Second Chance Animal Rescue is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) all-volunteer organization dedicated to rescuing, caring for and placing homeless dogs and cats. We educate the public on respect for all animal life, including the importance of spaying and neutering in order to reduce the number of animals euthanized.

Hershey’s Tale

The wonderful thing about fairy tales is that they include difficult challenges, remarkable heroes, and happy endings. Hershey’s story has all the makings of just such a fairy tale.

One day a typically happy-go-lucky and personable, but very lost, chocolate lab found his way from animal impound into the Second Chance program. He was promptly named Hershey, and it didn’t take long for some pretty severe challenges to become apparent. While Hershey looked at first to have a respiratory infection, further diagnosis revealed a more serious condition called mega-esophagus. His esophageal muscles had quit working and, when he ate, no longer pushed his food along. Hershey vomited - sometimes once a day and sometimes twelve times a day, but it was always involuntary and unpredictable and, as you can imagine, awfully difficult to live with.

Two kind, brave fosters teamed up to care for Hershey, welcoming him into their homes and providing the special handfeeding and frequent clean-up he required. After a year in their care, an amazing family came forward. They had lost – and hoped to honor - their own special needs dog by adopting another. Hershey went HOME.

A family who loves him? Canine siblings? A lake for swimming? Endless tennis balls and walks? This tale has heroes, happy endings, a bit of a miracle, and one very lucky chocolate lab.

Fostering is a Wonderful Feeling (and it saves lives)

“I have been fostering cats and kittens for Second Chance for over ten years. It is one of the most rewarding things I have done. Fosters know we are doing a great service for these cats (who have either been lost or abandoned) by caring for them until they find their forever homes. Since Second Chance doesn’t have a shelter, they depend on us fosters to care for them and to provide information on each dog or cat so they can find the best human and animal match.

When each cat or kitten goes to its new home, it is bittersweet – I am saying good-bye to someone I have become attached to but I am also seeing them go to a wonderful new home, and I will be ready to take in a new cat and another life will be saved.

I have so many great memories of cats who have lived with me (and I take pictures of all of them). Don’t get me wrong, it is work as well as fun. These animals depend on us for care and some come in so scared and we have to give them confidence and even teach them how to play. There are heartwarming days when your shy foster cat or kitten comes running to greet you at the door, or the tiny kitten has finally caught on to eating the food rather than standing in the food dish. There are so many days that you laugh and smile at these little creatures that you are caring for. And, every single one of them has their own unique personality and silly traits.

Please open your home and heart to help Second Chance save more animals.”

With Thanks, Loretta Neumann, Cat Foster Mom

Foster Homes Urgently Needed for Kittens and Pregnant Cats

We are in the midst of “kitten season” and Second Chance is in desperate need of volunteers to foster litters of kittens, pregnant cats, and Moms with their litters. Second Chance will supply the food, litter and toys – you just need to provide a safe room, care and love. Please consider fostering and saving a life or two. And, of course, we are always in need of fosters for adult cats and special needs cats.
Advice for Parents Considering a Family Dog

Childhood memories of the family dog are often idyllic. As adults, we are understandably eager to provide our own children those good memories. Selecting an appropriate dog and successfully managing the dog’s ongoing relationship with our children will help us realize that goal.

Selecting an appropriate dog

In most instances, families with young children should not choose small, fragile dogs. They are too easily picked up, carried about in a perilous way and mistakenly dropped, causing broken bones and internal injuries. Small dogs are also more vulnerable to the inquisitive hands of children, who lack the maturity to realize the inappropriateness of tugging on ears and tails, poking at eyes and pulling hair.

Mid-size to large, gentle, sweet-tempered dogs are probably better with young children. They can’t be picked up and can better escape mishandling. Regardless of size or temperament, no dog should have to submit to mis-handling by a child. Parents need to supervise interaction between a small child and any dog.

Ideally, a family should wait until children are school-age to add a dog to the household.

More general advice would include not acquiring a puppy on impulse. In addition, avoid pet store purchases, as puppy mills commonly provide the store’s inventory. If a purebred dog is the family’s choice, research the breed thoroughly and be certain you deal with a reputable breeder. Finally, consider adoption. Many wonderful, but homeless, mixed-breed and purebred dogs are available through animal rescue groups.

What’s the pack order?

A dog lives in harmony with his family when rules of the pack, or family, are clearly established and consistently followed. Each pack requires a leader, a second in command and so on down the line. Instinctively, a dog knows children are “down the line.”

This means the parent, as pack leader, must provide daily reinforcement of pack rules. The parent also strengthens the dog’s relationship with family members by role modeling. Praising good behavior, offering correction gently and, in general, managing the dog with care and respect will go a long way toward setting an appropriate pack order.

Without a strong pack leader, a dog may assume authority, often in self-defense, and offer correction to a child’s behavior. That “correction” is often a bite, the only effective way a dog can say, “I don’t like that!” More than 1,000,000 dog bites are reported in this country annually. The majority of them are inflicted on children younger than 3. Many are described as “unprovoked” which often means “unwitnessed.” In other words, the parent - the pack leader - wasn’t supervising interaction between the dog and the child.

Adopting Two Cats is Double the Pleasure

“I awake each morning to a soft paw and two pairs of bright green eyes. No alarm clock on earth can provide such a gentle awakening. Since adopting 6 year old sisters Zoie and Maggie, my days are filled with laughter and enjoyment. Their antics never cease to amuse me, and I find myself smiling throughout the day as I recollect one antic or another. The sound of their throaty purrs and the warmth of their silky coats are comforting as they sit on my lap. The gifts that these two have brought to my life are immeasurable. I am grateful that Second Chance was able to rescue them so that they could live with me in their forever home. And, by taking in Zoie and Maggie, I know that one or more lucky cats also have a chance at a new and better life. “

By Kathy Carlson, Maggie’s and Zoie’s forever Mom

Even though Second Chance does its part to reduce the number of kittens born by spaying or neutering every cat and kitten we rescue prior to adoption, we just can’t seem to catch up or keep up. You can help – adopt one (or two) of our wonderful cats or kittens available for adoption. You’ll be saving a life and open a space for us to save another cat or kitten Go to our website to see all the available cats and dogs – www.secondchancerescue.org and click on the tab titled “Pet List”.

The best way to get a puppy is to beg for a baby brother — and they’ll settle for a puppy every time.

Winston Pendleton
In Loving Memory of Mark Stabenow

After our last newsletter was mailed, we discovered that the names of many donors had been accidentally omitted from those who made gifts in memory of Mark Stabenow. Your gift was thoughtful and kind - and very much appreciated, both by Mark’s family and Second Chance. Please accept our sincere apology for this omission. Below is a complete listing of the names of those who so graciously gave a donation in memory of Mark Stabenow.

Erika Anderson
Gloria Anderson
Greg & Mary Kaye Anderson
Sue Ahlcrona & Dennis Trooien
Lynda Ahlgren
Sue Ausan
Dale & Lois Bauer
Brian & Lael Belisle
Pam & Dave Benassi
Adam Beyer
Peter & Mary Beyer-Berken
Kirsten Bouwens
Mark & Carol Boyum
Barb & Chuck Busker
Tammie & Brad Campbell
Marlene & Bob Carr
Kathy & Doug Childs
Brent Clark & Cynthia Lutgen
Tom & Shirley Collins
Tim & Linda Conely
Barbara Connolly
Rick & Patty Copeland
Sue Cordek
Mike & Mary Dalton
Aaron Decker & July Iemole
Bonnie Decker
Julie Donovan
Ralph Drassal
David & Beverly Duckstad
Helen Edinger
George & Kris Felber
Stacy Fesser
Jan & Chris Foley
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Sheila Frye
Ann Galbus
Laurie Gerver
Anne Gherty
Bob & Cathy Good
Sally Grimes
Jim & Kathy Gross
Ken & Melanie Gust
Patty & Paul Gust
Bob & Carol Hall
Bob & Arlita Hanson
Allyson & David Harrison

Dave & Susan Haugen-Summer
Irene Haugen
John & Suzanne Haugen
Howard & Elizabeth Haugen
Myron & Irmae Haugen
Nancy Haugen
Barbara Hays
Terry & Cathy Hecht
Doug & Margie Hedlin
Julie Henrickson
Audrey Holm
Rich Hommes
Revs. Lori & Ron Hoyum
Ryan & Cassandra Huberty
Brian & Linda Jacobson
Jenny Jennings
Anne Johnson
Melinda Johnson
Deb Kaczorek
Sue Kaup
Sharon Kind
Sandy Klug
Sandy & Joey Kolashinski
Ron & Mary Kollmann
Harry & Kim Kveno
Ben LaFrinier
Barb Larson
Deb Lauer
Josh, Jennifer & Alice Lee
Judy Livingston
Tom & Anne Lofboom
Kim Loos
Jane & Chuck Martz

Carol Maske
June Mattox
Syd May
Jim Mc Ardle
Bill & Maggie McCarthy
Therese McGibbon
Bud & Mary Miller
Nancy Minion
Teresa Moe
Kathryn Monroe
Dana Morris
Lynn Mucciacciaro
Lyle & Judy Mueller
Mary Murphy
Linda & Vince Nehring
Lyle & Yvonne Nelson
Terry & Tara Nelson
Gary & Janet Newman
Bob Nicholson & Sharon O’Flannigan
Kathy Nickelson
Mark & Evie Nierenhausen
Rita Parenteau
Gail Parker
Elaine Pates
Linda & Jack Pedersen
Russ & Julianne Peterson
Len & Harriet Rabe
Ron & Vickie Rabe
Glennis Rasmussen
Pam Rech
Marianne, Tom & Carl Rice
Lynnae & Gary Ringus
Susan Robinson

Mark’s best buddies – Pedro the cat and Sophie the Pyrenees

Tom & Connie Roering
Tim & Sue Rogness
Bob & Cindy Schoenrock
The Scobie Family
Marcia Senkler
Jan & Charlie Sheets
Marianne Shema
Chester & Keven Sievert
Agnes Sinn
Kathy Skoog
Mary Beth Skunes
Dennis Sorheim
Marie Sortland
Shawn & Wayne Spidahl
John Steensland
Shelli Stoker
Jodi & Darren Straus
Pam Traxler
Kathleen Tucci
Erman & Betty Ueland
Brian & Tina Ulvin
Kathy & Jerry Ulvin
Rose Urbia
Margie VanBerkom
Lynne Viker
Brian & Nancy Walden
Carole Weatherby
Judy Werner
Patty Wiberg
Mark & Julie Wiener
Jessica Wiley
Becky Wilson-Abbott
Kathleen Winchell
Kim Young
Pack rules for children and the dog:
- Forbid hitting, teasing or yelling at the dog. Discourage roughhousing. Games like fetch and hide-and-seek are fun and do not encourage dog aggression like tug-of-war or tag can.
- Reserve a special, no children allowed, place for the dog to go when he needs a timeout. A crate works well. Likewise, reserve a place children can go and not be followed by the dog.
- Prevent running and screaming in the company of the dog. Dogs are instinctively coursing animals, meaning they chase things. Running children can furnish an irresistible target. Screaming heightens the dog's excitement. An ensuing chase can easily result in a child being bitten or knocked down.
- Supervise visiting children and advise them of the pack rules. Crate the dog when unreliable children visit.
- Avoid startling the dog by, for instance, suddenly insisting on a hug he may not want or abruptly waking him from sleep.
- Include the dog in as many family activities as possible. Dogs are good companions because, like humans, they are social beings. Therefore, they require socialization and a range of experiences to thrive.

Children and dogs can share among the best of all possible worlds, or their experience together can be a disaster. If parents select a dog carefully and spend time and effort to "lead the pack," the creation of more good memories of the family dog will likely follow.

Second Chance Awarded
“Best Charity” of 2010
City Pages chose Second Chance as the Best Charity of the Twin Cities in 2010. “In 1994, a group of volunteers got together with the mission of rescuing, caring for, and placing homeless dogs and cats, while educating the public on the importance of spaying and neutering to reduce the number of animals euthanized. Sixteen years later, Second Chance Animal Rescue is still thriving, hosting monthly adoption events, placing animals in foster homes, and working to influence legislation to stop animal suffering. Even without an office, the organization is still growing and accepting contributions of money, pet supplies, and, of course, homes for animals in need.”

Second Chance Animal Rescue
P.O. Box 10533
White Bear Lake, MN 55110-0533
651-771-5662
www.secondchancerescue.org

2010 Adoption Events
Saturdays 11:00am-2:00pm
Petco in Roseville

May 15  September 11
June 12  October 9
July 17  November 13
August 14  December 18

View animals available for adoption at:
www.secondchancerescue.org