

FOR FRIENDS OF THE  
ATLANTA HUMANE SOCIETY



# *the* **heartbeat**

## **The Gift of Hope for Homeless Animals**

HOLIDAY 2017 ♡

*Joey's story of hope inside.*

# DEAR FRIENDS



As the holidays approach, we look forward to happy times with loved ones: laughing with friends, reuniting with family from near and far, sharing delicious meals, warmth on chilly days, good cheer and love abounding. For those of us who love our pets like family, they'll be right in the middle of it all, wagging and purring next to us. But for so many homeless and abused animals, the holidays will not be happy times.

For Joey, a sweet puppy who came to us earlier this year, life could have held this same fate. Joey was tossed from a moving vehicle and hit by a car. When Joey arrived at the Atlanta Humane Society, this small puppy was crying out in pain and unable to walk.

But your support saves homeless and abused animals like Joey and provides them the specialized care they deserve. Because of you, we were able to be there for Joey, and we are able to be there for the thousands of dogs and cats who need us to survive. This was especially true - and touching - with the outpouring of support from our community to rescue hundreds of animals evacuated to AHS from hurricane areas, for which we are grateful. Thank you for always remembering the animals, and for giving from your heart - we could not do what we do without our friends like you.

Wishing you and your family warm and wonderful holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cal".

Cal Morgan  
President and CEO



## Snow Needed Specialized Care

Our friends at Clayton County Animal Control contacted us in need of assistance. Sweet Snow has been hit by a car and was in desperate need of a specialized leg operation. When she came into our care, our Shelter Medicine Team performed X-rays to fully understand Snow's condition, and what they found was more dire than they had originally thought.



*Snow had a sharp object lodged in her abdomen and she was at risk for some incredibly serious complications.*

Our Shelter Medicine Team performed emergency surgery on Snow and carefully

removed a metal bottle cap from her abdomen. We gave Snow time to recover, and this girl braved another surgery to ease the pain from her leg injury. The X-rays we performed showed an injury so horrible, it wasn't able to be surgically repaired, so we made the decision to remove her leg and relieve her pain. Just a few days later, Snow was walking around and her sweet personality was shining.

Your gift impacts the lives of animals in Atlanta and across the Southeast, providing lifesaving surgeries to animals just like Snow.



## United Just In Time

Ember was alone. She had just become a mother, but she had lost her entire newborn litter. She was devastated. And then, just a few hours later, a tiny kitten came into our care. Flame was orphaned. He had lost his mom and was all alone. He weighed half of what

he should have and needed Ember as much as she needed him.

When our staff saw Flame in need of a mom, and Ember in need of comfort, we knew we had to introduce them. Immediately, a bond between the two formed. Ember started to groom Flame, encouraging him to eat, and she carefully watched over him. The two cuddled up with each other and were quickly inseparable.

They were placed in a foster home and the two healed together. And when they were ready to be adopted, we found them a home together. Now, these two are spending the holidays cuddled up together in a loving family of their own.



## TO THE RESCUE – HURRICANE RELIEF

Hurricane Harvey and Irma were two of the most destructive storms in history, destroying lives, property, separating trusting pets from the only families they had ever known, and threatening hundreds of homeless animal lives in those areas. Fortunately, thanks to your continued support, we were able to provide care to hundreds of animals impacted by the storms.



## Sierra Sought Shelter From The Storm



Sierra came to us from Texas along with 100 other dogs and cats. These homeless animals were already available for adoption prior to the hurricane, and by transporting them into our care, we freed up space locally in Texas for animals there who were lost or displaced by the storm.

Three-legged Sierra was one of these animals, but this girl needed specialized care for the heartworm disease she was battling. Our Shelter Medicine Team carefully examined her and placed her into a warm bed when she arrived. They provided her with specialized treatment and lots of loving care. Within a few days, and with her winning personality, Sierra was quickly adopted by a loving family who was excited to help her finish healing, take care of her special needs, and make her part of their family.

## Hurricane Harvey

Before Harvey devastated Houston and the Gulf Coast area with its unprecedented flooding, AHS sprung into action. We received dozens of dogs and cats from the area, cared for them and placed them for adoption. These were homeless animals who were already in the shelters, and our animal welfare partners in the path of Harvey sent them to us so they could make room for the hundreds of other pets who would be lost from their families and need a local place to be reunited once the flood waters receded.

After Harvey hit, our Animal Emergency Services team was called upon for help, and we were deployed to Houston to provide assistance with the overwhelming onslaught of displaced animals in the region.



## Hurricane Irma

As the devastation after Harvey was unfolding, our team was also preparing for Hurricane Irma. We took in shelter dogs and cats from central Florida and Georgia to protect them from potential flooding and were asked by the State of Georgia to set up an emergency shelter to care for up to 1,000 animals who needed a safe place to go during and after the storm.

Within hours, we set up a 60,000 square foot warehouse, put together hundreds of crates and organized our emergency operations. Our Animal Emergency Services team cared for the animals around the clock, staying overnight in the emergency shelter to ensure these animals received the care that they needed.

More than 700 animals from Florida and Georgia came through the doors of our emergency shelter, and we helped place them all into loving homes here in Atlanta and across the nation through our animal welfare partners.



## THE GIFT OF HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

When homeless and abused animals come through the doors of the Atlanta Humane Society, they are scared. Hurting. Alone. Many have seen the worst of the world, and we are their last hope. Your gift allows us to give them that hope. To care for them. To love them. To heal them. So, when they go out our doors in the arms of their new families, they have the gift of love and a new life.

## GIVE HOPE TO HOMELESS & ABUSED ANIMALS



Just **\$19** a month saves animal lives all year long!

[atlantahumane.org/caregiversclub](http://atlantahumane.org/caregiversclub)



### Joey's Story

Joey and his three siblings were tossed from a moving vehicle, discarded as if they were trash. Joey was hit by a car, and brought to one of our local shelter partners, who contacted us requesting assistance.

*When Joey arrived in our care, our Shelter Medicine Team rushed to his side. He could not walk and he was screaming in pain. X-rays showed two severe breaks: one in his right tibia and the other in his left femur.*

Our Shelter Medicine Team worked diligently to take care of Joey and provide him the best possible care. We gave him a soft bed, medicine to dull the pain, and began working to heal his legs. We placed two splints on his back legs so his broken bones could heal correctly.

Joey needed several months of recovery, care, and love, so we immediately found the perfect foster home for this little guy. His splints needed to be changed every five days, and he needed more X-rays, pain medication, and continued specialized care. Joey grew bigger and stronger over the months, he thrived in his foster home, and when he was ready, Joey was adopted into a loving forever family. This holiday season, Joey is happy in a home full of love.

You can ensure warm and safe holidays for the animals in Atlanta and across the Southeast by making a lifesaving gift right now!



## STORIES OF LOVE – RESCUED PUPPIES

### Rescued From A Muddy, Outdoor Pen

This holiday season, nine puppies who were rescued from inhumane conditions are warm and safe in loving homes. This is just one of the many rescue operations AHS undertakes throughout the year – giving hope to these abused animals thanks to the support of our loving donors.

#### Here's their story:

The moment we pulled up we could hear them barking. There were nine puppies living outside in a small, muddy pen. They were scared and emaciated. Their owner was no longer able to care for them, and we were working with her to take them into our care.

We loaded them into our van and took them back to our Howell Mill Campus. We gave them thorough examinations, bathed the mud off their fur and removed the hundreds of ticks that were embedded in their skin.

*Many of the pups needed specialized medical care, so our Shelter Medicine Team went to work providing them medical treatment and love.*

Now, all nine of these pups have joyful holidays coming up in caring homes, being spoiled and loved by their forever families.

## Taking Care Of Tiny Penelope



*She was hiding at a construction site.*

She was scared, alone, covered in filth, and suffering from a painful eye infection. A kind man saw her, swooped her up and brought her to DeKalb County Animal Services.

When she came in, we happened to be at the shelter, transferring animals in need into our care. As soon as we saw her, we knew she was coming with us too.

Penelope was immediately taken into an AHS foster home where she received a bath, warm compresses over her eyes, medication and snuggles. She started purring and her eyes started to clear up. Adorable Penelope soon learned how to be a great family member and grew up a bit before she was placed up for adoption and quickly found her loving forever home.



## Arnie Needed To Heal



When our friends at DeKalb County Animal Services reached out letting us know about Arnie, our hearts broke for him. We immediately transferred him into our care and secured him a loving foster home.

*At only 11 months old, he was covered head to toe in itchy mange, painful sores, and open wounds. He also had an upper respiratory infection that needed immediate attention.*

His paws were swollen and inflamed from his severe skin infection, so our Shelter Medicine Team offered him a soothing medicated bath, antibiotics for the infection, and treatment for the itchy mange.

Despite the neglect this pup has endured in his short life, he is truly grateful for his second chance. Thanks to your support, we were able to take immediate action and offer him the kind of comfort he has never known before. He rested in a foster home for a few weeks and quickly healed.

