

POTSDAM HUMANE SOCIETY

Success Stories

Jumbo

I am Jumbo, a 7 year-old Newfoundland dog with lots of fur! It is hard to believe that when I came from Colton to the Potsdam shelter, I didn't have a lot of fur at all — the staff took one look at me and knew I needed to see a vet and fast. I was diagnosed with sarcoptic mange, which is very contagious, and put on medication right away.



Since the current animal shelter has no isolation area, the staff found a wonderful woman from Norwood who took care of me at her home until my treatment was complete. I don't want to appear vain, but I am now beautiful, mange-free, and healthy.

I am glad the building plans for the new shelter include a place to isolate animals who are sick like I was, so that we don't put other animals at risk while we are treated ... the shelter is already a great place to be, and an isolation area will make it even better!

Sir Vivor

When I was found by the police, I was abandoned and imprisoned in a dog crate with no food or water. I felt so humiliated because my feet and legs were stained from standing in my own feces and urine.



Fortunately, I was whisked off to the Potsdam Animal Shelter where I was cleaned up quickly. When the staff saw how emaciated and dehydrated I was, they immediately took me to the vet and I was put on IV fluids for 48 hours.

Thanks to wonderful foster care arranged by the shelter, I am now all fattened up and back in good health. It makes me very happy to know that I am with people who love and care about me and that I will never be hungry again.

"LB" (Left Behind)

This winter, I was taken to the animal shelter one night after dark and left tied to their front door. The short chain that held me did not give me any ability to wander off to relieve myself. The next morning, the shelter cleaning staff found me lying in my own feces, near death with frostbite.



I was cleaned up and put in a kennel with a warm floor, food, and water, and given medical care and rehabilitation by the kind staff at PHS. I thought I had died and gone to heaven! Recently, a wonderful woman came in looking for a new dog, since hers had recently died. It was love at first sight for both of us. I am now living with her and loving being spoiled. I will always be grateful to PHS for helping me when I was abandoned and finding me such a wonderful new home.

Moose

I was in very horrible shape when I arrived at the Potsdam Animal Shelter on Groundhog Day. The people who brought me there had stuffed me in a pillow case — I was scared to death and covered in my own feces, urine and vomit. My long, once beautiful fur was so matted that my skin hurt.



I don't know how they did it, but the staff found a way to look past how awful I looked. They cleaned me up and gave me a "lion" cut as it was the only way to remove my tangled fur.

After such a horrible ordeal, I had a hard time being around other cats and it took me a while before I was ready to trust a lot of people, too. But one special day, a nice older gentleman came in looking for a companion, and picked me out of all of the cats at the shelter. That made me feel ready to take a chance on being with someone outside the shelter staff again. Today, my new owner says he's grateful to me for giving him a reason to get up in the morning, and I feel loved and treasured again. I hope no other cats ever have to go through what I did to get a good home. I am sure glad the animal shelter was there for me when I needed help.

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Pablo

Did you ever get a cold that you just couldn't shake? That happened to me this past winter. I had runny eyes, a horribly stuffed up nose and a terrible cough! A nice lady in Canton wanted to adopt me, but couldn't take me home until I was well.



While I had a nice home at the current animal shelter, the building does not have an air exchange system, and that was making it impossible for me to get better there. That's when the PHS Board president came to my rescue. While she and the rest of the board are working to get a new air system for the renovated shelter, she knew I could not wait until the project is done. She took me to her home, put me in a bedroom all by myself, and made sure I took all of my medicine. In a short time I was better, and soon I was ready to go to the home that was waiting for me.

I am glad that the new Potsdam Animal Shelter will have an air exchange system, which will help to make the kind of respiratory disease problem I had a thing of the past. Cats like me would rather be on a warm lap watching Animal Planet on TV than fighting colds, and eliminating this problem will mean PHS will have more money to spend on animals with worse problems than I had!

Hope

I am a 10-year-old dog, who was abandoned by my owner in the middle of a cold North Country winter. When I was found wandering one night along a road in Winthrop, I was nearly frozen, with bloody feet and a severe bladder infection. The woman who found me contacted a nice animal control officer, who knew that the animal shelter would be the right place for me.

When I arrived at the shelter, everyone who saw me wanted to cry. While my owners had fed me, they had otherwise neglected me for a long time. My fur was so long and tangled, I could not see. The staff wrapped me in blankets, put me in a room with a heated floor, arranged for me to get good medical care, and then the nice guys at Bows and Bandanas bathed and groomed me.

PHS told my story in the paper, after which I became kind of a celebrity! When a nice lady named Jane read about me, she decided to give me a new home. Like me, she's a "mature lady," and through the PHS program of "Seniors for Seniors" she was able to adopt me at a cost she could afford. Now, we are good company for each other.

Everyone associated with PHS has been so kind to me ... I am just "barkless." Rest assured, the rest of my days are going to be heavenly!

Pudge

Sometimes it is really hard to grow old! When my family of nine years got a new puppy, I had a tough time adjusting, and so they took me to the shelter since they could not handle two dogs at their home.

After living with a family for so long, I hated the shelter, wouldn't eat much, and lost weight. I also had a bad eye; in fact, it kept popping out all the time. I was really depressed, and didn't think anyone would ever want a dog like me again.

Then, a miracle happened. The kind-hearted office manager at the shelter took me home with her, and took care of me when I had surgery to have my problem eye removed.

After awhile I realized being one-eyed isn't so bad and was better for my health — it made me look very friendly, as I was constantly winking at everyone!

I came back to the shelter a changed dog, and soon a nice family came in and decided to give me a new home. Because of the great lengths the shelter went through to help an old and disabled animal like me, I now have a second chance at a good life, and feel like a puppy again!



“The Potsdam Humane Society is committed to finding a loving home for every adoptable animal that finds its way to our front door.”