



...where animals are one step closer to home.

Dear Friends of Animals,

I am writing to you today because of our shared love of animals and our desire to help the ones in greatest need. Thank you for being a part of our rescue mission, whether it has been by adopting, volunteering or donating. We could not do this without you.

In the last few months, where we have seen wildfires rage out of control and storms wreak havoc, I have personally found some of my greatest comfort just being around my beloved pets. Animals have such kind souls, and they show their love unconditionally. I still can't fathom how it is that so many of them end up "discarded" in shelters every day. It's for all of those who are without homes or who suffer behind cage bars, hoping against hope that someone will notice them and see the love that they have to give, that I appeal to you today.

Take for instance Charlie, a sweetheart of a little terrier mix, with big, brown eyes and a greying muzzle. Charlie is probably ten years old, maybe even eleven or twelve. Someone sealed him up in a box and left him on the doorstep of a police station in Prince George's County, Maryland. Imagine how scared he must have been, gasping for air in the darkness and wondering why his family would abandon him in this way. Miraculously, Charlie was found in the nick of time.

During the holidays, we think of gift boxes being colorfully wrapped, tied with pretty ribbons and exchanged with delight. The box in which Charlie had found himself was not meant to be a gift at all, but that's exactly what he has become to Mary who adopted him. He has filled her world with renewed joy and devotion. We are so relieved that Charlie was found in time and grateful to have a new Senior Dog Program in place that could welcome him. It took Charlie several long weeks to go from being emaciated to becoming the handsome pup that he is today. It took a few more weeks for him to learn to trust again - and he did! From now on, Charlie will only know the darkness at night, when he is curled up in his own soft bed, safe and sound, in his forever home.

Animals come to PetConnect Rescue in all different ways and from all over the country. Where there is need, we try our best to help. We respond to pleas from high-kill shelters in the rural south as well as local shelters in the D.C. area. We step up when disaster strikes (Houston, Florida and Puerto Rico), and we partner with other rescue groups.



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One such partnership is with a local trap, neuter, return (TNR) program. When their volunteers come across kittens too young to be spayed or neutered and too fragile to be left on the streets, they appeal to us. Stormy, Twister and Skye were three such kittens, found in a drain pipe during a particularly bad spring storm, hence their names. These tiny kittens had lost their mom and were sick, weak and terrified. PetConnect Rescue took them in and started their veterinary care. Our amazing foster team spent the time needed to gently nurture and socialize the three kittens. Once strong and old enough, they were adopted out to adoring families. Without PetConnect Rescue, these precious kittens would have been lucky to make it to their first birthdays. Instead, all three are now in loving homes where they have become treasured family members.



For every dog like Charlie and for cats like Stormy, Skye and Twister, there are so many more frightened animals still waiting for our help. They are in overcrowded and underfunded shelters or they are trying to fend for themselves on the streets. Time is not on their side. As animal lovers, we dream of the day when there will be no more homeless pets, but we are not there yet. With your help, we can get closer and closer to making that dream a reality. One of my favorite quotations is the following: "Saving one dog may not change the world, but surely the world will change for that one dog." How true this is for all animals. One by one, every single day, we rescue abandoned dogs and cats. We provide shelter and comfort, and then, with great care and compassion, we place each and every one into safe, loving homes.

Today, I am asking you to continue to support us in our mission. Please help us help them and be a part of the solution. I cannot think of a more fitting holiday gift than a donation to PetConnect Rescue...for the animals. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

With warmest wishes for a peaceful holiday season,

Lizette Chanock
Founder, PetConnect Rescue

www.PetConnectRescue.org

