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# IMPACT REPORT

## YOU ARE THE REASON

The lives of 820 cats and dogs in need in Chatham County are better because you care. As volunteers, foster caregivers, and donors, you each made many lives better.

# **48** YEARS STRONG SERVING SINCE 1975

Chatham Animal Rescue & Education PO Box 610 Pittsboro, NC 27312

chathamanimalrescue.org

# You Made a Difference

The lives of 820 cats and dogs in need in Chatham County are better because you care. From beginning to end, you - our volunteers, our foster caregivers, our donors — you each made many lives better.

# You Made Life Better



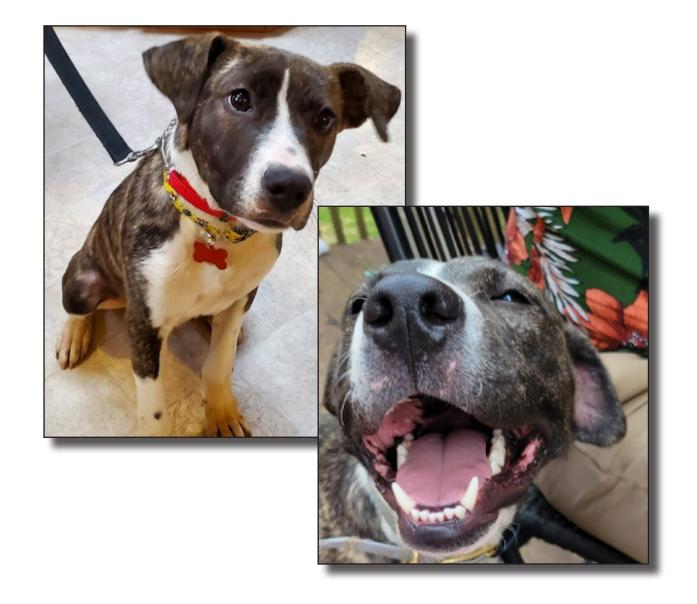
Coconut could win an award for the loudest purr! When she went to the veterinarian for her first exam, the vet heard a "gallop" rhythm in her heart. A recheck was scheduled prior to the time Coconut would be spayed. Almost overnight, Coconut became lethargic and didn't want to eat. Since it was Christmas her vet was closed so she went to see another veterinarian. This one heard what she described as a very rapid, harsh heartbeat and recommended an echocardiogram. Fortunately, there was an opening the

next day with CVCA Cardiac Care for Pets in Cary. The cardiologist noted murmurs with both the tricuspid and mitral valves but didn't feel they warranted delaying spay.

Coconut remained sick. She began to develop lower Gl issues. A third veterinarian recommended a prescription diet, dewormer, antibiotic and an appetite stimulant. Bloodwork was completed over two different dates to rule out other illnesses but it remained fairly normal. With a lot of TLC and multiple small meals daily for the next several weeks, Coconut slowly gained weight. Before we knew it, she was a playful kitten once again! She and her "brother" Mango were adopted together in February 2023.

#### 2022 was a turnaround year for Coconut!

## You Made Life Easier



Looking at his happy face now, it is hard to believe that Bruce spent the first six months of his life confined in an outdoor wire crate 24 hours a day. When a CARE volunteer rescued him, he was emaciated and lethargic. There were sores on his paws and legs and he was filthy. Resilient dog that Bruce is, he soon put his dismal puppyhood behind him. He responded quickly to the loving care, medical attention, good nourishment and socialization he received in CARE's foster program. As his foster caregiver reported, Bruce became "the happiest dog in the world," greeting each day with enthusiasm and joy. Happily, Bruce has many joyful days ahead of him in a caring forever home. His new family is as thrilled with him as he is with them.

Bruce's story...LOVE perseveres, LOVE heals, LOVE endures

# Volunteers · Fosters · Donors People Who Care GOU Make the Difference

## Kelli Maturano — Volunteer

I found CARE through their volunteer rescue team in May 2022. At the time I had a cat who had gone missing, and I was trying desperately to find him. As the situation unfolded, CARE's volunteers offered me advice, helped me create Lost posters, and even helped in my physical search for my missing cat. Unfortunately, we were unable to find him, but I was so touched by this dedicated team of volunteers that I wanted to offer my support to help their cause.

**%**:

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I am now a volunteer on the Social Media and Marketing team, and I was even able to foster a set of kittens in early 2023. It was such a rewarding feeling to have both kittens successfully adopted, and it brought my own two cats so much joy to have friends to play with!



Although we still grieve for our missing cat, I am so thankful we were able to learn from the experience and connect with CARE. Now we can focus on matching rescue animals with their forever homes. I hope that through CARE, I can teach people how to be respectful towards animals whether they are strays, neighborhood cats, or part of your own family. We all can be humbled by interacting with them, and CARE animals are such a joy!

## Paula Easton — Volunteer







## Our Donors



## **Barbara Hatcher**

I have worked in pet care for thirty years. I know that a local community effort like CARE can and does save the lives of many animals. I am blessed to be a dog walker in Fearrington Village. Many of the dogs I walk are rescues and some came to their forever homes through CARE.

I am happy to support CARE which shares my concern for the care and wellbeing of dogs and cats in Chatham County.

Barbara has been donating to CARE on a monthly basis since January 2020.



## Victoria (Vicki) and Steve Hillis

Vicki has always owned dogs and cats and it's a tradition we continued after we married 22 years ago. We learned of CARE 12 years ago when we were looking for our first rescue dog. We met Laura, and adopted her foster dog, Zachary. Zach's adoption was such a success that we contacted her again when we were looking to add another dog.

LucyAnn, however, was not an instant success; her integration into our household was problematic at best. But between

Laura's patience, guidance, and support, and our determination not to let this dog win, LucyAnn's acceptance of us grew. We were struck by the love, time and effort that CARE volunteers, like Laura, give to the animals and their adopters, and are forever grateful that Laura saw the potential in our match with LucyAnn and supported us through a difficult adjustment.

As we age and realize our dog-and-cat-owning days will eventually end, we want a way to give back to the animals we love so much. Donating to CARE and helping provide the financial resources they depend on, is a no-brainer. We established our ongoing monthly contributions through Charity Navigator, which oversees our contributions to CARE and other charities. We also make it a point to drop a few extra dollars in the CARE jar whenever we see their volunteers out and about – then we force them to look at our never-ending cellphone pics of Zach and LucyAnn. Win/win!! *We would love to have you be part of our effort!* 



# Our Community

3 for Free Spay or Neuter — Meeting a Community Need

#### We asked, and you answered, BIG TIME!

No, it is not Buy one and get 3 for free (or: Adopt one and get 3 for free), but CARE's most successful campaign in 2022 aimed at reducing pet overpopulation in Chatham County. The 3 for Free campaign offered low-income families who qualified for CARE's Lillie's Fund to spay up to 3 female dogs or cats for free, with no co-pays required. The response to CARE's free-for-females incentive was heartening. With the assistance of CARE's wonderful participating veterinarians, we succeeded in spaying 116 female dogs and cats. Many of those spayed were in heat or pregnant. The small number of 3 (for free) contributed directly to the exponentially larger number of spays which in turn prevented an even greater number of unwanted litters of kittens and puppies from being neglected, abandoned or surrendered to the shelter.

Thanks to all of CARE's donors in 2022 who gave in small ways (or large) to CARE's mission. Every donation counts [or: has an impact larger than the \$ amount; or has a ripple effect beyond....] as we have learned from 3 for Free. *Your generosity is humbling and we thank you.* 



CARE Impact Report 2022 Page 6







## Total Animals Helped, Including Lillie's Fund = **820**

Cats	Dogs	All Cats & Dogs
Cats in Foster Care / Adopted 116 / 86	Dogs in Foster Care / Adopted 40 / 24	Microchipped 650 FANTASTIC!
Courtesy Cats on Website <b>95</b>	Courtesy Dogs on Website 83	Spay and Neuter Surgeries 585 EXCELLENT!
Community Cats Helped <b>204</b>	Community/Shelter Dogs Helped 5	Lillie's Fund Vouchers Issued/Redeemed 316 / 277 GREAT!
Total Cats Helped 415	Total Dogs Helped 128	Total Volunteer Hours 25,000 WOW!
		Volunteers responded to over <i>2,000</i> voice mail, email inquiries! WOO HOO!

CARE Volunteers work tirelessly year-round to serve all the animals and raise funds to support the animals and the organization.

*Net Income for CARE and Lillie's Fund increased by 18% over prior year.* 

Total Income	\$328,789
Total Expenses	\$144,644
Net Income	\$188,146



#### About Chatham Animal Rescue & Education (CARE)

The mission of Chatham Animal Rescue & Education (CARE) is to promote the health and safety of all dogs and cats in Chatham County, NC. CARE foster caregivers provide loving, stable homes to homeless cats and dogs, helping them become the best possible pets for their future forever families. CARE works with the Chatham County Animal Resource Center to save the lives of unwanted cats and dogs, manages feral cat colonies, and serves as an educational resource. CARE's Lillie's Fund is a targeted spay/neuter program, subsidizing sterilization surgeries for pets owned by lower income families in Chatham County. CARE is a nonprofit animal welfare organization that has served the community since 1975 and relies on individual and corporate donors for support.

As a volunteer-based organization, we are completely reliant on the dedication of our wonderful volunteers to support our mission.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



for making it all possible