



pawsitive match
rescue

Pawsitive Match Newsletter

April 2015

Rescue Partner Profile: Cada Vida Importa

Cada Vida Importa (Every Life Matters), was founded just over a year ago with the intention of reducing the number of dogs losing their lives in Playa del Carmen's 'death row' pound. In a country with a minimum wage of just \$5 per day, the cost of getting a family dog out of the pound (\$35) is an enormous burden. Add to that extremely limited government funding, low spay/neuter rates and an average holding time of less than a week and you have a situation where adoptable dogs are being euthanized at an alarming rate.

In an effort to address this, CVI volunteers visit the pound every week to name and take photos of the new dogs, evaluate their personalities and place as many as possible into foster homes. Additionally, the volunteers take the dogs to vet appointments, coordinate with rescues internationally and raise funds for their care and transport.



While conditions for dogs are improving in Mexico with a basic level of care now expected of owners, it will take time for these changes to influence the number of dogs benefitting from international partnerships. To learn more about CVI's partnership with PMRF including some amazing happy tails, visit our blog [here](#).

Georgina (before and after), Arabella and Hope(after and before)

Trainer's Tip: Shy Dog Behavior By Marianne Rogerson, PhD

Shyness is the second most common behavioural problem in dogs. Causes include physical infirmity, lack of socialization, abuse, and genetics. A shy dog requires confidence building and meeting this goal is dependent on commitment to follow proven techniques, socialize the dog, remove the dog from abusive experiences, and meet the dog's physical and emotional needs. In order to build confidence, your dog must be introduced to new situations gradually. A shy dog will gain confidence when slowly guided to move beyond her/his comfort zone. In order for this process to move forward, your dog must feel that you are the protector and you must constantly watch the dog's body language. For example, when you go out for a walk, keep the time brief. Limit her/his interaction with other people. Limit encounters to one person at a time and manage petting situations.

Be sure to pick a quiet place to walk. As your dog gains confidence and exhibits fewer stress signals, you can move to busier environments. However, always watch your dog. It is wiser to proceed slowly and build confidence gradually. Shy dogs should not be left alone for long periods of time. This can make a shy dog even more withdrawn. Pairing something pleasant with a new experience helps the dog make a positive association and this technique can be used in practically every situation. Dogs can be shy of many things but hand shyness is one of the more common reactions. Developed by ASPCA Pet Care, the article is called *Dogs who are hand shy* and it is available [here](#). Some dogs fear new things and the term for this is neophobia. This article, also created by ASPCA, addresses this topic and it is available [here](#).

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Adoptable Dog of the Month: Emma



Emma is a spunky, affectionate 9 year old

Doberman/Rotti mix who loves spending time with her people. Although she was attacked by a large dog in the past, Emma is making big strides with her reactivity training and now even has a few doggy friends of her own. Emma is looking for a forever family committed to continuing her confidence building and training and to giving her all the love that she so fully deserves.



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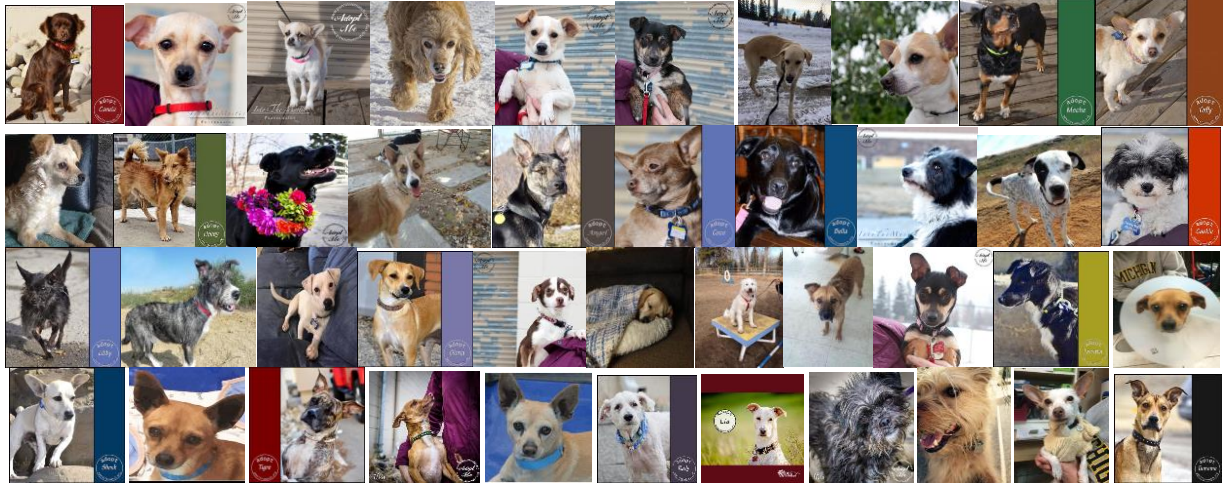
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Adopted In March



Adopted but not pictured: Red1, Callie, Red2, Ricky, Cleo

Volunteer of the Month: Chelsa

I started volunteering with Pawsitive Match in November 2014 and in such a short amount of time it has impacted my life for the better. I

started out as a transport and Cambrian volunteer and have since added on fostering, fundraising and attending adoption events to the list. I enjoy that I am able to have the opportunity to be involved in a little bit of everything and have learned so much through all of the amazing volunteers that are around to lend support and give advice. It is also really nice to have a community of people that enjoy talking about dogs as much as I do and it gives my poor family a bit of a break ☺ One of my favorite things about fostering is how much my resident dog (pictured) loves to have playmates. So much so that she mopes around the house when we are foster-less! This has been such a great experience and I am so grateful to be involved in such an outstanding organization.



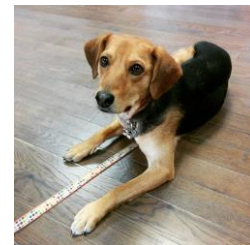
Happy Tails



“It was absolutely amazing the therapy that Sapphire has provided for our 6 year old. It's like someone flicked a switch and her anxiety has literally disappeared.”



“We adore our Kika. We brought her home and she fit in like she had always lived here. She loves to run and play. She shows us all of the time how much she loves us and how happy she is in her new forever home. “



“I can't thank you guys enough for all your hard work. Sasha is only 15 months old and has already been born in Mexico, lived in a dump, had a litter of puppies, survived a broken leg, been transported to Canada and adopted by us! The work you do is incredible!!“