



EmBARKing on the Future



**ANIMAL
SHELTER**
of northeast nebraska

**HELPING PAWS, HEALING HEARTS:
Support our Shelter and Strengthen our Community**



1000 E Omaha Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 750-4665 • animalshelternn.org



HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE:

Join Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska in Raising \$1 Million to Save More Pets and Build Stronger Communities

At Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska, homeless pets depend upon support from community members like you to find love and security in their forever homes, bringing smiles to the faces of their new families. Will you support us by playing a part in the next phase of the Animal Shelter's future?

Dedicated to the care of animals, the education for pet ownership, and finding loving homes for the homeless, Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska has successfully placed over 4,000 dogs, cats, and other exotic pets in the arms of loving families, bringing smiles to humans and animals alike. Without the availability and intervention of the Animal Shelter, these pets would have faced a life of homelessness, or even worse, euthanasia, simply because humans failed them. With the intervention and availability of the Animal Shelter, loving and healthy families are formed on a daily basis contributing to the overall health and well-being of our communities.

Nearly 30 years ago, this mission began as a volunteer-based organization placing pets in forever homes utilizing a foster care-based system. Since then, the organization has purchased and paid off the debt on its current Norfolk location, steadily increased the number of pets and families served, and developed multiple programs to partner with and support local communities.

While this success has been amazing for our communities to experience, the cost of saving these lives and creating new families continues to increase. The number of animals placed into loving homes has exceeded all expectations and continues to rise on a daily basis. Due to the continued growth and success, and in the best interest of our community, it has been determined to raise funds to sustain the shelter into the future.

To maintain current operations and expand our community programs, we find it necessary to raise \$1,000,000. With your support, the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska can grow into the next phase of our history, to meet the needs of area communities by providing the love and companionship of a new family member.

For the love of animals and community,
Fred Schellpeper,
Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska Board Member

Helping Paws, Healing Hearts Committee Members:

Fred Schellpeper

Shalle Wolff

Suzann Bugenhagen

Betty Froehlich

Ryan Stover

Sister Kevin Hermsen

Jean Allen

Steve Nordhues

Karl Morgan

MISSION STATEMENT:

Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska is a non-profit 501C(3) organization committed to the care of animals, education of pet ownership, and finding a loving home for the homeless.

Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska not only helps animals in need, but also people by providing free services for youth education, support for domestic violence victims, and assistance for Veterans and seniors.



JAVELAN AT ASNN:

The JAVELAN program provides funding for service dogs for military Veterans and retired first responders in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. This program enriches the lives of retired first responders and Veterans by enabling independence and providing life-changing support. JAVELAN partners our nation's heroes with dogs and dog trainers to improve their quality of life through medical assistance and the healing power of their new canine partners.

VETS GET PETS:

Studies done at two Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinics examining the benefits of canine companionship for Veterans with PTSD found that participants in the study overall felt calmer, less lonely, depressed, or worried about the safety of themselves and their families. In addition, the CDC notes that studies have shown owning a pet can lead to potential physical and mental health benefits like increased opportunities for exercise, outdoor activities, and socialization.

PAWS TO READ:

For the past seven years, we have partnered with the Norfolk Public Library to offer Paws to Read, a program that allows individuals aged 6 and older to read to animals at our facility. Paws to Read not only helps reduce a child's anxiety and stress of reading aloud, but also provides companionship to our homeless pets. Animals never judge, nor laugh or criticize if a mistake is made. We hope to show individuals that reading can be fun while also giving animals the comfort of human companionship and a break from their kennel.

K-9 COLLEGE:

At ASNN, we aim to ensure that every adoptable is a good fit for their new family. K-9 College's purpose is to help dogs become good canine citizens. K-9 College holds classes at Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska to help owners and their ASNN adopted dogs learn to work with one another and help the new family transition to a happy forever, minimizing adoption returns. K-9 College also serves as an advisor to shelter staff and alumni.

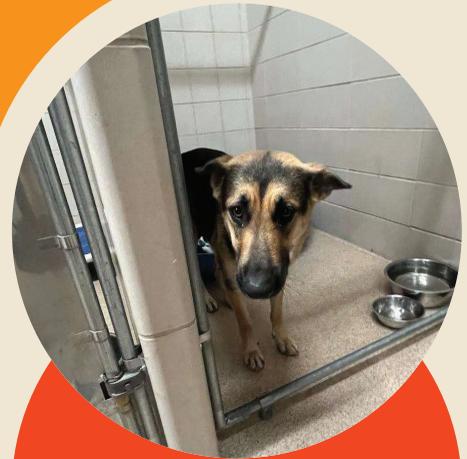


PAWS FOR HOPE PROGRAM:

Since opening our doors in March of 2016, ASNN has partnered with Bright Horizons, a shelter for domestic abuse victims, to provide a safe-haven for their pets at no cost. Knowing their pet is safe and taken care of, families can concentrate on starting a new life, with hope of a bright future.

In 2019, we realized this program could serve other individuals in crisis and now offer it to anyone in need. Other situations include house fires, job loss, home loss, health issues, or death of an owner. During their stay at ASNN, pets receive necessary vet care (including spay/neuter if applicable), housing, and food. We are committed to providing a home for the homeless, no matter the cause.

// Leaving my abusive situation was such a difficult choice and the thought of not being able to keep my dog almost kept me from leaving. Bright Horizons assured me that my dog would be well cared for at the Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska until I could find a place to start over. The Shelter was wonderful with my dog and I so appreciate the support I received in keeping my family and pet safe during this difficult time. Thank you – you made the transition much better for all of us! // - M.S.



PAWS FOR THE ELDERLY

The Pets for the Elderly Foundation is a non-profit organization that helps senior citizens (age 60 and over) pay adoption fees for a companion dog or cat from a participating animal shelter in the United States. It's their mission to provide companionship to senior individuals through pet ownership while saving the lives of companion animals in shelters. Research shows the most serious disease for the elderly is not cancer or heart disease - it's loneliness. Pets offer affection and unconditional love; they ease loneliness and the grief of losing a loved one, and offer many physical and social benefits as well. Currently, only 55 shelters in 35 states have been approved to participate in the program and ASNN is the only one in Nebraska!



COMFORT PAWS OF NORTHEAST NEBRASKA

K-9 College offers pet therapy classes that prepare dogs and their owners for different scenarios in various community settings, increasing community awareness of both K-9 College and its partnership with ASNN. Several ASNN alumni are currently working as comfort dogs.

SALLIE BIRCH, EUTHANASIA LIST TO JAVELAN HERO

Sallie was originally seen on a website featuring animals in Texas scheduled for euthanasia. She had eight puppies less than a week old and tested positive for heartworm. There were no shelters capable of handling her medical needs plus her eight puppies. The picture showed a defeated and depressed dog; it was as if she knew what was going to happen to her. When I saw her, I knew that she was special; I just didn't know how special she'd become.

We immediately tagged Sallie for rescue. When she left the animal control facility in Texas, her smile was contagious! She knew she and her little family were safe. Within days, Sallie and her babies boarded a plane piloted by an individual serving as a volunteer for the Pilots and Paws Organization and flew to Nebraska. Sallie arrived at ASNN on August 14, 2022, where she was welcomed with open arms. She was the happiest, most obedient dog and very trusting with her babies.

Before we could treat Sallie for heartworm disease, she had to raise her pups, gain weight, and be treated for fleas and other intestinal parasites. Seven weeks later, Sallie weaned her pups and was finally healthy enough for her heartworm treatment. The entire treatment took 30 days and Sallie stayed on kennel rest throughout the duration. She was such a cooperative patient!

While being treated for heartworm disease, the shelter was approached about being a partner with JAVELAN. JAVELAN provides funding to train service dogs for military Veterans and retired first responders in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. This program enriches the lives of retired first responders and Veterans by enabling independence

and giving life-changing support. It was at this point that we knew why Sallie was so special; she was destined to be a service dog!

The shelter immediately sprang into action, certifying two experienced dog handlers to become Sallie's trainers. Following Sallie's heartworm treatment, she started service dog training. It was decided that Sallie would remain at ASNN until she could be paired with a Veteran or first responder in need. For weeks, Sallie learned advanced obedience skills; she was a straight A student! Now, it was finally time to find the right hero that needed Sallie's services.

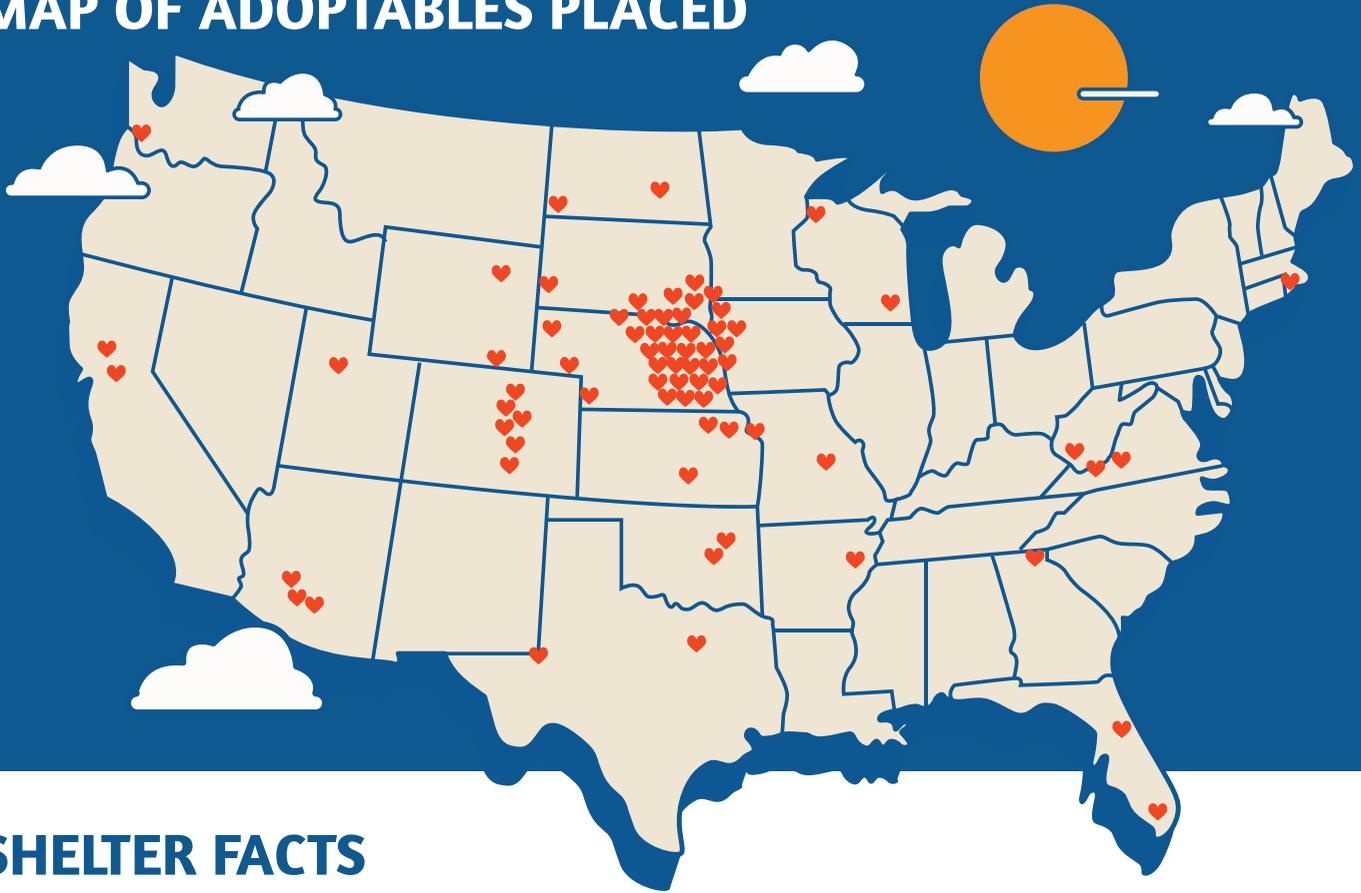
In March of 2023, Sallie finally met her forever person and the hero she was born to help. His name is Dr. Larry Birch, an Army Veteran with advanced Parkinson's disease. Larry needed a stability dog to help him around the house and lead him safely on his daily walks. It was love at first sight. For months, Sallie and Larry worked together learning and teaching each other, guided by a service dog trainer.

Larry's Parkinson's disease has progressed and his walks with Sallie are infrequent, but Sallie has assumed a new role. The emotional comfort and partnership built with Sallie keeps him going and gives him a reason to enjoy every new day, even when they can't take a stroll down the street.

The dog that once had no future and was destined for death is now a life-saving angel. She will always have a family and will never be left behind again.

Lisa Stapp,
Shelter Manager

MAP OF ADOPTABLES PLACED



SHELTER FACTS

ADOPTIONS

(5,713 since January 1, 2017)

2017.....	476
2018.....	705
2019.....	627
2020.....	835
2021.....	734
2022.....	970
2023.....	870
2024.....	496 so far

SURGERIES/OTHER (Since January 1, 2023)

Heartworm	7 (dogs on euth. list in TX)
Dog Spays	168
Dog Neuters	189
Cat Spays	22
Cat Neuters	219
Barn Cats (Trap, Neuter, Release)	13
Surgery Expenses	\$48,883

FOOD

(Varies on animal numbers & sizes)

Dogs/Puppies	50-60lbs/day (\$78-\$90/day)
Cats/Kittens	10-15lbs/day (\$21-\$32/day)

CAT LITTER USAGE

60-70lbs per day (\$18-21/day)

NUMBER OF KENNELS

Dogs.....	33
Cats.....	34

(10 overflow kennels available)

SINCE JAN 1, 2023

Transfers.....	491
Strays.....	196
Owner Surrenders.....	621
Born in Care.....	119
Paws for Hope.....	14



SHELTER FACTS

OTHER EXPENSES	
Utilities	\$19,701 (2023)
Insurance	\$17,469 (2023)
Medicine/Vaccinations/Vet Supplies	\$18,484 (2023)
Spay/Neuter/Other	\$48,833 (2023)
Building Maintenance & Repair	\$18,683 (YTD)
	\$12,132 (2023)
Property Maintenance	\$14,703 (2023)

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF AMAZON

This sweet baby was brought to ASNN after being hit by a car. Due to unrepairable damage to her right front leg, it was amputated. As luck would have it, her rescuer fell in love with her and adopted her after she was healthy enough to go home. Now, she is thriving with her kitty and puppy sisters and brothers, and loving parents. This is a perfect ending for Amazon and we couldn't be happier!



The Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska is truly making a difference in northeast Nebraska and beyond. They not only consider the needs of homeless pets but also those of the community as a whole. I have always been impressed by how they see the big picture - offering services such as microchipping, spay/neuter services for feral cats, and boarding services for pets of people in need. Yet, they also provide individualized care for each animal, from tiny neonatal kittens to parvo puppies to senior dogs in hospice care. Their love and dedication to the animals and people of northeast Nebraska is unparalleled, and I am proud to be a member of such an amazing organization.

Kathleen Ritzman, DVM
Animal Shelter of Northeast Nebraska Board Member and Medical Advisor



**ANIMAL
SHELTER**
of northeast nebraska

FOR THE LOVE OF ANIMALS

1000 E Omaha Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701
(402) 750-4665 • animalshelternn.org



Special thanks to Hollman Media and Big Red Printing for their contributions to this campaign.