

paws for thought



Rascal, Adopted from Animal Humani

Volume 49, Number 4 Winter 2018

compassion in action: Jenny's miracle



Abandoned. Injured. Afraid.

That was Jenny's story when she was found wandering in a national park alone by experienced Animal Humane New Mexico volunteer, Brian.

With no pets of his own, the time Brian has spent with our grateful shelter dogs—keeping them happy and healthy until they are adopted—means as much to him as it does to all the pets he has helped over the last four years. And, Brian's compassion, just like yours, had a particularly profound impact on the little 1-year-old Red Heeler who came to be called "Jenny."

Brian dramatically describes the day he and his partner rescued this sweet girl:

"Chris and I had driven up to the Jemez to go bouldering. While we were getting our backpacks, I glanced up to see a van approaching. **Behind the van, running as fast as she could, was a small dog.** I could see even from a distance that one of her back legs was injured. When she reached a parked pick-up truck, she stopped at the driver's door, frantically wagging her stub tail and moving her head back and forth, trying to get the driver to help her.

"She had been running down that road looking for someone to save her."

She was about 30 feet from us. When I knelt down, she ran full speed toward me. You can picture it, her gimp leg not even touching the ground as she ran, ears flying back and tongue hanging out. She threw herself into me and pressed her full weight into my chest as she looked up with a look that I can only describe as relief; that look pleading, 'Help me. Please, help me.'

She jumped into our open car. She knew, and we knew, that we were not leaving her there. I gave her my peanut butter and jelly sandwich and cupped my hand for her to drink water from. She was skin and bones and dehydrated. She had obviously been there for more than a day — cold, frightened, lonely, hungry, and thirsty.

We scratched the hike and drove back to Albuquerque. Jenny sat in Chris' lap the first part of the drive, leaning into his chest and looking at us both intensely, giving us kisses. You could feel her relax as she looked at us; you could see her mood change from desperation to joy. **She had been running down that road looking for someone to save her.** We talked to her all the way back and she just knew she was safe. She crawled to the back seat and stretched out, falling fast asleep."



After arriving, Jenny spent almost six months in Animal Humane's care. Because of you, our Donor-subsidized Veterinary Clinic was able to perform two separate surgeries on Jenny's injured leg.

The first repaired the leg fracture that Brian and Chris had noticed when they found her. The other fixed Jenny's Lateral Patellar Luxation, a condition that caused her kneecap to move off its normal track. Each surgery required more than six weeks of recovery in a dedicated Foster Care home.

Prolonged inactivity is hard for most dogs, but it is especially hard for a playful, high-energy dog like Jenny. Working with Jenny's multiple Foster Care families, our shelter behaviorists created a detailed plan to keep her mentally stimulated despite her temporary physical restrictions.

During her final month of Foster Care, Jenny was with Robin, the woman who would give her the loving, secure home she had been chasing on that mountain road many months before.

Robin, who had never had a dog, saw Jenny on our website and fell in love. She recalls, "It was that dog smile she had!" She continues, "I did some reading up on Heelers so I felt I knew a bit about the breed." Today, Jenny loves the dog park, playing fetch, hiking in the Bosque and playing with balls. And, of course, she loves her new mom. The sassy pup is also learning to live with a feline sibling.



In spite of the pain and fear Jenny must have felt while alone, this sweet girl remained happy and friendly throughout her ordeal.

From Brian's first sighting of her to the day her adoption was official (and beyond), Jenny's story, like all those written at Animal Humane, is a testament to the power of your generosity and to the miracles that can happen when we work together.



looking forward, giving back

Moving here from Hawaii was a traumatic and life-changing event. What made my transition easier was volunteering at Animal Humane New Mexico. I eventually found myself at Foster Care, a jewel in the organization. I loved taking care of the puppies and kittens knowing that I was in some small way contributing to their journey toward their forever homes. I was also able to foster several batches of kittens. They taught me what unconditional love is and just how much fun it is to be a happy kitten. Then my dear sweet Daisy, a gray Tabby, passed away after 14 years of companionship and love.

And Animal Humane was again there to save me in my hours of sadness. I brought home a couple of two-week old foster kittens that needed round-the-clock care. Hoku and Lani (Hawaiian for "Star" and "Heavenly" respectively) flourished in spite of my inexperience and blunders as their "momma cat." Animal Humane allowed me the privilege of adopting them and they are the center of my universe. I have been so blessed with many gifts (new friends, new experiences) from Animal Humane and that is why I have named them as a beneficiary at my passing. This is the least I can do for such a compassionate organization whose mission it is to relieve suffering and make every pet's forever home the very best. Thank you Animal Humane New Mexico for all that you do and for the love you give to the animals.

the people who save lives

When asked what makes Animal Humane special, I say, our donors & our team.

You choose our shelter for your philanthropic investment; our team, fueled by your generosity, chooses to make homeless pets the beneficiaries of their time and talents. It's a magical cycle that has continued and grown for 53 years.

There is no better way to celebrate the holidays than to hear, in their words, the difference you help them make every day.

Happy Holidays from our entire Team! We hope the same happiness you've created for homeless pets in our care finds you & yours in the New Year!

Donna M. Stumpf Executive Director

Oma m. 5





Our donors make an incredible difference by allowing us to spend the time and resources rehabilitating dogs and cats who would otherwise have limited options. Their generosity enables us to spend weeks to months working with our most vulnerable shelter pets and gives us the gift of time to find them wonderful forever homes who will continue to do so.

-Jessica Harder, CPDT-KA, Senior Behavior Specialist, Team member for 5 years

Our donors do so much, without them some of our pets wouldn't get a chance to keep a limb or even to keep living. In particular, our Clinic recovery volunteers donate their time, and sometimes money, making more surgeries possible. Their support and love for pets is unbelievable.

-Juan De La Rosa, Veterinary Technician, Team member for 5 years





Our donors have volunteered their time and money to help keep our pets happy and healthy and their generosity of donations have saved many lives. Our donors rock my world!

-Melissa Jackson, Animal Care Attendant, Team member for 21 years

Our donors allow me to provide tools — be it instruments or knowledge — to keep pets in loving homes. Their generosity inspires me to help every pet every time.

-Trevor Driggs, CPDT-KA, Operations Director, The Center at Animal Humane Team member for 7 years





Our generous donors allow our Foster Care Team to offer pets in desperate need of respite a safe place to heal, grow and flourish. Their support truly optimizes our capacity of care for New Mexico's most vulnerable populations.

-Samantha Montgomery, RVT, Foster Care Manager, Team member for 4 years

It's awesome to listen to our donors' rescued pet stories and share what their donations help fund. When I let them know we adopted more than 4,000 pets last year, the look on their face is priceless.

-Fermín Gonzales, Thrift Associate/Driver, Team member for 5 years



DOGGIE DASH & DAWDLE NOVEMBER 4 BALLOON FIESTA PARK

Colin's day out: a shelter dog's day at Doggie Dash

Each year since 1982 enthusiastic pet lovers have gathered the first weekend in November for New Mexico's Biggest Party for Pets & People! This year's 36th Annual Doggie Dash & Dawdle was no exception. Several thousand individuals and their beloved canine companions spent a beautiful fall day at Balloon Fiesta Park raising over \$326,000 for homeless pets! The most grateful attendees were some Animal Humane residents who not only benefit from your generosity on a daily basis, but who took a break from the shelter, as part of Dash's Rent-A-Dog program, and enjoyed all the festivities our premiere event has to offer.

Thank you for making Colin's great day at Doggie Dash possible.

I'm Colin! A
4-year-old
Heeler Mastiff
mix. I came
to Dash as
part of Animal
Humane's
Rent-A-Dog
program!





There was so much to see and do at Doggie Dash.



Best of all, I learned what it was like to be part of a real family. I can't wait until I have one of my own!*



Special Thanks To Our Amazing Doggie Dash & Dawdle Sponsors

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July 1 – September 30, 2018

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Wedding

Mish & Robert W. Von Blomberg

Eric Berryman's Birthday

Stefanie & Mike Englis

Clara Lee & John Beuerle's

Wedding

Shari & Kevin Bolton's Wedding

Kim & Terry J. Lada Sandy & Steve Lang

Sharon & James Low Ron Bronitsky's Birthday

Gordon J. Bronitsky Vic Bruno's Birthday

Harry Davidson June A Blanchard

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Elizabeth Foster Dr. Frances Salman Koenig

Elizabeth Foster's Birthday

Darby Fegan

Dr. Frances Salman Koenia Libby Foster's, Darby Fegan's & Fifi

Koenig's Birthdays

Kathryne Fowler

Lisa Madsen

Howard Geck's Birthday

Esme Gitis-Miles & Andrew

Case's Wedding

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Dr. Mary Hume's Retirement

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with love

Beginning in January 2019, your wonderful memorial and honor donations will no longer appear in our quarterly newsletters. Instead, your gifts of love will be reflected in a special Tribute Album, mailed out at the beginning of each year. If you have questions about this change, please contact Erica Webb, Associate Director of Development Communications at 505.938.7883 or EricaW@AnimalHumaneNM.org.

You are cordially invited to our

Pet Planning Beyond Your Lifetime Seminar

Monday, February 18, 2019 form 12-1 pm

Friday, January 18, 2019 from 3 - 4 pm Please RSVP to RSVP2@AnimalHumaneNM.org or 505.938.7883

rescued and ready for love

This fall, three members of our team assisted in the removal of cats and kittens from a hoarding situation in Sandoval County. Local authorities, who had obtained a search warrant, found more than 60 felines trapped inside a house with no running water and several inches of waste covering the floor. After county officials were awarded custody, they reached out to Animal Humane New Mexico to begin transferring these felines to our shelter so they could receive the care and attention they desperately needed.

Because we were making transfers in stages, our top priority at the first visit was eight kittens and two adult cats who needed immediate care. Seven-week-old Cliffrose was part of this first transfer. At the county's holding facility our transfer team entered one of the temporary kennels in which the cats were housed. They found Cliffrose caught in a frayed tarp hanging on one side of the enclosure. Two of her tiny legs were so entangled that we had to use a knife to cut the tarp and free her.

Once safely in our care, we brought the fragile feline to our Donorsubsidized Veterinary Clinic. Our Clinic Team quickly determined that, in spite of how we found her, her legs were thankfully not injured. They developed a plan to treat Cliffrose for an upper respiratory infection and to bring her weight up to a normal level for a kitten her age.

Cliffrose may have been small for her age, but with the expert care your support provided, she quickly recovered from this rough start! Our Clinic and Foster Care teams were happy to see her begin gaining weight immediately. They were even more delighted to watch the originally shy and weak kitten, become a friendly and playful "catten" as she started to feel better. Today, at just 3 months old, Cliffrose has already experienced so many hardships. But her future is bright. A little over a month after her arrival, the beautiful kitten found comfort, security and joy in a loving home of her very own.

It takes a team to rescue a homeless pet. Here at Animal Humane, our team includes veterinarians, Foster Care volunteers, animal care staff, shelter behaviorists, adoption counselors and, most importantly, you – our donors and supporters. Thank you for making Cliffrose's rescue, recovery, and bright new future possible!



upon arrival and after the love & care you provided

Jetson







Yes, I want to give homeless pets a better life!

	\$25 🗖	\$50 🗖	\$150 🗖	My best gift of \$	Your kind gift makes a difference
I'd	like to	donate	e via:		

- ☐ Check mailed to: Animal Humane New Mexico at 615 Virginia St. SE 87108
- \square Credit card. Please charge my \square Visa \square MasterCard \square American Express \square Discover
- ☐ Phone. Call 505.938.7938
- ☐ Website. Visit AnimalHumaneNM.org

Q4 2018

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