

Pets for Life



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Letter from the Director.....

It has been 3 short months since our last newsletter but it seems like forever ago. Hope this newsletter finds all our volunteers healthy and happy.

I am sure you are all wondering when we might start volunteering again. The short answer is we just don't know. We continue to work with our facilities and our Board of Directors to finalize the plan going forward. We realize that some facilities may move forward quicker than others. If a facility contacts you to resume visits, please contact me before you commit to visits.

In the interim, we are trying to adjust to this new normal. As you may know, we have successfully implemented virtual R.E.A.D. sessions with a couple libraries. We have also participated in a couple of Pet Parades. Neither of these are the same as 'being there' but at least it allows you to do what you do best - bring comfort and joy to other people. We hope to expand the virtual R.E.A.D. program and participate in more Pet Parades over the next couple of months, so be sure to watch your email and our social media accounts for updates.

We also plan to start Volunteer Team Evaluations in July. Evaluations will be on a voluntary basis. If you are due for your recertification, but you aren't comfortable completing the process at this time, you do not have to. You will need to recertify before you resume visits, but you can decide when the time is right for you.

I realize that things may have been quiet for the last couple of months, but rest assured that we continue to work behind the scenes with both our facilities and organization leadership to plot the path forward.

Thanks again for all you do.
Sharon Woodrum

How About a Pet Parade!!!

Well, even though we can't visit with our favorite residents, we did the next best thing. A PET PARADE!!

Both Aberdeen Village and Olathe Health Resort invited us to visit with their residents. Of course we did so at a distance, outside, and with our masks on. Even though they didn't get to interact with the pets, all residents seemed to enjoy the parade. Some of the residents sat outside to watch while others stayed in their rooms to watch the action. We even had residents on their balconies waving and greeting us from afar. Even though these aren't the visits we are accustomed to, we still seem to bring joy and happiness. If you missed the action, check out the coverage from Channel 41 news.

We are currently reaching out to other facilities so hopefully there will be some more pet parades in the future.



Virtual R.E.A.D. Sessions

Over the last couple of weeks we have implemented Virtual R.E.A.D. programs with both Johnson County and the Louisburg libraries. During these sessions, children are allotted a 10 minute window where they can read directly to one of our volunteer teams. Although a librarian monitors all the sessions, their video is hidden providing the child with the illusion that it is a one on one session with the volunteer team.

Although we are limited to one 1 hour session every 2 weeks for all the Johnson County Libraries, they are hoping to offer additional sessions in the fall.

Now that we have successfully implemented the program, we will be contacting other libraries and schools to see if they would like to participate. We will be sure to keep all R.E.A.D. volunteers updated on any future R.E.A.D. opportunities.

Thank you for Your Support.....

Arvin Gottlieb Charitable Foundation
\$5,000

They Will Be Missed

Tank, loved by Amy Cada

Tank was my third therapy Scottie. Tank seemed to specialize working in memory care. He loved to show off his tricks and was always begging for crumbs!



Winston, loved by Matthew Theut

We adopted Winston after he was hit by a car and abandoned. He was affectionate and gentle to everyone regardless if it was a rambunctious toddler or a lonely senior. I particularly enjoyed visiting memory units with him and watching how residents reacted to him as he slid up to their sides.



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Remember our New email address is:
petsforlife@kcpetsforlife.com

Don't forget to like our Facebook page at
[www.facebook.com/pages/Pets-for-Life-Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pets-for-Life-Inc)
We post lots of fun PFL updates and
trivia, and occasionally we have
giveaways! Stay in the loop,
join us on Facebook!



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<http://www.kcpetsforlife.com>

Pets For Life, Inc., Executive Committee: Donna Amato, President; Joni Roeseler, Vice President Marty Letourneau, Secretary; John McGee, Treasurer; Jack Sladkey, .Pets For Life Staff: Sharon Woodrum, Program Director; Mary Gorman Volunteer Coordinator.

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