

“Keeping pets and their people together” since 2008

“Cop Cats” at the MLEA

During the cold, arctic winter that began in earnest in January, the personnel at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA) noticed several stray cats roaming their property looking for food and shelter.

Many of the cats still had collars on, so the personnel realized that they once had been ‘house cats’ but had been abandoned to fend for themselves.

Since the weather was so brutal, the MLEA personnel contacted Pad for Paws and asked for help with the cats.

Pad for Paws reached out to two other local pet groups for assistance – Wild About Cats Rescue, which traps stray cats, and Helena Area Friends of Pets (HAFoP) which spays and neuters cats.

Working together, the three animal groups trapped the “Cop Cats” as they had been affectionately named, spayed or neutered them so they could not reproduce, and returned them to the MLEA property.



Bob from the HAFoP Board of Directors used his carpentry skills to build several cat condos (pictured above) to provide shelter for the cats during the brutal winter. Pad for Paws provided cat food.

Another example of how groups working together can assist the Community.

What does our motto mean?

A few years ago the Pad for Paws Board was trying to come up with a motto to describe what we “do”. We wrote down a lot of sayings and finally agreed on “keeping pets and their people together!”

When pet owners hit a temporary struggle and can’t feed their pets or pay for their emergency veterinary care, sometimes they feel their only choice is to surrender their pet to the local Animal Shelter.

This can be heartbreaking for the entire family since most pets are part of the family.

Pad for Paws Foundation did not want the family to suffer the extra pain of losing their family pet along with their other struggles.

So the motto “keeping pets and their people together” was born!

When Pad for Paws (PFP) provides the pet food, it frees up some of the family’s funds for them to pay rent, utilities, car gas, and the other costs of daily life.



Supporting our Nation’s veterans



And since PFP is approved under the “Feed America” program, we are also authorized to distribute any donations of ‘people’ food that we receive.

So Pad for Paws truly takes care of the entire family – thus keeping them all together!

Spring 2019

Total Pounds of pet food provided to those in need since 2008:
790,629

Pounds Distributed January-May 2019:
30,420



Dry Cat Food Desperately Needed

Drop off boxes at the entrances of Petco and Albertsons (N. Montana Ave.)



Pad for Paws Foundation
P.O. Box 287
Helena, MT 59624
406-442-7373
info@padforpaws.org
www.padforpaws.org

Donate



Donate using Paypal

Consider making a Memorial Donation to Pad for Paws for a lost loved one or beloved pet

Thank You... Many thanks to Laura Fix, owner of Island Liquor Store, for generously sponsoring our "Paws for Wine" Tasting event. Laura provided six wine tasting stations and donated three valuable raffle items. The event has become our biggest of the year!

Board of Directors

- Garry Pistoria,
President
- Nancy Jardon,
Treasurer
- Debbe Pistoria,
Operations Manager
- Bryan Fischer,
Member
- Nancy Kraft,
Secretary



Thank you to the associates at SoFi for hosting a two-week Pet Food Drive for Pad for Paws! They collected many hundreds of pounds of dog food, cat food, dog treats...and cash donations. Thank you SoFi for your support!

Dog Park Gets a Clean-Up



In April our Operations Manager met with a group of volunteers to clean up the Dog Park so dogs could play and be safe this summer in a clean area. Thank you, volunteers!

Daily phone calls.....Our numerous phone calls are answered and fulfilled to the best of our ability. Unfortunately, they are at times heart-wrenching.

We recently assisted a mother dog and her 12 puppies who were found abandoned in a trailer after several days without food or water when their owners moved and left them. Fortunately, with the assistance of PFP, all survived and found loving homes...after being spayed and neutered!

A single mother who had just exhausted her savings when she moved into a new apartment needed help when her 14-week old puppy developed cherry eye in both eyes and he could hardly blink. PFP paid for the surgery and the puppy is recovering nicely, surrounded by 3 loving children nursing him back to health.

A homeless family with a service dog who alerts the husband before he has a seizure called PFP because the dog had stopped eating and drinking. PFP arranged a veterinary visit where an intestinal obstruction was diagnosed. Fortunately the dog didn't need surgery and after a few days of treatment was back by his owner's side.

Another family experienced heartbreak when their child's therapy dog got into antifreeze. PFP referred them to a veterinarian who could not save the dog.

Not all endings are happy ones, despite PFP's assistance. We can only try our hardest to help as many people and pets as possible.



Puppies & Kids

We always look forward to the puppies and kids who come into our building to pick up pet food, toys, treats, etc. We can never get enough puppy love! This also gives us an opportunity to emphasize how vital it is to have current vaccinations and to get the puppies spayed or neutered to prevent pet overpopulation.



CHEWY is Rescued!

Early this year little Chewy was discovered missing from his fenced-in back yard. Since his owner is blind in one eye and Chewy was her therapy dog, she was devastated at her loss. Every day she checked every Shelter and pet site online to find Chewy.

Miraculously in mid-May she found Chewy at the Shelter in Missoula listed as a "stray". She called and confirmed it was her Chewy and they agreed to put a hold on him for a few days.

Her dilemma was how to get Chewy home since she cannot drive. She contacted PFP and asked for help.

We put out "the word" via Facebook and one of our volunteers happened to be going to Missoula and brought Chewy back home to his very happy (and relieved) owner!



Chewy & volunteer

The Pad for Paws Foundation provides pet food, pet supplies and emergency veterinary care to low-income pet owners who are struggling through temporary hardships. We assist veterans, seniors, mentally or physically challenged, and those with service and therapy dogs in the Helena area. The Foundation is 100% volunteer with no paid employees. We are an IRS tax-exempt charity.