



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

That's right—it is AFH's 20th birthday!
We were incorporated on 9/11/02!

■ **AFH** started out in our President's garage with a few puppies, a few crates, a few dollars, and a desire to save animals from being euthanized in shelters.

■ Like every new business there were a lot of growing pains, but 20 years later we are proud of what we have become.

■ We have over 1,300 volunteers

■ We place approximately 1,000 puppies and dogs into forever homes every year

■ We have assisted in the rescue of an additional 10,000 puppies and dogs

■ We have rescued horses, pigs, goats, birds & small mammals

■ We have driven tens of thousands of miles

■ We have rescued dogs from natural disasters

■ We have rescued dogs from hoarding cases

■ We have rescue dogs from puppy mills

■ We have rescued dogs from other countries

■ We have provided thousands of pounds of food to shelter and rescue partners

■ We have spent over \$4 million dollars on vet care

■ We have no paid staff—we rely on volunteers to carry out our mission

In honor of our birthday, can you make a donation to help us continue our lifesaving work? Go to <https://to-afh.org/Donate> to donate now and please share the link with friends and family. Everything we do is possible because of your generosity!

Thank you so much for your ongoing support! ●

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A Forever Home
RESCUE FOUNDATION

Looking to **ADOPT?**

Are you looking for a new furry family member? We have many wonderful dogs waiting for forever homes. Once you've fallen in love, the next step is to fill out an adoption application to get the ball rolling.

Go to www.aforeverhome.org to see our available pets.



THE DAVIS TEAM
CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE

AFH wants to thank our friends on the Davis Team at Cross Country Mortgage in Sterling, VA for their generosity!

THE DAVIS TEAM is all about helping families in need and giving back to local communities. Our happy hour events are our way to express our gratitude to everyone who supports our business, with food and drinks on us and 100% of the money raised going directly to the charity of the quarter. We call this our “CCM”—Community Connection Moments. The Davis Team matches the total donations contributed for each event. We present the final check at the end of each quarter, which usually goes beyond our expectations thanks to everyone’s generosity.

We first heard about **A Forever Home** from a friend of ours, and we were instantly sucked in to reading all the stories of pets available for adoption. As fellow pet lovers, we knew that we had to give our support to **AFH** to help support the care of these rescue dogs before they find their forever homes. We were touched by the stories told by **AFH** volunteers who attended our events. It has been a pleasure working together to raise awareness for rescue animals and making a positive and lasting impact on their lives. ●



50/50 RAFFLE

AS YOU KNOW, AFH recently held our first 50/50 raffle. We raised an incredible **\$31,520**, which means the lucky winner walked away with half and **AFH** got half.

Our lucky winner was **Mary B.** from Front Royal, Virginia!

Congratulations to Mary and thanks to everyone who purchased raffle tickets. This fundraiser was so popular that we plan to do it again.

Mary is pictured with two puppies she helped care for, and her **AFH** dog and her grand-dog are also pictured.

She writes: I am a huge fan of **A Forever Home** and all organizations that help rescue animals in distress. We adopted Cinderella 15 years ago, about 6 months after our previous rescue dog died at age 14. Princess was such a love. To be honest I wasn’t sure I was ready for another dog but when I met Cinderella it was love at first sight and my children already had her playing with them in the backyard before our in-home interview was over. Through the years, Cinderella was a joy. Even when she was naughty, I couldn’t stay mad for long. Cinder is now also in doggie heaven checking out those pup angels for her Prince Charming. ●



Luke the Rescue Pup

In November 2020, author Dr. Simi, adopted Luke from
A Forever Home Rescue Foundation.

In 2022, she wrote a book about Luke to raise awareness
for the importance of adopting Rescue Pups.

As a way to support A Forever Home,
Dr. Simi is donating 50% of all proceeds from her latest
book.

TWO WAYS TO BUY:

You can purchase the
book on Amazon by
scanning the QR code.

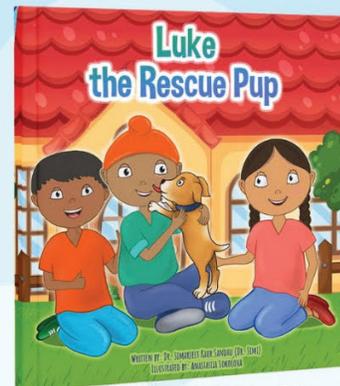


Donations from Amazon will be
less due to Amazon fees

OR

You can purchase a signed
copy directly from the
author by emailing
luke.sandhu20@gmail.com

Offer valid
5/15/22 to 12/30/22



\$20.00 + \$3.99 shipping
(extra shipping for
international or westcoast
customers)



BOOKS WILL BE DELIVERED IN 2 TO 3 WEEKS WHEN ORDERED FROM THE AUTHOR

Luke the Rescue Pup

Dr. Simi Kaur is an **AFH** adopter who wrote a book about her pup Luke.
Dr. Simi is making a donation to **AFH** for every copy sold, so get yours now!

Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

STEPHANIE OSMANI

After I adopted my dog Coco from AFH in 2014, I decided I wanted to become a volunteer. My husband didn't want me to foster puppies in our home because he knew there would be "foster fails," meaning I would want to keep most of them.

Susan Green, a longtime AFH foster mom, created a team of volunteers to help care for the foster puppies that live with her temporarily. I jumped at the opportunity to become a part of the Green Team, helping Susan care for more than 100 puppies over the years.

Miss Marple and her litter of 10 puppies were some of my favorites. I was there the day they were born and I watched them grow big enough to chase each other around the yard and learn how to drink out of a bowl. I snuggled them on my lap when they got tired. As each puppy left, I missed them but knew they were off to wonderful lives with families approved by AFH. Miss Marple was also adopted!

Eventually I began conducting virtual home visits and phone interviews. It is wonderful to meet new families who send pictures and keep in touch with me after adoptions are final. Being an AFH volunteer is rewarding, fun, and fulfilling. **If you can foster, or want to join a team, I highly recommend it!** ●



If you would like to join the AFH team as a foster parent, please email volunteer@foreverhome.org



Crystal

July 18, 1986-Oct 13, 2020



HEATHER & VICKI OWENS

AFH is an amazing organization. My mom Vicki, my sister Crystal, and I have been fostering for many years. Our dogs were all adopted from AFH and we love meeting all the new dogs and caring for them while they wait for forever homes.

My sister Crystal loved AFH and loved meeting the dogs. She passed away almost two years ago and my mom and I continue to save lives in her honor. She is at peace and is watching over us. ●

IN MEMORY

ZEUS from Jess and Michael Gasvoda

Thank you for taking a chance on a couple still in college and allowing us to adopt that sweet puppy in 2015. He knew love every day of his life. His life ended way too soon (cancer of the spleen) but every day was a happy one for him (and us!) Zeus accompanied us to brunch, on hikes, on camping trips, and to the beach. He was loved by all who met him, including strangers on the street, and tears were shed by many when he went to the rainbow bridge. ●

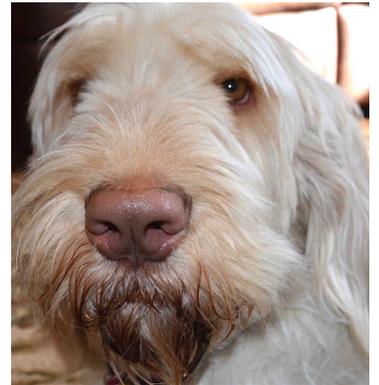


PETIO from Phil, Genna and Hugh Ishikawa

Our beloved Petio passed away on February 12, 2022 at the estimated age of 17-1/2 years old, surrounded by his loving family and attended by his lifelong veterinarian, but not before sharing nearly 15 joy-filled years of unconditional love and faithful companionship with us. While we are still disconsolate and miss him so deeply, we also recognize that we were most privileged to be with him for as long as we were, although when you truly love someone anything short of forever is destined to end in sorrow and sadness. ●

OLIVE from Ashley Holubek

Our furry best friends don't come along every day, and unfortunately, never stay long enough. Olive was the gentlest soul I have met. She loved kids and her family (even her kitty sisters) with her whole heart. Olive also loved helping mom in the kitchen. She would eagerly help clean up any fruits or veggies that got "accidentally" dropped on the floor. Cucumber was her absolute favorite and just the sound of the vegetable peeler was enough to send her into a drooling frenzy. Being a Spinone Italiano meant that Olive was pre-dispositioned to being stubborn, goofy, and completely adorable...and she was all of this and more. ●



MADDIE from Jennifer, Greg, Mia and Emma Curtiss

Our sweet Maddie Moo-Moo, formerly Harmony, crossed over the Rainbow Bridge on May 6th 2022. Lover of belly rubs and chicken strips and the lady of the couch, Maddie became the first member of our newly formed family back in 2012. She proved to be a stellar officemate, skilled delivery driver detector, and stealthy dinner table surveyor. We desperately miss her nose bumps, urging us to continue to pet her whenever we would stop, and hearing the shuffling under the bed in the morning as she popped out to greet the day. While we selfishly wish we had more time together, we are ever so grateful she chose us. Thank you **AFH** for introducing us to our girl. ●

OREO from Amy & Kevin Yusman

It is with a heavy and broken heart that we write to you about our Oreo. We went on a vacation to Virginia Beach in June and while walking Oreo, she was struck by lightning and died. We loved her so very much and she was an amazing part of our family. She gave so much to us and we miss her so very much. We had her buried and have her paw print, and we just ache for her. We hope that in time we can heal. We appreciate that you brought her into our lives; she was so special. ●



MAMA D

Mama D is a beautiful eight year old Australian Shepherd/Labrador Retriever mix. This sweet girl came to **AFH** from one of our rescue partners in Mississippi in early June. She had an old injury to her left front leg but her vet in Mississippi stated that no treatment was needed; the injury healed on its own. She also arrived with a small growth on her nose.

We had our vet take an x-ray of the injured leg. The news wasn't good. Our vet determined that her elbow (where the injury was) shows severe degeneration. Mama D was in pain and likely had been for a while. You would never know it given her sweet demeanor. He prescribed pain killers to immediately make her more comfortable.

Unfortunately, there was more bad news to come. The pathology report from the growth on her nose came back as skin cancer—likely metastatic.

Mama D will not recover from this but it is possible that she has a number of good years ahead of her. She is currently with a foster who loves her and will care for her but she is still available for adoption. Her pain is being managed and right now she is a happy girl who is enjoying her life. If you would like to make a donation to help with Mama D's care, please visit <https://to-afh.org/Donate> ●



**LOOKING
FOR MY
FOREVER
HOME**

ADDAMS FAMILY GOMEZ

Age: 10 months | Breed: Terrier Mix

Gender: Male (Neutered)

<https://youtu.be/8sFNhajRyaM>

Gomez is a spunky little water baby. He is being fostered in a household with kids, cats, and dogs, and would do well in many types of households. This meaty potato enjoys frolicking in the grass, exploring the great outdoors, and snuggling up on the couch while watching TV. He's still searching for his forever home. Could that be with you? ●

WHY DO DOGS SOMETIMES TILT THEIR HEADS?

<https://www.cesarsway.com/>

Everybody loves the doggie head tilt. You know—that adorable little head cock to the side that dogs will do whenever they seem confused by something. My dog would often do her head tilt if I was talking to her with food in my hand. It was like she was confused as to why I wasn't sharing my food, or more accurately, why I was taking so long to give her a taste of whatever I was eating. As dog owners, we've all seen the cuteness that is the head tilt. But what does it mean exactly?

According to experts, there are several reasons for the head tilt. One of the reasons for the head tilt is simply so they can hear better. Very much like the wolf in the classic fairytale "Little Red Riding Hood," if your dog is tilting their head it's their way of saying, "I'm trying to hear you better my dear." When dogs tilt their head, this allows them to adjust their outer ear in order to better focus the location and distance of where the sound is coming from. So if you're out with your dog and they tilt their head it could just be that they're in a particularly noisy area and they're trying to pinpoint a particular sound that has intrigued them.

Another sensory reason for why your dog may be tilting their head a lot—whether it's at you or not—is because they want to be able to see you better. Dogs rely on our facial expressions and body language in order to better understand what we're trying to convey to them. Therefore if they can't see us and our expressions then they can't tell what our mood is. Often times dogs with larger snouts will need to do the head tilt in order to better focus on what is in front of them. It's the cutest sight obstruction ever when they do their head tilts.

And finally, one of the other reasons for a doggie head tilt is that it's a physiological response to communication. As dog owners, we probably see this most when we talk directly to our pets. They're trying to identify what we're saying to them, and as a result, they look absolutely adorable in the process. While our dogs are not fluent in human, they can pick out keywords like "walk" or "treat" or "toy," and the head tilt is merely a way for them to filter through the other words they don't understand and identify the ones they do. ●



A Forever Home Rescue Foundation is a 501(c)(3) animal rescue organization located in Northern Virginia. Our goal is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome abused, abandoned, neglected, and unwanted puppies and dogs.

There are many ways that you can help a homeless puppy or dog.

MONETARY

- Donate once or set up recurring donations through JustGiving (<http://to-afh.org/Donate>) or through Paypal ([Paypal@foreverhome.org](mailto:paypal@foreverhome.org)). Recurring donations help us budget more efficiently and even \$10 a month makes a huge difference to a homeless, abandoned, or abused puppy or dog.
- Donate just by walking your dog – visit to-afh.org/WoofTrax to download the app.
- KARMAKARMA offers you the chance to make an impact through micro-donations. Go to www.karmakarma.com and register. Once you log in, click on Get Karmapoints to see how to get points and/or click on Make an Impact and then Animals to navigate to A Forever Home Rescue Foundation's page to make a donation.
- Include AFH in estate planning – leave a lasting legacy. Email info@foreverhome.org for information.
- Donate your used car. Email info@foreverhome.org for information.

HANDS-ON VOLUNTEER HELP

We have many hands-on volunteer needs. Email volunteer@foreverhome.org if you can help with any of the volunteer activities below.

- Fostering – Without fosters, the rescue ceases operation. Fostering can be long- or short-term and AFH provides all supplies and pays for all approved veterinary care. You can choose what dog(s) you want to foster too!
- Drive a dog or dogs from our rescue/shelter partners to their AFH foster parents.
- Home Checkers – Home checks are done virtually.
- Do you have a special talent or skill? We would love to talk to you about using it to help us help homeless puppies and dogs.

SHOPPING

- Shop at Amazon through our website. Simply go to www.foreverhome.org, scroll down to Support AFH by shopping at Amazon (on the right side of the screen) and click the link. You have just generated a donation for AFH at no cost to you!
 - o Once on Amazon, enter smile.amazon.com in the address bar and start shopping! If you are not already enrolled in Amazon Smile, you will be prompted to sign up.
 - o Donate an item through our Amazon wish list. After following the steps above, go <https://to-afh.org/WishList> and select and pay for any item. It will automatically be shipped to us!
- You can select AFH to be the beneficiary of a percentage of your eBay sales! Just select A Forever Home Rescue Foundation when you are creating your listing and indicate what percentage of the sale gets donated to us.
- Shop with any of our partners:
 - o Barkbox: www.BarkBox.com/AFHRBBX1
 - o Jeanne Taylor Pet Portraits: to-afh.org/JTPetPics
 - o Hale Pet Doors: to-afh.org/Hale
 - o Bissell: to-afh.org/Bissell
- Shop through to-afh.org/GivingAssistant and donate all or part of your cash back to AFH.
- If you or someone you know is looking to buy or sell a home, you can refer them to us by emailing Homes@foreverhome.net. For every home referral successfully closed through this program, A Forever Home will receive a \$500.00 donation in your name.