



*A lifeline for
Wichita's
Forgotten Animals*

FALL 2024

WARRIOR



A NEW CHAPTER IN COMMUNITY CARE: WAAL RECEIVES PETSMART CHARITIES INCUBATOR GRANT

Although 70% of American households have pets, access to basic veterinary services has not kept pace. Pets are universally considered important family members, but keeping them with their families often requires resources that are not always available. This challenge is particularly felt in underserved communities, where cost, geography, and systemic inequities have left veterinary care beyond reach.

In early 2023, PetSmart Charities, the nation's leading funder of animal welfare, committed \$100 million over the next five years to improving access to veterinary care. Their Incubator grants focus on historically excluded communities, many of which lack access to essential supports, including veterinary services.

After a highly competitive process, we are thrilled to announce that WAAL has been selected as one of this year's Incubator grantees. This grant offers rescue organizations a one-year opportunity to build relationships and deepen their understanding of their partner communities.

Our team has chosen the Hilltop neighborhood as our focus, and we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the warm welcome we've received from the Hilltop community and Dear Neighbor Ministries. "Receiving this grant from PetSmart Charities is a transformative opportunity for WAAL and the Hilltop community here in Wichita," said Amy Delgado, Operations Manager at WAAL. "Providing affordable and accessible veterinary care is vital for the well-being of both pets and their families. This grant will enable us to address the unique challenges faced by our community and ensure that every pet receives the care they need, regardless of financial or geographical barriers."

We are beyond excited to see how this initiative positively impacts both people and pets in our community. We are overjoyed to partner with PetSmart Charities, Dear Neighbor Ministries, and other local businesses and nonprofits to provide desperately needed pet and veterinary services in the Hilltop neighborhood through our newly named **Animal Care Collective**.

A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As we reach the end of our tenth year as an organization, I want to express my deepest gratitude and pride in all that we have achieved together. Over the past decade, our commitment to rescue has provided countless animals with the second chances they so desperately deserved. None of this would have been possible without your unwavering support.

While rescue remains central to our mission, we've come to understand that our work must continue to evolve. To truly make a lasting impact, we must shift our focus toward prevention and pet retention. The bond between humans and their pets is not just important—it's vital. Pets play an essential role in the well-being of their owners, offering companionship, comfort, and joy, especially during challenging times.

It's important to recognize that those facing financial hardships are just as devoted to their pets as anyone else. People love their pets and do their best with the resources they have. Our goal is to bridge the gap between a pet's needs and an owner's ability to provide care, ensuring that pets stay in loving homes where they belong.

Every day, we receive calls from pet owners who feel their only option is to surrender their beloved companions. We are committed to changing that narrative. By targeting low-income areas, providing education and resources, and offering access to veterinary care, food assistance, and behavioral support, we aim to help pet owners keep their pets.

Moreover, we are intensifying our focus on prevention through our low-cost and free spay/neuter clinics. Overpopulation leads to heartbreaking outcomes, but through proactive measures, we can prevent unwanted litters and reduce the number of animals facing neglect and abandonment.

As we embark on this next chapter, we are filled with hope and confidence. With your continued support, we can create a future where fewer animals need to be rescued because they never have to face the risk of homelessness in the first place.

Thank you for standing with us.

Julia A. Craft
Julia A. Craft
Board Chair

ANIMAL CARE COLLECTIVE



PETS FOR LIFE



ALPHA

AFFORDABLE LOCAL
PET HEALTH ASSISTANCE



PETS FOR THE ELDERLY



*Every initiative, every
event, every effort,
every life touched--
this is how we make a
difference. Together.
WAAL*

To learn more go to WAALrescue.org

UNLEASH YOUR KINDNESS: SIMPLE WAYS YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE



COMMUNITY REWARDS

Turn your everyday shopping into lifesaving action! In just two minutes, you can make a difference—sign up for Dillons Community Rewards and choose WAAL. Every time you shop, you help us save lives.

Visit www.dillons.com/community_rewards

1. Sign in or create your account
2. Click "Enroll Now"
3. Search for WAAL's ID #DD013
4. Select WAAL and click "Enroll"



YOUR HOME, THEIR LIFELINE!

Because we do not operate a facility, we cannot save lives without foster homes. That's where you come in! As a foster parent, you will save a life each time you take in a new foster animal. WAAL provides all food, litter, kennels, and vet care; you simply provide a warm and loving, temporary home!

Animals might need a foster home because they're too young or small to be adopted, they are sick or injured and need some time to recuperate, or they need help learning proper manners and socialization. You get to pick who you foster so the time and energy that is needed will also be up to you!

waalrescue.org/foster

BECOME A WAAL WARRIOR!

Becoming a Monthly Donor is one of the most impactful ways you can support our mission. With just \$5 a month, you can ensure a vulnerable puppy or kitten is vaccinated, giving them a healthy start in life. A \$10 monthly gift will provide a microchip for a community pet, reuniting them with their families if they ever get lost. For \$20 a month, you can help protect three pets by providing essential dewormer. Every dollar you contribute will directly improve the lives of animals in our community. Join us today and make a lasting difference, one month at a time.



VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A IMPACT TODAY!

At WAAL, we are a volunteer-powered organization driven by individuals committed to making a difference in their community. While not everyone can donate money or foster animals, everyone has time to contribute! Whether it's walking dogs, transporting animals to vet appointments, working at adoption events, managing our social media, photographing adoptable pets, or reviewing adoption and foster applications, there are countless ways to get involved. We invite you to join our life-saving team of "WAAL Warriors." If you're 18 or older—or have a parent's or guardian's permission—you can start by filling out an application. Together, we can make a real impact on the lives of animals in need. Thank you for your willingness to help; we couldn't do it without you!

waalrescue.org/volunteer

SHOP TO SAVE LIVES: WHEN YOU SHOP WITH OUR AFFILIATES, EVERY PURCHASE HELPS RESCUE AN ANIMAL IN NEED

AMAZON
Wish List



CHEWY
Wish List



WALMART
SPARK
GOOD



Celebrating 10 years
of life-saving impact!

YOU ARE INVITED!



Unleash your inner hero for a good cause!

**CHICKEN N PICKLE
1240 N GREENWICH RD
WICHITA, KS 67206**

**SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2024
5:00 PM TO 9:00 PM**

We are incredibly proud of the impact we've made with you and the lives we've saved together!

Since rescuing our first pet in crisis, WAAL has been leading the pack in the Wichita rescue community. Through our innovative programming and our commitment to community outreach, we have positively impacted thousands of families in our area!

Amidst the celebration, we must recognize the critical state of animal welfare in our community. The stakes have never been higher, and we need your support now more than ever.

We humbly ask you to help celebrate our ten-year milestone and earnestly ask you to join forces with us, and be a hero for animals in crisis.

By participating in our event as a sponsor, attendee, or donor, you will help:

- Tackle pet overpopulation head-on
- Spread the word about responsible pet ownership
- Find loving homes for at-risk animals
- Keep families together by providing pet care

Your support isn't just encouraged—it's absolutely essential.

Together, we can keep tails wagging and cats purring in our community. From furry friends to their devoted owners, we're here to make a tangible difference. If we fail to come together, it's the innocent pets in need who will suffer. Let's unite to ensure every pet gets the love and care they deserve.

Will you stand with us in this urgent fight for animal welfare? Join us at Wags & Whiskers and be a part of something truly meaningful!



Scan here for tickets
or go to WAALrescue.org
Wags & Whiskers 2024