

PAW PRINTS

People Helping Animals, Animals Helping People

"We need, in a special way, to work twice as hard to help people understand that the animals are fellow creatures, that we must protect them and love them as we love ourselves."

— César Chávez

Mission

To enrich the lives of both animals and people as a solution-based community resource for animal welfare by providing high-volume and high-quality spay and neuter, rescue and adoption services, volunteer opportunities, outreach, and education.

Vision

To be the regional leader for animal welfare in adoption, spay and neuter, outreach, and education to ultimately create a No-Kill Community.

PAWS Humane...

2015 was a great year for PAWS Humane and for the companion animals and people we serve. In June, we took a leap of faith by reducing our adoption fees. Taking this step increased adoptions by over 30%, saving many more homeless animals.

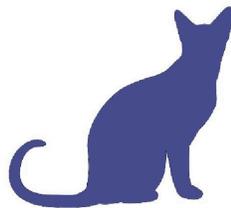


In **2016**, our goal is to adopt at least 1,900 companion animals into loving homes.

The Pets for Life program was developed by the Humane Society of the United States. It is an intensive outreach program targeting residents and their pets living in underserved neighborhoods.

During 2015, we mobilized a team of committed volunteers who meet one-on-one with residents to raise awareness of the benefits of spay/neuter and develop real and lasting relationships. On September 12, PAWS Humane held our first free rabies clinic at Shirley Winston Park. We provided over 400 rabies vaccines that day and met many wonderful people who love their dogs and want to provide them with the best care possible.

Since inception, PAWS Humane has steadily increased our veterinary services to Columbus and surrounding communities. We provide low-cost, high-volume, and high quality spay/neuter services to the general public as well as to rescue groups and shelters throughout west Georgia and east Alabama.



In June, we will add a third full-time veterinarian to our clinic staff which will enable us to dramatically increase the volume of spay/neuter surgeries and at the same time expand wellness appointments to 5 days a week.

Of course, all of this costs money, and that's where you come in. We can't do this without you. With your financial support PAWS Humane will do our part to help make Columbus a **No-Kill Community**.

Sincerely,

CEO, PAWS Humane, Inc.



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Contact Us

Address:

4900 Milgen Road

Columbus, GA 31907

www.pawshumane.org

office@pawshumane.org

(706) 565-0035

Vet Clinic phone number

(706) 987-8380

Shelter Hours

Adoption Hours

Monday-Friday

10am - 6pm

Saturday

10am - 5pm

Sunday

12pm - 5pm

Clinic Hours

Monday-Friday

7:30am - 6pm

closed

12p-1p

Beethoven - Orphan to Therapy Dog



Beethoven came to PAWS Humane in Spring of 2015. As a stray walking the streets, he was picked up and taken to Columbus Animal Care and Control. Paws Humane took him in and immediately he became a favorite. With those big, blue eyes and happy grin, who couldn't love this dog? It became apparent to us that Beethoven was deaf, but that didn't make him any less adoptable. Even with his hearing impairment, he was always happy to see someone and was quick to learn basic obedience skills.

Sgt. Shannon Zeisloft, of the Muscogee County Sheriff's Department, visited PAWS Humane and Beethoven just spoke to her. Beethoven's adoption wasn't just any adoption. Sgt Z. had a mission for Beethoven, and that was for him to become a therapy dog for the mental health inmates at the Muscogee County Jail. How perfect, a deaf dog for the noisy jail?? PAWS Humane let Sgt Z. have use of the community room a few times a week for the strict training that Beethoven had to go through to become a therapy dog. After his training time, Beethoven got to spend some quality play time with some of the more energetic residents...everyone slept soundly after those play sessions.

In October of 2015, Beethoven passed his test and officially became the therapy dog that Sgt Z. knew he could be. He works 2 hours a day, three days a week, visiting the four mental health units at the Muscogee County Jail. The inmates are absolutely wonderful with him, know all of his sign language and Beethoven's visits are the highlight of their week!

Just think, a shelter dog, a deaf shelter dog, got adopted and became a therapy dog. Beethoven is making his rounds at the Muscogee County Jail and putting smiles on people's faces that normally would have no reason to smile. Beethoven is a special dog with the amazing healing powers of just being himself!



Volunteer Dog Trainers

Most animal shelters across the country can agree on one thing: volunteers are a vital part of their organization. At PAWS Humane, not only do we agree with that theory, but we also live it and prove it every single day. Not only do we have volunteers responsible for cleaning, walking dogs, and socializing cats, but now we have volunteers responsible for training our shelter dogs.

Our Certified Professional Dog Trainer, Karlene Turkington, has started our very own PAWS Humane Dog Training Program for volunteers. To become a part of this program, volunteers attended an all-day orientation on January 9th, 2016. During orientation, volunteers learned how to teach basic commands, worked hands-on with our dogs, and were required to pass a written test. We had 19 volunteers go through orientation, and are very happy to announce that all 19 passed.

Volunteers train at PAWS just about every day of the week to work with our dogs. They practice basic commands such as sit, stay, and down. The work that Karlene has instilled in them is a vital part of their adoption. Every dog owner wants a trained dog, right?

PAWS Humane plans to continue this program by offering orientation again in the near future. Between our amazing adoption staff and our dedicated volunteer trainers, our dogs are becoming well-mannered ladies and gentlemen for their future forever homes.

If you would like to get involved in volunteering, please visit www.pawshumane.org to sign up for a volunteer orientation.



Spotted at...



What is a Shelter Veterinarian?

Here at PAWS we are fortunate to have the resources to have a veterinarian on staff to tend to the needs of our charges. Many shelters are not so fortunate. They find themselves relying on outside veterinarians to give vaccines, spay/neuter their animals and write policies and protocols on things like vaccinations and infectious disease control. Our vets here not only do those things but they are charged with overseeing the entire well-being of all of our orphans.



Upon intake, all of our animals receive a brief physical examination, age-appropriate vaccines, deworming with a broad spectrum dewormer, flea medication, a microchip and FeLV/FIV testing for cats and heartworm testing for dogs. Heartworm negative dogs are given heartworm prevention, those that test positive all receive treatment with an adulticide. Adult dogs and cats are held for 3 days and during that time are spayed/neutered. Puppies and kittens go in to foster for 2 weeks or until they are 2lbs and ready for surgery. Two weeks post-intake, puppies and kittens receive booster vaccines.

Kennel cough, demodex, upper respiratory infection in cats, ringworm, they are all fairly common to shelter animals. The stress of the shelter environment weakens the immune system and makes the orphans more susceptible to any number of diseases. Being adopted and moving from the shelter to a forever home, while in the long run is great, can initially be stressful for the animal. Frequently animals will break with one of these stress-related issues immediately after adoption. Our shelter veterinarian is well-versed on how to treat and care for animals that develop these problems. We provide treatment not only to the animals still in our care but to those that develop any of these issues soon after adoption as well.

Unfortunately, we cannot always detect medical problems that our animals might have. However, when we do, we will do everything that our resources allow to provide diagnostics and treatment to those with issues. We have amputated infected limbs, removed embedded collars from dogs' necks, treated cats with hyperthyroidism, even treated several dogs with Cushing's disease (a syndrome that occurs when the dog's body makes too much cortisol). Often we will refer a case out to a local veterinarian who has the training and equipment to treat cases we can't, such as broken bones, dislocated patellas, and we recently sent a dog over to Auburn University for a neurology work up.



So you ask - what is a shelter veterinarian? A shelter vet is someone who is dedicated to making the lives of the animals in our care better. A shelter vet is someone who gets up in the morning thinking about the orphans we have in our shelter and someone who goes to bed at night thinking about the ones who will still be there tomorrow.

Don't Shop. **Adopt.**



Eda is my name and cuddles are my game. I was returned to PAWS after being picked up as a stray by an Animal Control agency. Originally adopted from PAWS Humane about three years ago, my previous adopters could not be located. Upon my return, I did test positive

for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus upon intake and will need to go to a home with no other cats. Being FIV+ doesn't slow me down and I should live a nearly normal life but will need to be monitored to make sure that I don't get sick. I am spayed, microchipped and am fully vaccinated. I am only in need of my forever home! Could it be you?

Hello my name is handsome, or is it **Scout**? I go by both really. I was found as a stray and brought to PAWS after a short visit with Animal Care and Control. I'm just looking for the perfect home for me. Are you looking for that perfect couch fixture!



That's me, I would love sitting on the couch next to you enjoying a fun family movie! Play time is a must - I enjoy chasing after a ball and playing "catch me if you can". I will need time to adjust to the changes around me but I am very smart and eager to learn! Please think of me and I hope you find the heart to bring me into your family! I have been neutered, micro-shipped and am up to date on all of my shots! Can

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Columbus, GA 31907
www.pawshumane.org
(706) 565-0035 Adoptions
(706) 987-8380 Clinic



Dreaming of a new dog?
DREAM BIG
Adopt from the Pet Coalition of Muscogee and Harris Counties

Animal Care & Control Center



PetSmart (Columbus)
Monday through Friday
2pm - 6pm

