

Rescues – Friends to HCAS

Hardin County Animal Shelter is an open admission shelter. This means that any dog or cat found as stray or turned in from Hardin County must be admitted. No dog or cat can be turned away. HCAS works diligently to find adoptive homes for all healthy and safe pets. The challenge comes when more animals are received into the shelter than can be adopted. Because HCAS has made a serious commitment to decrease the euthanasia rate, Animal Rescues have become great partners in saving adoptable pets. Below, you will see some facts that may help the common animal lover become more familiar with why Rescues are making a difference at HCAS.

- All animal rescue institutions must have an approved contract on file and approved by HCAS Director, Gerald Foley.
- In order for a rescue to be approved, they must be 501c3 approved and references are checked thoroughly.
- HCAS currently works with 42 approved rescues from all over the United States. Dogs have been rescued to states as far north as Minnesota and Wisconsin, as far south as Louisiana and Alabama, and as far east as Virginia and Connecticut. HCAS dogs have literally been rescued from all over the U.S.
- Rescues always spay and neuter and offer pets in their care required medical treatment.
- Pets sent to rescue are adopted to homes that have been thoroughly screened and approved. Most rescue organizations require home visits prior to an animal being placed.
- Rescues have cared for many dogs that have needed extensive medical care. Some dogs rescued from HCAS have been treated for tumors, some have had expensive cataract surgery, one dog was treated for genetic deformities, and rescues have saved several senior dogs along with others who needed amputation of limbs. Deaf dogs and blind dogs have been saved by rescue organizations. All of these dogs would have surely been declared “unadoptable” at the shelter and would very likely added to the euthanasia rate. Rescues have saved many dogs who would have otherwise had no chance.
- Rescues have saved several momma dogs and their puppies.
- From January 2014 to present around 170 dogs have been saved by rescues.
- Rescue contacts for HCAS are Leslie Clifford-Smith and Jo Ellen Thomas.
- All dogs are available for rescue because any dog saved by a rescue frees space for another dog needing a chance.

Animal Rescues have allowed HCAS to manage and assist many needy pets. Because of them, many animals have been saved. HCAS strives to work with any credible organization who will care for and assist in finding home for Hardin County’s lost and homeless pets.