

Friends,

As you may well know, Protecting Animals' Welfare (P.A.W.) has been actively working for animals and their welfare since 2009. As a 501©3 organization, we have diligently tried to assist in critical situations by providing foster homes for stray cats, which have made up the vast bulk of abandoned animals whom we have helped. We have also been active in rescuing and fostering dogs. We have also assisted farm animals. With regard to the cats, we have been making sure that they are spayed/neutered and receive their rabies vaccinations, been tested for FeLV/FIV, treated for fleas and worms as necessary and ensuring that they have a good future, by either getting them privately adopted or by getting them into no-kill shelters like the Ark Animal Shelter in Cherryfield or the SPCA in Trenton. In cases where the cats were feral and not adoptable, we have gotten them into safe barn situations so they can live out their lives in safety. Since P.A.W. first got started, we have helped over 636 cats, in various towns.

We have assisted people in the community who have been unable to meet the entire cost of vet care for their animals by providing partial assistance to help pay for vet care or other necessary care for their animals.

It seems that each year there are more and more animals, cats especially, needing our help. Unfortunately that is caused by more and more people abandoning more and more cats. We have tried to educate people to spay and neuter their cats, to not allow them to go outside and to consider their animals as family members, not simply disposable throw-aways. This year has been extremely difficult and the situation has become critical.

We have been holding yearly yard sales which is our major event to provide ongoing funding. This year would have been the third year. This year our usual yard sale storage site, at the Sullivan Town Office was unavailable due to unforeseen circumstances and we were unable to secure another site which could provide the same capability, that being able to store the donations and then move them outside the day of the sale and move the leftovers back inside until they could be taken elsewhere.

Also, the Darling's Ice Cream Truck which has been another funding source for P.A.W., was not available to come to Sullivan Daze this year as it had in past years.

P.A.W. has been operating with a "skeleton" crew for the last several years...a very few dedicated people struggling to do it all and continue to help the animals and the caregivers of the animals with their vet needs. But we will be unable to continue to do so unless we can get additional volunteers and additional funding to carry us through the coming year, which based on the trend in the last few years, will continue to increase in number of animals needing help. We have so many needs: fostering, transporting, trapping, researching fairs and festivals and other events at which P.A.W. can have a presence, doing outreach in the community and church groups, tabling at festivals, doing humane education programs in schools to educate children in responsible and humane care for animals, web design, social media outreach, tv and radio programs, grant writing, locating additional donation can sites and collecting at those sites. If you have a talent, some time and want to help in some way, there is a place for you to help P.A.W. and the animals we serve. Of course there is always need for monetary help...without any of these services we may not be able to help the animals and that would be a tragedy. If you can help with any of these requests please call Marie @ 460-8920 or 266-5027. Any money donations can be sent to P.A.W., PO Box 230, Sullivan, Maine 04664. Thank you

Here are some pictures of the cats and dogs that we have helped to save over the last few years. As you look at all the faces, we are hoping that these faces will move you to action...to volunteer and/or donate. Thank you again.







