



Humane Society for Boone County

SHELTER TAILS

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Meet a Member of our Board

Michelle Atkinson is the Director of Fosters and Adoptions for Humane Society for Boone County. This is her story.

"In the summer of 2012, I was pregnant with our third child and had one dog. My mom, who was a foster for Humane Society for Boone County, told me about some puppies in need of a foster family. I convinced my husband, Clint, that it would be a fun summer activity for the kids and me. We picked up these two 5 week old puppies and never looked back! Our family quickly fell in love with raising, training and finding homes for the puppies. Our close friend adopted one of the puppies and we get regular updates.

Now, in 2016, I am the mom of 3 busy kids. We have 4 dogs and always have at least one foster. We have lost count of how many dogs and cats we've helped, but it is definitely in the hundreds. The first thing people always say to me is, "I don't know how you do it." It's a team effort! My two big kids help feed, bathe, train, and walk the dogs. They even scoop poop! My husband helps with training dogs, picking up strays, and going on meet-n-greets. It has been a great experience in compassion and responsibility for our children. I can honestly say, I'm addicted to bringing in a dog with few manners, or one that has been neglected, and then turning it into the best version of that dog. After a month or so, we positively affect a family by letting them adopt.

To make it work we have a routine we consistently follow with the dogs. We use 3 baby gates to keep dogs separated, if needed. We also have a large laundry room that can hold up to 3 kennels. The kittens are fostered by my 14 year old daughter. They stay in her room and she is responsible for the litter box and daily care. As a foster family, HSforBC provides all the supplies we need. They also provide vet care.

There are many reasons why we keep fostering; the biggest one is I love it. I love meeting new dogs and cats and people. I love taking animals in, helping a struggling family, and providing a pet to a new family. We've tried to take breaks. We've tried to stop. But then we get the call....

Most of the dogs are sweet, good with other dogs, and good with kids. Some lack manners, some are heartworm positive, some bark, and some jump. But they all deserve love.

Another reason we continue to foster is I love my foster families! I love that they say yes almost every time I ask. I love that they get excited for the next dog or cat to come and will even ask if I have one waiting for a foster home. The cat and kitten fosters get up all hours of the night to bottle feed and clean litter boxes. They risk their furniture and give their time to take care of these animals. The well-adjusted cat is all because of them! Finally, I love the relationships we are building with the community. Between local law enforcement, the Lebanon Street Department and you all, we have formed quite a team! I love that LPD, WPD, BCSO, JPD can all call me to help. And with their help we have returned lost animals, rescued abused animals, and saved lives!

HSforBC is a team of volunteers. We have volunteer board members, event volunteers, fosters, drivers, the newsletter team, and the everyday volunteer. We are also very lucky to have Boone County veterinarians on our team who take time to vet our incoming pets at a low cost to us. Without each person involved, my role wouldn't be as great as it is and I am very thankful for that!

If you are wondering how you can help, please call us. We will find a spot for you on our team!!"



Humane Society for Boone County P.O. Box 708 Lebanon, Indiana 46052

Call HSforBC today at (765) 485-8888 or email us at hsforbc@gmail.com

If You Cannot find Your Pet

Call the Lebanon Street Department at 765-482-8870. The hours are 8 - 4 weekdays.

Call all area veterinarians. Most have bulletin boards for your 'Lost Pet' flyer.

Call HSforBC at 765-485-8888 and leave your pet's details on our recording. We check messages frequently and will return your call. Or email the details with some good images to: hsforbc@gmail.com.

Place a "Lost Pet" ad in the Lebanon Reporter 765-482-4650. You may wish to place ads in the newspapers of outlying areas as well.

Call neighboring county humane societies. Many animals are turned in to shelters miles from their owner's home. A personal visit is recommended if the pet is not found within a few days or weeks.

When you find your lost pet don't forget to notify everyone. Also, carefully examine your pet for illness or injury.

Good Luck!

Websites With Lost and Found Listings

www.lebanonchatter.com (blog post)

www.craigslist.com (free listing)

www.hsforbc.org

www.petfinder.com

www.pets911.com

www.fidofinder.com

www.petamberalert.com

www.missingpetpartnership.org

www.petsmissinginaction.com

www.thepetrescue.com

Area Vets

Lebanon

All Animals Vet Clinic 765-482-7387

Lebanon Vet Clinic 765-482-4125

Pleasant Paws Vet Care 765-481-2207

Tractor Supply in Lebanon 765-483-0898

Thorntown

Thorntown Vet Clinic 765-436-2323

Whitestown

Zionsville Country Vet Clinic 317-769-7387

Community Pet Healthcare 317-344-0906

Zionsville

McDavitt Vet Clinic 317-769-6094

VCA Eagle Park 317-873-4679

Zionsville Animal Hospital 317-873-1833

Outside Boone County

Banfield Pet Hospital 317-870-7181

Brownsburg Low Cost Spay/Neuter 317-852-0537

Circle City Vet Hospital 317-872-8387

Michigan Road Animal Hospital 317-228-0645

New Ross Vet Services 765-723-1755

Noblesville Low Cost Spay/Neuter 317-706-0537

VCA Animal Hospital 317-872-0200

'Cuffs and Collars', a joint venture between the Boone County Sheriff's Office and HSforBC, is pairing inmates with surrendered and rescued cats. It's starting small with just four cats and four inmates. If the program goes well, the inmates could be bottle feeding newborn kittens as soon as this Spring. The animals are able to roam from cell to cell within the designated cell block. HSforBC supplies the litter, bowls and food. The inmates provide the rescued animals with 24/7 companionship.

A Long Time Foster Friend

Christie Brubaker has been an HSforBC volunteer for many years and also fosters animals. This is her story on her latest foster animal, Cesar. Cesar's neglect case had just been settled in court.

"The first time I saw Caesar, he was this sad looking dog with an obvious case of mange. It was non-contagious. I had received a text from our Foster Coordinator asking if I would be willing to take in such a sick dog. We had some experience caring for older dogs, but nothing like this. I didn't hesitate.

It's always like that when we are asked to take in foster animals. My family has been fostering dogs for the Humane Society for over 6 years and I can't remember how many we have had. I get asked, a lot, if it is hard to give them up. We are usually happy to help the dogs move on to their forever homes. Only 3 dogs have been hard to give up and two of them are in my living room!

I wasn't sure what I was getting into when I picked up Caesar. Mostly bald, covered in skin tags, and smelling terrible, I didn't know if I had made the right decision. Would I be able to juggle this dog, my job, my busy family, and our other animals? Lucky for him, I'm not the type to back down from a challenge and I don't give up. We got him loaded into the car and off we went. I was told Caesar was usually pretty sedate and didn't do a lot. Once I got him home, his personality came out. He loves toys and pulls them out of the basket, carrying them all over the house. He enjoys being with our family and the other dogs, usually preferring to lay in the living room with our boxer, Rocky. He loves being touched and is willing to tolerate the affection of our 5 year old twins.

Caesar's care is more involved than the average foster. In my experience, the average foster dog goes to the vet once, gets altered, and is available for adop-

tion. In contrast, Caesar has been to the vet at least 6 times since we got him in December.

He has to have weekly baths, and for a while, was getting daily treatments with a skin conditioner. He has a special diet, due to his allergies, and has to have daily medication. He has also been on an antibiotic for most of the time we have had him, trying to clear up the bacteria on his skin and his massive ear infections. The smell from his skin has gotten better, but the constant infection in his ears, that we have been trying to get rid of with several different treatments, causes him to have a terrible smell. He also has broken teeth, is unaltered, and has some really painful cysts that can't be addressed until his skin infections are taken care of.

While having Caesar in our home has given us more to do, I feel like it is the best place for him. The dog in our home is a happy dog. Yes, he has a long way to go before he will be available for adoption and he has a lot going against him, but he is lucky. He found his way to an organization that gives dogs like him a chance. "



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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BOONE COUNTY

HSforBC is happy to announce that donations to the Community Foundation of Boone County (CFBC) Humane Society for Boone County Non-Permanent Fund and designated to fund a shelter have already reached \$22,000 BEFORE the 50% match by CFBC.

Thank you Boone County MIBOR for your vote of confidence in HSforBC!! Your donation of \$1,750 made on the behalf of HSforBC to the CFBC will be matched by CFBC, 50 cents to the \$1, for an additional \$875 for our building fund held at CFBC! That is a total of \$2625. Thank you for your ongoing support.

A heart-felt THANK YOU to the generous folks at Bone Dry Roofing for their recent donation of \$8000 based on the number of jobs they did in Boone County. This means the building fund just grew by over \$12,000 after the 50% match. Thank you Bone Dry Roofing!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

PAWS AND CLAWS RIDE FOR RESCUES

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016, 9:00 AM

\$25 PER PERSON, \$40 PER COUPLE

GOLF SCRAMBLE

WOLF RUN GOLF CLUB

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2016

REGISTRATION AND LUNCH START AT 11:00 AM



**312 W. South Street
Lebanon, IN 46052
317-482-9019**

Minute Print It



Western Boone National Honor Society raised \$1100 for HSforBC at Polar Plunge. Brrrrrrrr and thank you!



At FurBall 2016, IMI Irving Materials, announced they will donate half of the concrete for the new shelter. The other half will be poured at a reduced rate. This generous pledge puts us one step closer to our goal. Including the Community Foundation match we received \$61,500 for our new building fund. Thank you IMI Irving Materials.