Noah's Ark Animal Foundation

NOAH'S ARK • PO BOX 748 • FAIRFIELD, IOWA 52556 • WWW.NOAHSARK.ORG

Spring 2016 Newsletter

It's Kitten Season!
~~It's Spring Season~~

Do you have a little extra space in your home, a bit of free time, and some love to share?

If so, consider becoming a foster parent for a litter of homeless kittens. With the arrival of "kitten season" in early spring, animal shelters and rescue organizations are flooded with kittens that cannot be put up for adoption until they are eight weeks old. These groups rely on the assistance of volunteer foster parents to save lives by providing temporary care.

Not only does becoming a volunteer foster parent help busy shelters, it can be great for you, too.

Perhaps you are considering adopting, but aren't sure if a kitten is right for you. Maybe you travel, and can't have a "permanent" pet. Or maybe you just want to experience the joy of kittens again and again.

Whatever your reason, you are sure to find that fostering is one of the most rewarding volunteer experiences there is. You'll be amazed at how much you learn and how gratifying it is to see the kittens grow and develop under your care.

Not only does fostering provide an invaluable service to rescue groups and the shelters that depend on foster homes (not to mention the pets themselves), it's a great way to learn about your own needs as a pet owner.

By taking an animal in need temporarily into your home you're:

- **giving your foster kittens the time they needs to be ready for adoption.**
- **helping the shelter or rescue learn more about the kittens so they can end up in the best home possible.**
- **socializing the kittens to a home environment and possibly getting them used to being around other pets and different types of people.**

As a foster parent, you will be responsible for feeding, cleaning, socializing, and cuddling your kittens. In some cases, you may need to bottle feed, give medications or take the kittens to the veterinarian.

Noah's Ark provides foster parents with food and litter, and any supplies the kittens may need while in foster care.

In terms of space, you don't need much. A laundry room, bathroom, or extra bedroom is helpful, but a cage set up in the corner of a room can work just fine. Depending on how old the kittens are, you'll be caring for them for one to eight weeks.

Did you adopt an animal from us?

We would LOVE to hear from you. Email friends@noahsark.org with a picture and story about how your new addition is doing.

Finally, unless you adopt them, you must be prepared to let your foster kittens go. It can be sad to say goodbye, but remember, you have given them a great start on life.

"Oh, I'd never be able to foster —I'd just keep them all. If you go into it knowing that your job is to help that kitten get a great home, then you'll be thrilled to see them adopted."

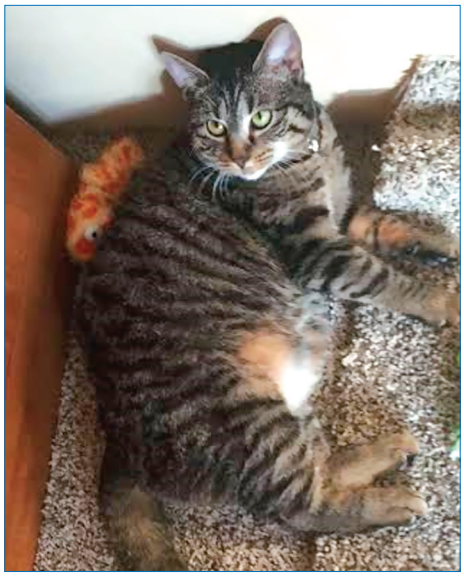
—Foster mom, Laura

Laura and her family have fostered over 400 cats and kittens since opening their home in 2001 and have only adopted 4.

Thanks to our foster parents, these kittens will find a loving home with some very lucky adopters.

Happy Endings

"Nobody can fully understand love unless they are owned by a dog." —Unknown



Bella

Hello!I just wanted to reach out and share our happy story! We adopted Bella (originally known as Stevie), from the Petsmart store in Clive. We originally had gone there to buy cat toys for our other cat at home, Herky. When we are in Petsmart, I always insist that we look at the cats. When I saw Bella, I instantly fell in love. I had to do a little convincing for us to be able to get her. Later that day, she came home with us! The first week was a huge struggle. Our male cat, Herky, did not like her at all. He constantly would hiss at her, and it really broke us down as a family. We stuck with it, and about a week later, they began to get along. They love having each other around now.

We couldn't imagine our life without her!

—Nikki

Susie Q

When we adopted Susie Q at Noah's Ark almost three years ago, she was not what I thought I wanted. I was looking for a big, tri-colored male. I ended up with a small, black female! The three qualities I had always said I didn't want. I don't know what I was thinking but she was just so full of love for everyone she met that I just felt she needed to be loved in return and I was drawn to having that opportunity.

Suzie Q has affectionately become known as the "Bear Barker," as she has had several occasions to warn us that bears are in the vicinity. Every morning she runs out of the cabin and re-establishes the perimeter around the property, letting the bears know to stay away from the area!

Susie Q has become an integral part of our life at the cabin and we are so happy we have her and to have her know she is loved, appreciated, and has a purpose.

—Jane and Thom

Annie

Hi! I am the proud mom of Annie (formerly Ann) and I adopted her in August from the Clive PetsMart. She is very lively and sweet and I am the luckiest cat mom.

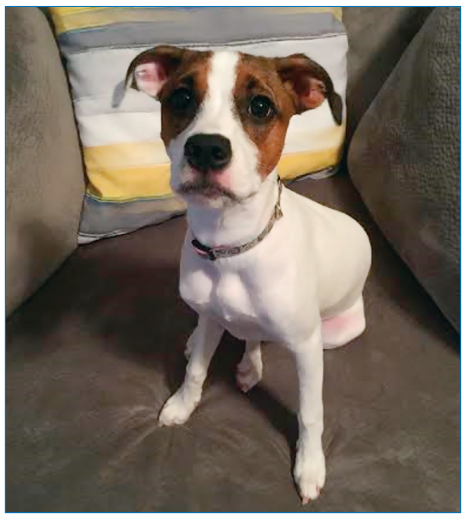
Thank you again for my precious furbaby. She is a joy to be around and has boundless energy. I've attached a couple of pictures of some cute and exasperating moments.

—Rebecca

Blue and Suki

I just wanted to say thank you guys so much for giving me the opportunity to adopt two beautiful little girls, Blue and Suki. I just got them earlier today and they are settling in nicely. Suki hasn't really left my side and is very loving. Blue is still a little freaked but is doing very well wandering around her new home. I will randomly send photos and updates of how they are doing. Please let PetSmart know how they are doing if you can. The lady I worked with was great! Again thank you so much!

— Jade



Ayla

Hi Dawn! Just wanted to send you some updated pictures on Ayla! She's getting so big!! She is so playful and full of energy!! Ayla is such a lover and brings so much happiness to our family! I can't thank you enough for allowing us to bring her into our home!!!

—Sarah

"Nothing in the world is friendlier than a wet dog."
—Unknown

Happenings at the Ark

"Animals share with us the privilege of having a soul." —Pythagoras

Noah's Ark is Hosting a Shoe Drive!

Are you getting ready for spring cleaning and need a home for the shoes in the back of your closet?

Noah's Ark is trying to raise $1,000 or more simply by collecting your gently worn and new shoes during the Spring 2016 WoofTrax Shoes for Shelters & Rescues shoe drive!

We need 2500 pairs by May 31st to reach our goal!

Here are the drop off locations in Fairfield:

- Noah's Ark
- Sky Factory
- Fairfield Convention Center
- True Value
- Midwest One Bank
- Libertyville Bank
- Iowa State Bank
- Washington State Bank
- TSC, Orschlen's
- Hawthorne Direct
- Frontline Printing
- Cardinal High School
- Everybody's Whole Foods
- Suburban Heights Baptist School.

Put your best foot forward and donate toward our paws!!

BISSELL's Partners for Pets

Noah's Ark was the lucky recipient of a $7500 grant from Bissell's Partners for Pets and LostPetUSA.net. We are deeply grateful to the Bissell Pet Foundation for their support of CCSNAP, our Caring Community Spay/Neuter Assistance Program. This grant will not only help us continue to offer financial assistance here in Jefferson County, but will enable us to expand into surrounding counties where the need for our lifesaving program is very strong.

In addition when you purchase pet products on **bissell.com** and enter the code ADOPT at checkout, a portion of your purchase will be donated to our organization! It's simple.

1. Shop pet products on www.bissell.com
2. Enter the code ADOPT at checkout
3. Then select our organization!

Learn more at **www.bissell.com/partnersforpets**

bissell.com/partnersforpets

Amazon Smile

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. It's so quick and easy, and you get to provide even more support to Noah's Ark simply by shopping online!

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-1316141

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Noahs Ark Foundation Inc whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

MANY THANKS!

Thank you! Thank you to all of our wonderful adopters, generous donors, volunteers, foster families, grant writers and the veterinarians who work with our program: Fairfield Animal Hospital, Veterinary Clinic PC, and Quincy Humane Society.

In 2015, thanks to our adoption partner, PetSmart Charities®, 238 cats and kittens were placed in forever homes. And from the shelter, 255 dogs and cats found their forever families. Donations to the CCSNAP Program (Caring Community Spay/Neuter Assistance) allowed us to help spay and neuter 906 dogs and cats from Fairfield and surrounding communities.

We couldn't do it without your support!

Thank you so much from all of us!

Yes, I want to help save the lives of stray and homeless animals.

100% of your donation goes directly to help the animals and programs of Noah's Ark Animal Foundation.

☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ $250 ☐ $500 ☐ Other_____

Please indicate if you have a preference as to how your donation is used:

☐ Food, medicine, shelter, and care of stray and abandoned dogs and cats

☐ CCSNAP Community spay and neuter program—because there aren't enough homes for them all!

☐ Please send me information about planned giving opportunities benefitting Noah's Ark including endowment gifts, gifts of annuities and stocks as well as remembering Noah's Ark in my estate planning.

Checks are made payable to Noah's Ark Animal Foundation.
Mail to P.O. Box 748, Fairfield, Iowa 52556.

If you would like to use a credit card to donate: Please go to our website at www.NoahsArk.org and click on **"Donate"**

Please help us conserve our limited funds by checking below if you cannot donate at this time:

_____ I am unable to donate at this time, but wish to continue receiving your newsletter.

_____ Please remove my name from your mailing list.

Noah's Ark is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt corporation founded in 1988. Donations are tax deductible.
The Foundation's officers for the year 2015 are David Sykes: Chairman and President,
Richard Sarnat: Vice President, Tom Paton: Secretary, Janet Mullen: Treasurer, and Dawn Hauck: Director.

Noah's Ark operates an Iowa licensed animal shelter at 1986 Gear Avenue, Fairfield, IA 52556.
Hours are Tues through Fri 1:00 – 5:00p.m. and Saturday 10:00 – 4:00p.m.

Noah's Ark Animal Foundation
P.O. Box 748
Fairfield, Iowa 52556

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A cat is a puzzle for which there is no solution

– Hazel Nicholson

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