



December 2023 Newsletter

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Dear Friends,

As this year draws to a close, I want to thank each of you for supporting The Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue. Each of you has supported us in one way another. Whether you have adopted; donated money, volunteer time, or supplies; shared our posts on Facebook; or followed us and given moral support to our animals, you are making a difference in these animals' lives. We truly appreciate all of your efforts. It is because of YOU that we can continue our work to care for homeless animals until their new family comes to give them a forever home. I am proud of our Rescue and our work to re-home 289 animals to date in 2023. I am reminded daily that it is people like YOU that help to make all of this possible. We are grateful to all of you for helping to give cats and dogs a second chance for a loving home.

We are looking ahead to 2024 with a number of ambitious projects that will help the animals live more comfortably and safely at our facility. We must replace the non-operational HVAC system so we will have reliable heat and air in animal areas. We must also replace the guillotine doors that allow dogs safe access to their outdoor kennels from inside. Lastly, we are applying new flooring in the cat adoption room and reception area that will be more durable, sanitary, and easy to clean.

These projects represent substantial investments of funds and total approximately \$90,000 dollars to complete. We are asking for your help this holiday season for the animals and these projects. Please consider participating in our Season of Giving Program, which includes both Pet Angel Trees and the Trim a Tree program which are detailed to the right on this page.

We greatly appreciate the support of our community as we rely solely on donations. One hundred percent of your gift goes to taking care of our homeless pets while they wait for their new family.

Thank you for your support! On behalf of all the staff, volunteers, and the Board of Directors, we wish you happy holidays and good health in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Alexa Serfis, President

SEASON OF GIVING

We are celebrating the holiday season with special events and three special programs:

Trim A Tree

Trim a Tree is a fundraising project to help support the Rescue operations. Simply return the enclosed ornament (fill out the front and back; or return the donation reply device and include your pets' name, if applicable) along with your tax deductible donation. You may also go online to our website and participate with your donation. Feel free to include a picture of your along with your ornament. We will hang your ornament on the tree displayed in our lobby and post photos of the tree on our Facebook page. Please help us fill the tree with ornaments!

Please mail ornaments and your gift to:
The Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue,
P.O. Box 654, Blountville, TN 37617

Pet Angel Trees

We have ten (10) pet angel trees located in businesses in the Tri-Cities area until Dec. 19. Each tree has tags with one of our animal's names and a specific need. We invite you to visit a tree location, pick a tag, purchase the needed item, and return the item with tag to the tree location. The Pet Angel Trees are a significant supplies drive for us and every purchase makes an impact on our operations. Tree locations include:

- **Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue**, 2061 Highway 75, Blountville, TN
- **BlackBird Bakery**, 56 Piedmont Avenue, Bristol, VA
- **US Endodontics**, 2809 W Walnut Street, Johnson City, TN
- **First Class Floral Design**, 137 East Main Street, Jonesborough, TN
- **Military Outdoor Supply**, 3102 Bristol Highway, Suite C, Johnson City, TN
- **PetSmart Bristol**, 16760 Highlands Center Boulevard, Bristol, VA (in the back near Grooming!)
- **Pike House Coffee**, 2203 McKinley Road, Johnson City, TN
- **Bullpit Fitness Center**, 3008 Bristol Highway, Johnson City, TN
- **Kingsport Senior Center**, Lynn View location, 257 Walker Street, Kingsport, TN
- **Rainbows End Floral**, 214 E Center Street, Kingsport, TN
- *We are also featured on the Pet Angel Tree at PetSupplies Plus, 2219 N Roan Street, Suite A, Johnson City, TN*

Warm Our Paws and Our Hearts

Join us in making your annual gift by December 31, 2023 and help us to install a new HVAC system in our shelter. The old system is inadequate to properly heat and cool our facilities year-round. We estimate the project to cost between \$50,000 - \$70,000, which will not only enhance our facilities, but will allow us to provide temperate conditions for the animals in our care for years to come. All gifts made to The Bridge Home go to directly support the animals in our care.



LITA'S JOURNEY HOME

Lita was brought to our Rescue in February 2018 by an employee who had taken her in as a stray. She was skittish and tended to hide in our community cat room, and she did not give visitors an opportunity to see her (or how much she loves attention). Lita stayed with us until February 2023, when her family adopted her.

Lita remained skittish in her new home but slowly warmed up and became much more trusting. After nine months with her family she has finally decided to sit in their laps! It took so long for her to feel comfortable and enjoy being loved. We are so grateful to Lita's family for giving her a chance at a loving home, and for being patient with her until she was ready.

BY THE NUMBERS

With special thanks to all of our forever families, you've given over 1,144 animals a place to call home since 2020.

2020 (229 adoptions)

152 - cats
77 - dogs

2021 (248 adoptions)

118 - cats
130 - dogs

2022 (378 adoptions)

168 - cats
210 - dogs

2023 (289 adoptions to date)

125 - cats
164 - dogs

HIGHLIGHTS FROM PREVIOUS EVENTS

A yard/bake sale was held in June at the Rescue, and two others were attended. We also held *Christmas in July* with Pet Angel Trees at nine locations, yielding much needed supplies for our animals at a crucial time of year. We've had numerous adoption events at PetSmart and Tractor Supply where cats and dogs found their forever families. The rescue also served as a vendor at Bristol Pepperfest, Apple Festival in Erwin, and the Old Fashion Christmas Fair in Kingsport at the Senior Center.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue Plum Christmas Parade

Dec. 2
10:30 a.m.
Johnson City

Find us in the Christmas Parade in Johnson City! We will have a couple pups walking in the parade and will be handing out candy!

Pet Angel Trees

Nov. 24 - Dec. 19
Locations vary

We have Pet Angel Trees at ten locations throughout the Tri-Cities area (see above for details). Help us replenish much-needed supplies for our animals by selecting an ornament or two from a tree at a participating location.

Holiday Open House and Raffle

Dec. 9
12 - 4 p.m.
Our Rescue

Santa will be here to meet you and take pictures with both kids and pets. You are welcome to bring your pet for a picture (must be up to date on rabies vaccine please). Pictures can be made into ornaments. We have refreshments, tattoos and coloring for kids, and tours of the facility. Our Quilt and Holiday raffles will be held at 3 pm. Raffle details and tickets can be purchased on the homepage of our website (bridgehome.org) or at the Rescue up until the drawing. We welcome everyone to come meet us!

Fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings

Now through
March 2024
Buffalo Wild Wings (Bristol)

Come enjoy some great food at the Bristol, VA Buffalo Wild Wings and help animals at the same time! The restaurant will donate a percentage of your purchase to the Bridge Home but patrons need to [mention this fundraiser when you visit.](#)

SUPPORT OUR RESCUE



As a non-government entity, all of our operating and care expenses are funded by donors, like you. Please use the enclosed reply card to return your annual donation (postmarked by Dec. 31 to receive tax credit for this calendar year). You can also make a gift online at:

<https://www.bridgehome.org/support-us/donate/>