

Dear Friends:

Homeward Trails, the great local rescue which helped us place our Katrina dogs is in need of volunteers to help them save more animals. There are many ways to help, including other than fostering. Below, Homeward Trails' appeal details the many ways you can help. As always, thank you!

Lois

Dear Friends,

Homeward Trails is in desperate need of volunteers. We finished 2005 with a bang, having rescued more than 500 animals including many from Katrina. Now that we are starting 2006, we are finding the demand for our rescue services greater than ever before. We have more inquiries for adoption than ever before. But in order to keep up and rescue as many animals as possible, we need more volunteers. Please consider helping HT. There are **many, many** ways to get involved and you will love the rewarding feeling you get knowing that you have helped animals in need. Please contact us if you can help!

Fostering:

We need dedicated foster homes for cats and dogs. By fostering, you are taking an animal into your home until a permanent home can be found. We'll match you up with an animal that suits your environment, schedule and lifestyle. There are hundreds of cats and dogs right now sitting in shelters who face needless euthanasia. By fostering, you give the animals the chance they need to find a loving home.

All animals are fully vetted and a crate is provided. Fostering is very rewarding. To read more about our Foster Program go to

<http://www.homewardtrails.org/fosterprogram.html>. Please contact sueb@homewardtrails.org if you would like to become a foster parent.

Adoption Coordinating:

We need knowledgeable volunteers to help screen applications, do home visits and coordinate the transports of animals from the shelters. Most of this can be done while sitting at a computer. But these are essential components of our adoption process. The more volunteers we have helping us in these areas, the more animals we can rescue. We will place you with an HT team assigned to one or more of our shelters and get you started right away. You will receive simple training and forms on our process. Please consider giving just a few hours a week to help screen applications, post photos on our website, do home visits, or arrange transports - every bit makes a big difference. E-mail sueb@homewardtrails.org for more info.

Mentors:

Are you an HT adopter and know a lot about the care of cats/dogs? If so, please consider becoming an HT Mentor. We are looking for qualified people to provide support to our new adopters. This can be done by phone or e-mail. You will provide advice and support on issues including: housebreaking, crate training, socialization, litter box issues, barking,

nipping and general settling of a new dog. Your support to our new adopters will be a valuable piece of the adoption process and will help our rescued animals settle in and stay put! You've been there - why not share your experience and knowledge with a new adopter? Contact cindy@petpantryexpress.com for more info.

Sponsors:

Don't have time to help in other areas? Consider sponsoring an animal in need. We are limited in the number of animals we can rescue and board due to expensive boarding costs. Sponsoring an animal covers the boarding and medical expenses and helps us to rescue more animals than we otherwise could, due to limited funds. We also often need to take in animals with medical conditions. Get your friends, colleagues, family to consider making donations of \$5, \$10, \$15 monthly and sponsoring a dog or cat. For the cost of a lunch, you can pool resources and save a life. Most of the animals on our site are still at shelters awaiting rescue. Find you one you like and sponsor him/her! You can make a simple tax deductible donation via our PayPal account by going to www.homewardtrails.org. Be sure to send us an e-mail once you have made a donation for the specific animal and we will then bring that animal into our system!

Fundraisers:

The more money we have, the more animals we can rescue! There are a million simple ways you can help us raise money! Throw a happy hour, have a cocktail party at your home or office, take up a collection to sponsor an animal or contact us for other ideas. E-mail sueb@homewardtrails.org for more info.

We appreciate any help you can give. Please visit www.homewardtrails.org to learn more about our great programs!

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