

AnimalTalk

Fall/Winter 2017



GOLFING FOR ANIMALS
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**COMING TOGETHER FOR
ANIMALS IN NEED**
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CORPORATE TEAM DAY
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OUR MISSION

To promote the humane care and protection of all animals and to prevent cruelty and suffering.

AnimalTalk

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Change begins with a question

Questions, not answers, are the true source of change. They're what shake things up, shine a light in dark places, and foster fresh perspectives. They create real, visible change in society. Why? Because they inspire action.

When John J. Kelso asked the city of Toronto, "Why don't we have a society for the prevention of cruelty?", he sparked a series of events that would lead to the founding of the Toronto Humane Society, and from that, 130 years of humane care for countless animals from all across North America.

But we at the Toronto Humane Society have never stopped there. No, we're asking new questions everyday. For example, in 2015 we asked ourselves, "what if we offered to provide care for animals in First Nations communities who lack access to basic veterinary care?" That gave rise to the Northern Dogs Program, an outreach project that, since its inception in 2016 has seen 169 dogs and 118 cats spayed or neutered, and 259 dogs and 54 cats vaccinated. So far, it's been a great success, not only for the animals, but for the communities at large, as we also sought to educate the youth about responsible pet ownership. With this early success, we plan on continuing the program well into the future.

More recently, we asked ourselves, "how can we help animals in places where space-based euthanasia is a common occurrence, places where there are more dogs that can be cared for?" This led to our Rescue Transport Program, a program that saw the rescuing of hundreds of dogs from overcrowded shelters in the United States where they'd have otherwise been euthanized. It's a new program that's necessitated clear coordination between us and our sister shelters and organizations south of the border, one that we hope will foster better cross-border care for animals in the future.

With your support, we plan on asking even more questions as we continue to look for new ways to make the world a better place for animals. And as these recent initiatives beyond the GTA show, our valued donors have been as dedicated to this as we are. Whether you send a cheque in the mail, sponsor one of our kennels, or plan to make a gift in your estate, your generosity is continuing to prevent animal suffering not only in the GTA, but all across North America.

We and the animals thank you,



Dr. Jacques Messier, DVM, MBA
Chief Executive Officer



Want to keep up with what's happening at your favourite animal shelter?

Sign up for our **free** weekly newsletter at www.torontohumanesociety.com



GOLFING “FORE” ANIMALS A HOLE IN ONE!!

The 4th annual Ben Krieger Memorial Golf Tournament took place on Sunday, September 10th 2017, and through this event \$7,000 was raised for the animals in our care. In the span of 4 years this tournament alone has raised over \$20,000 for the animals at the Toronto Humane Society.

The Ben Krieger Memorial Golf Tournament was created by Ben’s Father, Dr. Mark Krieger, after the sudden passing of his son in January 2014. Ben cared deeply about the welfare of animals and adopted his own little rescue schnauzer named Sasha. The tournament honours his memory and raises funds for a cause that he was so passionate about. Thank you, Dr. Krieger, for your ongoing support and fundraising efforts for our shelter!



HAPPY TAILS

Update on “Cheyenne” - Now called Sasha

Sasha seems to have adapted very well to her new home. She went right away smelling the entire house with curiosity. And she actually seems to enjoy our company very much, she looks happier than ever.

We gave her medication, as instructed, and she eats always everything. She loves her walks outside and does pretty well passing by other people or dogs. She’s just curious about everything. We do her rehabilitation exercises twice a day, as well as the ice. She fought a little bit in the first day when applying the ice pack but eventually settled down and almost fell asleep. It seems better than the first day.

Sasha loves to play with her toys and squeezing them. At night, she sleeps in our room but inside of her crate, to avoid hurting herself during the night or around the bedroom, and so we can check on her. She’s just a sweet little puppy and for sure deserves a second chance to be happy after all she has been through.

We couldn’t be happier. Sasha is definitely the right girl for us in our lives. #InLovebySasha



COMING TOGETHER FOR LOVE

Hurricane season has come and gone, and people in the affected areas are still struggling to put their lives back together. Heartbreaking accounts of lost homes, businesses destroyed, entire towns reduced to heaps of rubble were frequent on the news and social media. But what we didn't hear about as often were the thousands of animals left behind or lost during these disasters. Left in their homes or in overcrowded shelters, they were abandoned in the midst of disaster.

The response was swift. Hundreds of animal groups from Canada and across the United States met the crisis head on, rescuing animals from flooded shelters and damaged homes all across Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. Through new partnerships with some of these rescue groups, we at the Toronto Humane Society joined in the effort.

Our partners at Dallas Pets Alive helped coordinate the rescuing of four dogs from areas affected by Hurricane Harvey. One of the four dogs, a Catahoula leopard mix named Minia, was found with an aural hematoma, ear infection, and skin issues. After being treated here, she's now in perfect health and in a wonderful foster home. She's expected to be fully adopted by the foster parent's sister in the coming months! We took in three dogs from rescue groups in Florida after the devastation brought on by Hurricane Irma. Biscuit, Bourbon and Daytona arrived here in Canada looking for a new start.



In the wake of Hurricane Maria, we worked with St. Hubert's Welfare Center (one of the main hubs for animal rescues during Maria), driving 22 dogs from St Hubert's to the SPCA Serving Erie County. 13 dogs remained in at the SPCA in Erie County and 9 dogs continued on with us to the Toronto Humane Society!

Our Rescue Transport Program began with taking in animals from Toronto and the surrounding area. We never would have thought we'd be bringing in dogs from places like Dallas or Puerto Rico. But with the sudden surge of abandoned animals after those disastrous hurricanes, we had to act. But it wasn't only us. Animal groups from all across Canada and the United States came together as one, communicating and coordinating seamlessly with one another, all for the good of animals in need.

The experience, and the outcome, has filled us here at the Toronto Humane Society with a new confidence in what we can do, whether here in Toronto, or over 3000 kilometers away in Puerto Rico.



HOW TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY'S **CORPORATE TEAM DAY** GIVES BOTH WAYS

An employee from a major social media company (we'll call her Claire) peers into a large cage housing three of four kittens,, barely able to withhold her excitement as they work on their still undeveloped meows. Her co-worker stands behind her with a big grin on his face, shaking his head with arms crossed. "Claire's gonna want to adopt the whole place," he says. The team laughs as they move on to the next room, Claire forced to pry herself from the kittens. After saying "hi" to more cats, dogs, and even some rabbits, the team will continue on to the education room where they'll help assemble cat and dog toys and, finally, meet some animals in person. Claire will fall in love all over again.

The Toronto Humane Society's Corporate Team Day program began in August of 2016 after receiving countless enquiries from companies looking for different ways to show their support. And so far, it's been a huge success. We've hosted over 100 companies ranging from Apple and Facebook, to LoyaltyOne and RBC, generating donations of around \$65,000. These donations go right back into the shelter for things like food, day-to-day activities, medical care, and even to new programs throughout the GTA and beyond.



The Corporate Volunteer Program works to improve the quality of life for the animals by helping them build socialization and behavioural skills. Daily volunteer interaction is essential to an animal's wellbeing, both mentally and physically. It not only enriches their life here, but also helps them find their forever homes faster as they'll be more receptive to potential adopters. Moreover, the toy building exercises are a great way to keep our animals happy long after the teams have gone.

It's a program in its early development, and already it's proved to be a major success for both the animals and the volunteers. It creates a sense of community, establishing relationships and memories that will last well beyond the visit itself. It solidifies a sense of belonging for employees, and it helps improve the lives of the animals here who are always eager for the next visit until they find their forever homes.



Part of the reason for its success is the recent shift in employee attitudes regarding their relationship to their job. For them, the line between personal and work life is becoming more and more blurred. Work is getting personal. They want to go to work feeling they're a part of something bigger, more meaningful, something that will have a positive impact on their community. They want connection. Meaningful connection. When employees give back to their community in a team setting, it boosts engagement and increases job satisfaction.

Most importantly, though, it's the positive effect this has on the animals at the Toronto Humane Society.



To find out how your group can participate in one of our program offerings, please visit the Corporate Team Day section of our website, or contact us via email at corporate@torontohumanesociety.com

GIFTS OF LOVE

We gratefully acknowledge the donors who have given gifts of \$80 or more in honour or in memory of a special person or pet. Tribute gifts are a thoughtful and meaningful way of acknowledging a loved one's memory, expressing your good wishes or commemorating an occasion.

IN MEMORY



9 Jai
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Anne Seffen
Anne Smyth
Ashley Clark
Bailey & Teddy
Baker
Barbara Smith
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Ben Dunne
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Betty Stephens
Blackster & Penny
Bogey
Bousser

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Buka
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