

# Everyone Can Help Homeless Pets This Year By...

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Everybody loves animals, and pets are probably the best kind of animal. If you love pets as much as I do, you probably have one of your own. Hopefully, you adopted that family member from an animal shelter such as OHS.

It may seem like the only thing you can do for shelter pets is adopt one yourself. But then you would only be helping one pet out of thousands. Don't get me wrong, adopting an animal is great! There are also many other ways to help homeless pets and animals in need.

You may have heard of fostering before. Fostering is when you take a shelter pet into your home to give them a little extra TLC. They might be very young puppies, orphaned kittens, or an ill rabbit. By helping care for the pet, you are not only helping them get better, but also sending them on their way to be adopted in their forever homes.

An easy way to give love is to donate to places that care for shelter animals. Your donations can help feed, train, house, and cover medical expenses for all kinds of animals, from mice to Great Danes. You don't even have to donate just money. Many animal societies will take donations of animal supplies, treats for cats and dogs, and blankets. If you can't donate and want to help, try cooking a batch of dog treats and giving them out at the shelter. Maybe sew a few blankets or make cat toys to help pets feel secure during their (hopefully short) stay at the shelter.

The best thing you can do is be a shelter volunteer. Volunteers help in so many different ways, all of which are very important. Volunteers assist with training and walking shelter dogs, letting them outlet their energy and teaching them basic obedience. They socialize with cats and make toys for them to play with. Having volunteers be with animals is beneficial to not only the animals, but also the volunteers themselves, because volunteering is fun!

All in all, anything you do, no matter how small, can be influential in the life of a homeless pet.

