

PAWSITIVE MATCH RESCUE

WANTED : YOUR HEART!

We are looking for people with big hearts, warm laps, and a desire to save lives!

Thousands of dogs are dying everyday in "Humane Societies", shelters and on the streets. *We are unable to rescue these dogs without foster homes.*

When we are approached by an organization or individual about a dog they would like us to take in, we have multiple factors to consider. First and foremost we look at what kind of foster homes we have open; does this home have cats? Kids?



Are they only able to foster small dogs? If we do not have a home able to foster this dog, we are forced to say no.

Fostering FAQ

Does PMRF provide supplies? What about vetting or additional training? YES! PMRF provides all supplies (ie. food, leashes, kennels...even winter coats and booties if needed!). All vetting and training costs are also covered by the rescue.

My dog is only good with small dogs, or I have a rambunctious two year old who should probably only be around larger dogs. I don't want just any dog sent to my home. What if the dog isn't a good match?

We only sign a foster up for a dog they've agreed to foster! We send out two emails a week listing dogs that need homes, and the foster can

contact their lead to choose who they would like to foster. If the dog is not a good match in the home we generally ask the foster if they're able to hold onto the dog until a new foster is found unless there is an immediate danger to someone by keeping the dog in the home.

What if I decide I can't give the dog up after fostering him/her?

Inevitably, it will be difficult to say goodbye to a dog that has become a part of your home. It will be heartbreaking to watch the little furball you've loved walk out the door with her new family. But to see the dog that came to you as skin and bones, terrified and cowering in the corner transform into a loved, cherished family member is absolutely priceless.

Many of our foster homes have found a certain dog they just

couldn't let leave...we celebrate foster "fails" just as much as any adoption!

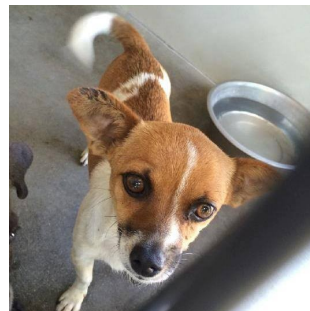
I'd love to foster but I have holidays planned or am away often due to work.

Depending on your schedule and needs we are able to place your dog in a temporary foster home while you're away, or utilize you as a temporary home and work around the dates that work for you!

We'd like to challenge you to give fostering a try, just once. Pawsitive Match provides all supplies for the dog while they are in your care and covers all medical and associated costs—You simply open your home, give up some room in your bed or couch, and accept a temporary family member while they find their way to their forever home. You can fill out a foster application on our [website](#).

* * *

All dogs pictured in this article are dogs that are or were at the San Bernardino City Shelter that will be euthanized without a foster/adoptive home to save them. The San Bernardino Shelter takes in approximately 17,000 animals annual. In 2013, their euthanasia rate was 45.2%. In 2013, approximately 7,684 animals entered these doors and never left because no one provided a home for them.



ADOPTABLE DOG OF THE MONTH—CASSIE

Cassie is a very sweet medium energy girl (weighing in at only 35 lbs!). She came from an Alberta reserve after a rough start to life, but is pretty sure she's living the dream now!

Cassie lives with a large dog and a cat and is great with both. She loves to play with her foster brother, and sometimes tries to get the cat to play as well. Although Cassie can be a little nervous of new people, she overcomes this quickly and is just a lovebug after!



While she is an easygoing girl, Cassie has a couple requests of her new home : she needs to live with another dog and in a home with no small kids (they're just a little too crazy for her!). Cassie isn't a fan of dog parks and the strange dogs they entail, but she's excellent on leash and loves to swim and cuddle with her humans.

If you are interested in adopting Cassie, please fill out an adoption application on our [website](#).

ADOPTED IN JULY



- | | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Radcliffe | Joey |
| Abbie | Fudgie |
| Friskette | Bebe |
| Dolly | Callie |
| Remy | Bailey (pending) |
| Christy | Sam (pending) |
| Blacky | Rankin |
| Muffin | Toby |
| Angelina | |



He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion. --- Author Unknown

ENVISION PASSION

BY CAROL LIN

Pawsitive Match Rescue Foundation is a Calgary based, not-for-profit, no-kill dog rescue run entirely by volunteers with big hearts. The foundation was born when two individuals rescued 50 dogs from Mexico and decided to create a volunteer initiative through a spay and neuter program. Since that time, the organization has grown and expanded, rescuing over 3833 dogs and placing them in loving homes that are a "pawsitive match". These pups often come from Canada, the US and Mexico where over-crowded populations are forcing the shelters to euthanize these dogs. They can also arrive from owner surrenders or nearby reserves. Whatever the story is for each dog, Paws ensures that they are spayed/neutered, medically tended to and tries to place them in suitable foster homes so that they can begin to experience the warmth and comfort of family as well as receive any special attention recommended by local trainers.

I started volunteering with Paws because my lifestyle doesn't allow me to have a dog and I craved that connection. Working with these dogs has made me more and more determined that my future



dog will be a rescue! During my volunteering experience here I was able to assist the Cambrian shelter committee, Transport committee and even attend an adoptathon!

At Cambrian you get to cuddle with these little fur-babies, take them for walks in the residential areas (or even jog with them if you're feeling ambitious), ensure they're well fed, have taken their

medication and their living areas are kept to a pristine clean that your grandmother would approve of. If you are part of the transport committee, you guessed it – you transport the dogs (or any supplies they need)! The great thing about this one is that transport opportunities are always different. Different dogs, different locations, different situations.

Your services can entail picking up dogs that have just flown in from other areas, bringing dogs to-and-from fosters to the



vet or even just bringing them to adoption events! I'd like to take this moment to remind you that volunteering is something you can do with friends! All of the volunteers truly love what they're doing and it's a great place to make new friends and meet fellow dog-lovers as well. On various occasions I have brought friends to volunteering with me and each time they have nothing but great things to say about it. It's a great way to have fun and also do something good for these animals. I do have one secret that I'll let

you all in on: you will fall in love with a dog and be very, very tempted to take him/her home. Here's a photo of the dog I fell in love with. Her name is Chloe, she adores people, has a couple grey hairs and the face of a puppy mixed with a mellow, "I just want to lay here and please everyone" personality.

* * *

To read the rest of this article, please visit

Envision Passion's [website!](http://envisionpassion.com/)

Animals are such agreeable friends - they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms. George Eliot

PARTNER ORGANIZATION—ASNTF

The Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force was created in 2008 in an effort to provide veterinary assistance to First Nation and other

communities in Alberta. So many people do not have the resources to spay and neuter their pets and communities

all over the world struggle to manage their companion animal populations. Our team of dedicated and compassionate volunteer veterinarians, animal health technicians and general volunteers provide proactive veterinary care for companion animals by setting up large volume, on site spay and neuter clinics. We have the ability to spay and neuter up to 365 animals in one weekend.

We have a very committed team of over 350 volunteers that includes licensed veterinarians, vet students, animal health technicians (AHT's), AHT students and general volunteers. Each clinic requires at least 15 vets and 6 animal health technicians as well as 80 general volunteers. We care for up to 450 animals



that are housed at the gym, arena or community centre in the communities we work with.

Our group works with the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (ABVMA) and we must meet the ABVMA

guidelines in order to provide safe surgery for all of animals that come to our clinics. All animals are spayed or neutered, vaccinated (including rabies), dewormed, tattooed, and treated for fleas, lice or mange, as needed.

The Task Force is in the process of launching our new Outreach and Animal Care Program that will be available to First Nation school children, adults and policy makers in 2015.

We work closely with over 30 rescue groups from Alberta, Saskatchewan and B.C. who assist us by accepting the stray



or relinquished dogs and cats from the clinics. We are very grateful for their support.

In 2013 we spayed or neutered a total of 1,766 dogs and cats. In addition to surgery patients, a total of 802 animals were placed with rescue groups to be rehomed. This year, we have fixed a total of 1,245 animals and an additional 363 dogs and cats went on to our partner rescue groups. We still have 3 more clinics planned to 2014.

We are so proud of our accomplishments and grateful to the rescue groups that assist us by accepting the many stray or relinquished animals we see at our clinics. So many people have come forward in order to allow us to continue our efforts in improving the quality of life for the thousands of companion animals who are in need and the people that live in these communities.



You can learn more about the ASNTF on their [website](#) or on [Facebook!](#)



INTERVIEW WITH A VOLUNTEER—TARA MORIN

I started out with PMRF as a temp foster back in 2011. That temp foster soon turned into a permanent foster who was adopted by my good friend a couple of months later! I then began to receive the transport requests emails and offered to go pick up some dogs from the US border. That position had been filled, but after a bit of back and forth with the transport coordinator at the time, I ended up volunteering to help out on the transport team. From there the then transport coordinator ended up joining the board (which comes with increased responsibility), so asked me if I would take on the role of transport coordinator. I was happy to get more involved.



I did that for a year or so and really enjoyed the involvement with some of the other rescues in Mexico and LA. I even had the opportunity to go down to Cancun and volunteer at a Spay/Neuter clinic, which was an amazing experience.

I was then asked to join the board back in 2012. I was very happy to become even more involved with this amazing rescue. I then got involved with adoptions, intakes, events, continued to foster and dabbled in a few other areas (including the role of foster failure with my second dog Cami).

I am very passionate about the rescue and am happy to put in countless hours every week to help keep things running smoothly. It is so rewarding to see some of these dogs go from scared,

skinny little things, to happy healthy dogs with amazing adoptive homes.

I have had some fosters over the years who I will never forget, and that alone makes it worth it to me. My most recent memorable foster was Burke (in the pic). He was definitely a tough one to let go after 4 months of falling in love with him, but to see how happy he has made his new family (and how happy his new family has made him) makes it all worth it. And it helps that we still get to go on play dates with him. I have also made tons of life long friends within the rescue. It is so great to have a group of friends with a common obsession with dogs :) I can't imagine what I would do with my time, if I wasn't so involved in PMRF.

TRY TO BE THE PERSON

your dog thinks you are



Puppy Classes, Group Classes
Private Training, Aggression
Fears, Rescue, Mentorship

P: (403) 472 - PAWS (7297)
E: info@dogsforchange.com
W: www.dogsforchange.com

Modifying Aggression

Does your rescue dog lunge, bark, growl, air snap and/or bite at other dogs, house guests or even at bags blowing in the wind leaving you frustrated, embarrassed and utterly exacerbated? What follows is a very general step by step plan for modifying aggressive and reactive behaviour.

If you have any concerns about safety or if you need help implementing this plan, please contact a professional trainer with a thorough understanding of learning theory, canine communication and with experience in modifying fears and aggression. Please note that this plan does not apply to dogs with resource guarding or predatory behaviours.

1 – Prevention and Management - Exposure to triggers stimulating the aggressive behavior must STOP. Prevention and management involves micromanaging the environment and your dog's exposure to triggers. Can you walk your dog in another location? Can you keep your dog kenneled when guests come over to the house? Are there other changes that you can make to stop your dog from practicing the aggressive behavior?

2 – Learn and Observe – *“Some people talk to animals. Not many listen though. That's the problem.” A.A. Milne*

Now that you have identified triggers and have implemented prevention and management, it is time for you to start to listening to your dog and learning all about his communication. I suggest reviewing the following video, and then spending time daily just observing your dog and noting what you are seeing and when. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00_9JPltXHI.

3 – Relaxation Protocol and Impulse Control exercises. Stress is the universal cause of reactivity and aggression. A dog that is stressed cannot learn so this component must be addressed prior to moving on to behavior modification. Dr. Karen Overall has a great relaxation protocol which combines impulse control through relaxation postures such as sit, down and stay. It has fifteen days in the protocol and each day has several steps to follow. Taking this two week period for this protocol is a critical step toward teaching and educating the aggressive dog, especially where skill deficits are seen and self-control is non-existent.

Please note: during this two-week time frame, your dog is no longer being exposed to any triggers that cause aggressive responses. This may mean making your dog's world extremely small and limiting exercise to laps around the yard or fetch all while implementing games to help tire your dog mentally such as feeding toys and other foraging exercises.

4 - Skills. Now that your dog is starting to relax and to become more attentive and responsive, it is time to build some foundational skills. While obedience will not change your dog's behavior, it is a critical part of the rehabilitation process. Four critical skills that your dog will need are as follows.

1. **Engagement with you.** Teach your dog that looking at you and paying attention to you is fun and worth their while.
2. **Whistle Recall.** Your recall is your emergency “brake” for future behaviour modification work. My preference is to set up a whistle recall which your dog will still be able to hear even in the midst of an epic “meltdown”.
3. **Teach your dog to sniff on cue.** Your dog will need a replacement behaviour for the lunging, barking, air snapping, biting. I suggest sniffing as an alternative vs sitting as sitting generally will just make your dog feel trapped and powerless. Sniffing is a naturally calming behaviour and a great alternative to threat behaviour.

5- Behavior Modification. Once you've got your foundational toolkit built, it is time to get started on behaviour modification.

Behavior modification is systematic, process whereby we change the dog's emotional response to triggers/stimuli and ultimately make them irrelevant to the dog. A good behaviour modification protocol needs to include desensitization and counter conditioning combined with thorough understanding of all of the dog's triggers along with an understanding of what is maintaining the dog's behaviour. In other words we need to understand what need the behaviour is fulfilling for the dog. Here are a couple of great behaviour modification tools:

BAT 2.0

Look at That Game

5. The Real World. A good training and behaviour modification program should work with the dog from where they are able to handle their triggers all while staying completely relaxed and happy. Distance and duration will always be at the forefront of your mind during real world training. Ideally, real world sessions and mock set ups start at approximately 5 minutes and work up to 15 minutes over the course of time. Real world setups need to break down the stimuli into tiny steps and details. For example, if the trigger is a stranger, the first session may involve the dog at 50 feet from the stranger and the stranger is sitting in a chair. Session 2 may involve the dog starting at 75 feet from a stranger standing, facing away from the dog and then moving in to 50 feet. As you can see, this will take time and solid plan and recommend keeping a training log to record details of your sessions.

8. Maintenance. Use it or lose it! Once a skill or behavior modification technique is learned, it needs to be practiced and maintained. Practice, practice, practice whenever at home, in real life, in a training opportunity. Learning is life long journey!!

Happy Training!

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

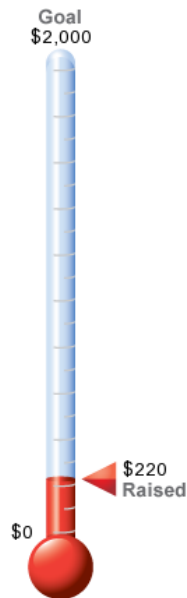
- **Foster!** Without foster homes, we cannot save dogs. Fostering is an incredibly rewarding experience, and all supplies and expenses are covered by Pawsitive Match.
- **Donate!** (monthly or one time donations) Any amount helps to cover the soaring costs of rescuing.
- **Volunteer!** We are always looking for volunteers to join our team and have many different positions, each with varying time requirements.
- **Transport!** Let us know when/where you're going on vacation, you may be able to escort dogs back and save their lives!
- Consider Pawsitive Match as a memorial gift in memory of someone, or as a gift in honour of someone and a special event in their lives (ie. Birthday, graduation)
- Donate supplies to our holding facility (bleach, paper towels, etc. Please contact pawsitivecambrian@gmail.com for the current needs)

Thank you so much for your support. Without you, we cannot continue saving the lives of our furry friends.

HAPPY TAILS—KHALEESI

Khaleesi is doing wonderful. It's been about a year that she has been with us. She has adapted well and loves every second of life! She does still have her high energy celebrations after going to the bathroom or just grabbing a toy and bouncing off the couch and bed.

We are very grateful that she is a part of our lives, including our 12 1/2 year old mastiff. Here is a recent photo of Khaleesi with her toy monkey in one of her favorite places, the couch.



Our goal for 2014 is to achieve \$2000 in monthly donations. Your donation goes directly to the rescue and care of our dogs, and you will receive a tax receipt! Even something as "little" as \$5 or \$10 a month adds up quickly when multiplied by the number of supporters PMRF is fortunate to have!

You can subscribe to donate monthly through our [website](#).

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH DAVE CHAPMAN

I started volunteering at Cambrian because I wanted to continue to help the dogs coming in after my living situation changed and I wasn't able to foster any more. When I'm not volunteering I like to go to the gym, watch or go to flames games, play hockey and in the summer go golfing.



A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor, clever or dull, smart or dumb.

Give him your heart and he'll give you his.

How many people can you say that about?

How many people can make you feel rare and pure and special?

How many people can make you feel extraordinary?

-John Grogan; Marley and Me



pawsitivematch
rescue foundation