



Helping Paws  
Animal Network

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## Mid-Year Metrics

January 1 - June 25, 2021



**\$32,037** - Paid sponsorships for  
**188** animals in **18** rescue groups



**\$300** - Paid for shelter needs



**\$5,544** - ORAU employee payroll  
deduction donations



**\$5,818** - Fundraiser proceeds



**\$8,709** - Other donations



## HPAN's Sponsorship of \$2,165 Helped Over 13 Dogs Rescued by Almost Home Animal Rescue



Almost Home Animal Rescue, a local rescue with foster homes throughout East Tennessee, took in 13 dogs from shelters or as owner surrenders. Funds provided by HPAN paid for vet bills that covered exams, vaccines, deworming, spaying/neutering, parasite testing, etc. Some of the dogs needed medicine and/or additional services. All dogs are now leading healthier and happier lives. For more information on Almost Home's adoptable dogs and cats or to make a donation, visit their website: <http://www.almosthometn.org/>

*For additional information on animals supported by HPAN funds, follow our blog:*



<https://helpingpaws37830.wordpress.com/>



# Rescue Spotlight 🐾

## MoCo Mutts Rescue Center

Written by: Amy Starkey, HPAN Founding Director

What are your thoughts when you hear the words, “animal shelter”? Do you think of a county or city establishment where unwanted or stray animals go? Do you ever wonder what happens to those animals when there is no county or city shelter? Do the strays wander around trying to survive until someone saves them, or until the inevitable happens? Do the unwanted ones end up in a dump and run situation? There are several rural counties in Tennessee with no animal shelter, no animal control, and no hope for the strays and unwanted ones. Morgan County was one of them until the Senior Dog Lodge and Animal Rescue (SDL) came to town.



Lisa and Jeff Hill relocated to Sunbright, TN from Seattle, WA during the summer of 2018. They had established SDL as a non-profit organization in Seattle with the mission of taking senior dogs in need of sanctuary care. That was to be their mission in Sunbright as well; however, it did not take long for Lisa and Jeff to realize a greater need, and soon they found themselves taking in dogs of all ages - some with illness or injury - and cats, too. That first year, they took in 425 animals off the streets of Morgan County, in addition to owner surrenders. They built kennels and dog runs on their own property and funded the entire operation from their own finances. Vaccines, dewormer, heartworm tests, surgeries, food, etc. cost them nearly \$15,000 that year. Not to mention the agony of not having a facility. Winters were especially hard caring for the animals in frigid temperatures. Fortunately, relationships built with other area rescue partners enabled SDL to quickly move many of the animals where they had better adoption opportunities.

Fast forward to 2020, after being in Tennessee for two years, the intake numbers climbed to 760 animals, even amid a pandemic. Community support increased and the rescue garnered \$4,000 in county support for Sheriff Department-assists on animal welfare calls. Unfortunately, the county money was gone in two months for vet bills associated with those calls.

In 2021, thanks to community and fan support, SDL was able to procure a facility not far from the SDL location. They created a subsidiary rescue under SDL, called MoCo Mutts Rescue Center (pictured). The facility had its grand opening in April. It was a glorious day with amazing community support. The county sheriff, county executive, and even a state senator showed up to support.

MoCo Mutts has already taken in over 600 animals so far this year (January-June), and they always have around 85 dogs and 45 cats in their care. The busiest month was June when the rescue center took in 125 dogs and 90 cats. The intake never stops; the door revolves continuously. They need help – volunteers and money. Annual building costs are \$30,000, not to mention vet bills and food. The county commission approved an additional \$1,000 for FY22 for sheriff-assisted calls. Not nearly enough. Baby steps...

Resolve is one thing Lisa, Jeff, and the VP of SDL, Tracy Wyant, have. They resolve to make a difference one day at a time...one animal at a time. They will do it with or without county support. In fact, both Lisa and Tracy work for free at the Rescue Center 14 hours per day, seven days per week. More volunteers are desperately needed. It is their hope and prayer that the community (both inside and outside of Morgan County) will come together for the sake of the discarded animals of the county so they can begin to live their BEST life at MoCo Mutts. The Helping Paws Animal Network is honored to sponsor this stellar rescue.

To lend your support, please visit them on Facebook at: [\(10\) Senior Dog Lodge & Animal Rescue | Facebook](#); you'll see a Donate button. Donations can also be sent via PayPal to: [seniordoglodge@aol.com](mailto:seniordoglodge@aol.com), or mailed to PO Box 127; Sunbright, TN 37872.

# Merchants of Beer Hosts HPAN Fundraiser 🎵

Merchants of Beer, located in downtown Knoxville, hosted a fundraiser for HPAN on April 3<sup>rd</sup> this past spring. Smooth Sailor performed at this dog-friendly outdoor event and a good time was enjoyed by all. HPAN members were on-site with t-shirts for sale and Pet Path (<https://www.petpath.org/>) was also there with some adoptable rescue dogs. One of the rescue dogs was adopted at the fundraiser and went home with his new family following the event!



Merchants of Beer donated \$1.00 to HPAN for every craft beer or cocktail sold at the event. HPAN raised a total of \$1,035 through this fundraiser to assist us with our mission of helping local rescues that help animals in need. We are grateful to Merchants of Beer for hosting this great event!



# Lepto Vaccine for Dogs 🐾

If your dog enjoys swimming in lakes or drinking from puddles on long walks, it might be a good idea to ask your veterinarian if they recommend the Lepto vaccine for your pup! Leptospirosis is a disease that affects dogs and many other kinds of animals. Leptospirosis is caused by a spirochete bacteria. Dogs often contract the disease by swimming in stagnant water or drinking contaminated water in puddles. Pets can also become infected through contact with urine of infected animals (e.g., raccoons, skunks, feral cats, etc.).

More cases are usually diagnosed in late summer and fall and often after heavy rainfalls. Leptospira exists in mud, dampness, and standing water. The risk of contracting Leptospira is lower in the winter because the bacteria does not tolerate freezing temperatures.



Source: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/what-is-leptospirosis-and-should-you-be-concerned/>



# Calling All Kroger Shoppers! 🗣️

HPAN is so very close to having 100 supporters signed up for the Kroger Community Rewards program. Won't you help us achieve our KROGER 100 goal simply by linking your Kroger Plus reward card to "Helping Paws Animal Network, Harriman, TN" in the Kroger Community Rewards Program?

Signing up is easy! Just go to the [Kroger Community Rewards page](#) to either create an account or link your card to HPAN. Then, just keep shopping as normal. It costs you nothing; HPAN gets a percentage of every dollar you spend, and you do not lose specials or fuel points!

Your support enables us to help animals like Sissy, Gordo, Trixie, and Snowball, who were all rescued from a hoarding situation by the Blount County Animal Welfare Society.



***"God bless you guys!"***

*Annette, Almost Home Animal Rescue*

***"Thank you so much; we really appreciate it!"***

*Melia, Slumdog Rescue Crew*

***"HPAN has helped a lot. Thank you!!!"***

*Holly, The Stray Connection*

***"Thank you soooo much!"***

*Lisa, Senior Dog Lodge and Animal Rescue*

***"Thank you! What a difference this makes in the lives of these 3 dogs!!!! No more mud and being stuck outside in weather extremes."***

*Kristin, Blount County Animal Welfare Society*

***"You're AMAZING!"***

*Tracy, MoCo Mutts Rescue Center*

***"Thank you so much! Love you to the moon and back!"***

*Stacey, Roane County Animal Shelter*

***"You all changed Bennie's life by getting him the hip surgery he needed. We can't thank you enough for making this possible."***

*Grace, Young Williams Animal Center*

***"Thank you all so much for making it possible to serve these neglected, needy dogs."***

*Susan, Maryville/Alcoa Animal Rescue Center*

***"Thank you so much!"***

*Angela, East Tennessee Miniature Horse and Donkey Rescue*

