



# Paw Prints

Newsletter of the Brown County Humane Society    October 2022

## Volunteers Make All the Difference in Lives of Shelter Animals



Volunteers provide over 15,000 hours of unpaid labor to help BCHS function every single year. Without volunteers, our organization would look very different. Our save rate of over 98% would be impossible. Animals would spend longer in the shelter due to our facility being a less-welcoming place. Animals would not receive the attention they do now because staff would be stretched to the max to complete the bare minimum tasks. An amazing mix of volunteers, donors and staff are truly what make our shelter work.

If you've been looking for a volunteer experience where you can share your passion for animals, truly make a difference in a small organization and be appreciated for all you do, consider joining us here at BCHS.

We currently have many openings for volunteers both at the shelter

and from home. If you would like to interact directly with the animals, we can make that happen. If you would prefer a less hands-on spot, no problem. Listed below are just a few of the current high-priority needs we have for volunteers right now.

To learn more about our volunteer openings, complete an online application and our Community Relations Manager will reach out to discuss what position would be the right fit for you. Applications can be completed online at [www.bchumane.org/volunteer/](http://www.bchumane.org/volunteer/)



**We need  
volunteers!**

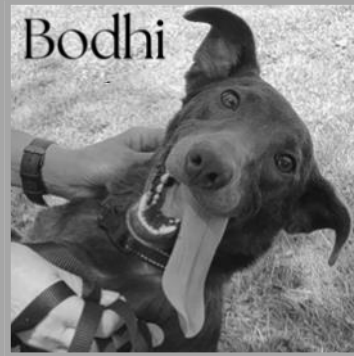
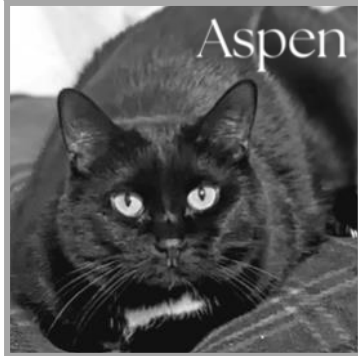
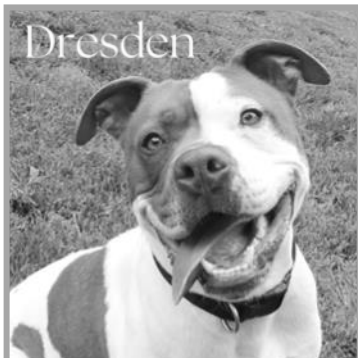
*If you've ever wanted to get involved at BCHS, now is the time! We have listed just a few of the areas where we need volunteers.*

*To learn more, visit our website at [www.bchumane.org/volunteer](http://www.bchumane.org/volunteer).*

- Morning Animal Care
- Afternoon Dog Walker
- Afternoon Shelter Helper
- Petco Bloomington Cat Care
- SPOT Transport Help
- In-home Foster Care
- Animal Transport to Vet Appointments & Petco
- Social Media Content Creator
- Animal Bio Writer
- Video Assistant
- Event Worker
- Envelope Stuffers
- Committee Help: Marketing, Behavior, Fundraising Events and more

# New Program to Help Long-Stay Pets Find Chance at Love

In an effort to help some of the long-stay pets at the shelter find their forever homes, BCHS has launched a Foster to Family program! Are you considering a new pet, but are worried about committing without knowing if a dog or cat is really “the one”? Are you worried about introducing a new pet into your home and it not being the right fit? This program helps relieve these pressures by allowing temporary trial periods for adoptable pets!



The Foster to Family program allows qualifying dogs and cats to go home with approved fosters for a maximum of two weeks to give everyone time to adjust to one another and see if it is a good match. Once the two-week period is over, the foster can complete the adoption or return the pet.

The wonderful part is even if it does not work out with a specific family, it gives the animal a much-needed break from the shelter. It also provides valuable insight into that pet's behavior in a home to help find its perfect match in the future.

Foster applicants will follow the standard application approval process. Approved fosters will be required to complete a foster contract and pay a \$50 deposit that will either be refunded or go toward that pet's adoption fee when finalized.

So far, three dogs have found their forever home through this program and we hope it will have the same happy ending for many more! As of the time of print (September 20<sup>th</sup>), the following pets are currently available for our Foster to Family program: Aspen, Bodhi, Clementine, Dresden and Sky.

To see what animals are currently available for our Foster to Family, visit our website at [www.bchumane.org](http://www.bchumane.org).

## Free Microchips for Local Cats

It's easy to think your indoor cat will never go outside, so you might wonder why he would need a microchip. But, accidents happen – doors get left open, a loud noise spooks him and out the window he goes. We've heard it all. A microchip can help reunite you with your lost cat! And, for a limited time, Brown County cats can receive a free microchip at the Bean Blossom Animal Clinic (BBAC).

No appointments needed - stop by Mon, Tues, Thurs or Fri between either 8-11am or 3-4pm. Clients will see first-available technician to expedite the visit as much as possible.

Microchip implant is free with another service at BBAC. If no other service is needed, there is a \$10 technician fee. Regular price is \$37.50. Program available thanks to a grant from the Brown County Lion's Club.



## Barn Sale Total Exceeds Previous Year by Nearly \$20,000

Last year, the Barn Sale raised over \$55,000 and was our most successful year ever. We couldn't imagine it getting any bigger. And, then our community came out in force! This year's Barn Sale raised over \$75,000 that will go directly toward providing support for the over 700 homeless pets that will arrive at the shelter this year. We were completely blown away when the total was calculated!

With the constant flow of cars and donations, it is impossible to know just how many people generously donated their no longer needed treasures. Each day of donations a steady stream of cars, trucks and even U-Hauls arrived to help make the sale a success. Thousands of items were collected and each one had to be priced and ready for sale in just a few days.

That is where our amazing team of dedicated and passionate volunteers came in. Approximately 100 individuals provided a total of 1,500 hours to make this event happen. They sorted, cleaned and priced; loaded and unloaded countless vehicles; set up the event in an organized, easy-to-shop manner; assisted customers throughout the sale; and helped clean up when it was all over. They worked tirelessly for days staying focused on the task at hand. At least that is, until a dog visited the sale and then all attention was lost for a few minutes! But, after some de-stress time loving on the dogs, it was right back to business.



Whether you donated, shopped, volunteered or simply spread the word about the event, thank you for helping to make it our most successful Barn Sale yet!

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## SPOT Program Continues to Provide Much-Needed Services

In July, the Serving Pets Outreach Team (SPOT) provided spay/neuter surgeries for a total of 112 publicly owned dogs and cats. Imagine all of the unwanted puppies and kittens that were prevented in a single month! Since its beginning, the program has provided spay/neuter surgeries for over 8,350 dogs and cats and counting.

Sixty-three of the 112 pets fixed in July were via SPOT's normally scheduled twice monthly spay/neuter transports to Low Cost Spay Neuter Clinic in Brownsburg. The additional 49 pets fixed, 32 of which were sent in a single transport (*shown below*), were done at Pets Alive in Bloomington who are always willing to help when called.



If you live in Brown County and your pet needs sterilized, please contact the SPOT coordinator to schedule the next available appointment. SPOT can be reached at 812-703-0797. If there is no answer, just leave a message to receive a call back.

**Don't Forget!** Memorial and honorarium gifts are now published on our website. To view the current listing of memorial and honorarium giving, visit [www.bchumane.org/memorial-giving/](http://www.bchumane.org/memorial-giving/).

# 15th Annual Chocolate Walk Sells Out Earlier than Ever

This year's Annual Chocolate Walk event sold out in record time with the last of the 1,250 tickets selling on August 30th, nearly two months earlier than normal. We are very excited to share this fun day with so many of you on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

As we celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> year of this event, we want to send out a special thank to the shops that have participated every year since the very beginning. We are so grateful to the Artist Colony Inn, Bone Appetit Bakery, Candy Emporium, Carmel Corn Cottage, Heritage Candy Store, Hobnob Corner Restaurant, Jack & Jill Nut Shop and Nashville Fudge Kitchen for your dedication to helping make the Chocolate Walk a sweet success for the past 15 years.



We would also like to thank this year's sponsors for their support of the Chocolate Walk. This year's Dark Chocolate sponsors are: JB Goods/Life is Good, Jones Law Office, Nashville Spice Company, A Stone's Throw Home Stay, Walmart and deTours of Indiana Wines.

The Milk Chocolate sponsors are A&R Storage, Brown County Inn, Centra Credit Union, Curry Auto Center, Friends O' Mine Campground, Hills O' Brown Vacation Rentals, New Leaf and RE/MAX Team. Finally, we are always grateful to our friends at Indiana Country 101.5 WKKG for their support as our Media Sponsor.

If you were not able to purchase tickets and would like to join the waitlist to purchase any surrendered tickets for the Chocolate Walk, please email your name, phone number and the number of tickets needed to [jane@bchumane.org](mailto:jane@bchumane.org). Unclaimed tickets will also be available for purchase the day of the event beginning at 3pm at the Salvation Army. But, you can sign up early for these starting at 10 am at the Salvation Army.

## Join Us to Spread Holiday Cheer to Shelter Pets

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

On Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> we will hold a Facebook Live for our supporters to share in the fun as we shower our dogs and cats with holiday gifts made possible by your donations. We had so much fun sharing the evening with you last year, we want to do it again! So, save the date and be sure to join us **Dec. 15 at 7pm on Facebook Live** to spread some holiday cheer to the pets still waiting for their forever homes.

To donate to this fun event go to <https://www.bchumane.org/holiday-gifts/> on or after Nov 25<sup>th</sup> and select the gifts you want the shelter pets to have.

Until next time,

Visit us online at:  
[www.bchumane.org](http://www.bchumane.org)

Like us on Facebook at:  
[facebook.com/bchumane](https://facebook.com/bchumane)

Follow us on Instagram  
at: [bchumane](https://www.instagram.com/bchumane)

### BCHS Staff

Shelter Manager: Caity Friedersdorf  
Animal Care Staff: Brian Blessing, Niall Burns,  
Valerie Foley and Sean King  
Community Relations Manager: Megan Gushwa  
SPOT Coordinator: Patty G

### Board of Directors

President: Sue Ann Werling  
Secretary: Greg Bennett  
Treasurer: Jane Weatherford  
Directors: Pam Clark, Rebecca Meyer and  
Marcia Moore

**BCHS MISSION:** *The BCHS is a community resource dedicated to promoting animal welfare. We provide temporary shelter to pets in need and promote adoption into permanent, loving homes. We support and promote spaying and neutering to eliminate pet overpopulation. We advocate compassionate care and respect for animals through public education.*