie, one of the many homeless dogs he saved.

With heavy hearts we share the passing of Bill Hague on September 11, 2020. Bill and his wife Joyce were precisely why we were able to take the leap of faith when we dreamed of addressing the overpopulation problem at it's core. "The Andy", our spay/neuter truck, was named after their beloved pooch, Andy.

Bill's life long dedication to building a family business allowed us to work on their behalf rescuing thousands of dogs and spaying/neutering thousands more. We were able to secure a building that allows us to share tens of thousands of dollars in donations with rural rescues/shelters and be the driving force behind the puppy mill bill. His son eulogized Bill saying that he touched thousands of lives...we would like to add that Bill touched tens of thousands of homeless dogs and cats and the people who help them.

## "Rock" Stars



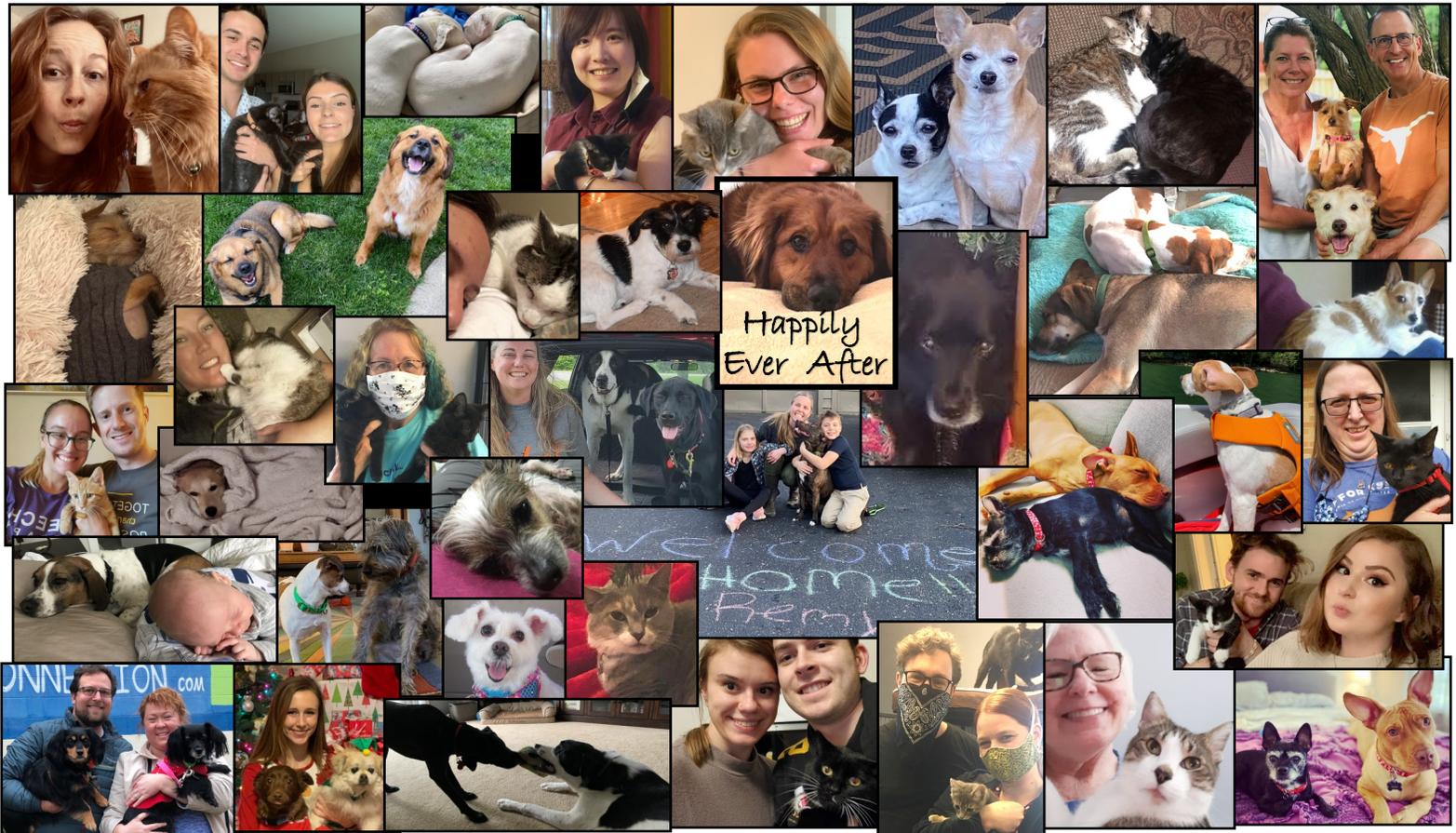
Thanks to Winchester's Wings for our new gravel Windy & Jason Steiner, owners of Geiger Materials & Steiner Services donated gravel to fix our parking lot. Winchester was their beloved pooch who inspires them to give back. They also held a donation drive and wine fundraiser to help our homeless dogs and cats. Thank you also to our old neighbors and good friends at Asphalt Services for spreading the gravel.



## Home Dog Heroes

Shout out to Home Dog Day Care for foster dog boarding, fundraising and advocacy. Call them for your daycare and boarding needs.

[HomeDogResort.com](http://HomeDogResort.com)





Katrina and Madeline modeling our most popular design from our t-shirt fundraiser. Available with Bonfire, your purchase of our t-shirts is one of the ways we pay for needed medical care of our foster dogs. [Bonfire.com/store/Columbus-Dog-Connection](http://Bonfire.com/store/Columbus-Dog-Connection)

More t-shirt options on our web site.



# New Team Members

We are pleased to introduce Katrina Johnson and Madeline Fandrey to our team. Katrina is our office manager and comes with a wealth of rescue experience after managing the Circle P Horse Sanctuary. Katrina has done a phenomenal job of organizing our office, introducing new software and most timely of all, because of Covid, making all of our work paperless.

Madeline fills our vet assistant role. Her dedication is obvious with her attention to the foster dogs/cats as well as the four-legged clients we serve. Madeline has also fostered a few of the wayward dogs/cats we have encountered at a spay/neuter day in a rural county.

## You Can Support Our Work

Buying an Ohio Pet Plate, selecting us as your Amazon beneficiary, buying our t-shirts from Bonfire, direct monetary donations are just a few ways you can support our life saving work. Visit our site for more ways to help us help the homeless dogs and cats of Ohio.



## Meet Good Gal Greta



She is an ooey-goopy pile of love. Greta was pulled from a rural shelter where she was rescued as part of a humane case. This sweet girl had to have emergency spay surgery because of an infection. She also required entropion surgery. We saved Greta's life with your donations.

Fostered by Jenna Francis. Loved forever by Robin Brunotts.

## Sweet Obituary

Spice Canan, best beagle ever, my first beagle ever, my first dog ever, my little Woo Woo You. Spicey passed June 12, 2020.



I got Spice in December 2011 from Columbus Dog Connection. Spice was a hard to place dog with her tendency to nip at the ankles of anyone coming between her and her person.

Spice lived to be 13, even surviving lung cancer. In February 2018, a four inch tumor was removed from one of her lungs.

Spice and I walked twice/day. In earlier years, we covered 4 miles a day on the OSU campus, past the stadium and back through The Oval. Even after lung cancer we would make our way to Gooddale Park and it always seemed she wanted to keep going, even though her breathing would worry me. Spice liked to chase rabbits, squirrels and cats. She was strong, a 50 pounder. I use to say she could take off like an alligator out of water. In 2014, I lost balance when she took off, I fell on my right hand and fractured my pinky. Even still, we walked and we walked and we walked. I loved this dog, my first dog, my best beagle ever. Oh Spice.

By Crystal Canan, owned & loved by Spice Canan, Best Dog Ever. Fostered by Mirna Bowman.

## Please be part of our life saving team.

A 501c3 org. Donations are tax deductible.

\$20 \_\_\_ \$40 \_\_\_ \$60 \_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please send \_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_ in memory of and notify:

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Kindly send to Columbus Dog Connection  
2761 Johnstown Rd  
Columbus OH 43219



Rome is a super cool, 7 month old kitty. Could you be her forever home ?

## WISH LIST

- clumping litter
- share our FB/Instagram posts
- paper towels & bleach
- gift cards
- detergent, unscented
- potty pads
- dry cat food
- distilled water
- sharpies
- Brother Ink, TN 660
- Brother Ink, TN 760
- HP Ink, 410X & 410A
- grass sickle, long handle

Or Donate On line With Any Credit →