Celebrating 10 Years

PACT for Animals
LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CHAIR

This year marks our 10 Year Anniversary! What started as a vision in 2011, to help our military members provide a safe, temporary home for their pets when they are on deployment, has grown into a nationally recognized and trusted nonprofit organization. We have been able to support thousands of pets and their owners across 49 states. We have also been successful in finding temporary foster homes for the pets of patients that required extended hospital stays. Dogs, cats, birds, guinea pigs, frogs, and more have found love, safety and security with nearly 1,000 foster families, until they were happily reunited with their owners. And we are JUST getting started!

Today, as we reflect upon our progress and the lessons we’ve learned along the way, we reaffirm our commitment, our “PACT”, to protecting the pets of the brave men and women that serve our country as well as hospital patients that just need that extra hand. This year we will be unveiling a new strategic plan for expansion. Our goals are simple: To raise awareness for this ongoing need; to identify hundreds of new foster families and regional volunteers that will assist in establishing satellite offices across the country; and to secure the valuable funding necessary to protect and save the lives of as many pets as we can for many more years to come.

On behalf of our Board, Staff, and Volunteers, we offer our most sincere THANK YOU to everyone that has helped us to make such a wonderful “imPACT” on the lives of our military families, hospital patients, and all the animals we supported during the past 10 years. I can’t wait to see the smiling faces and wagging tails from all of the animals and their owners that we will support in the next decade and beyond. –Buzz Miller

THROUGH THE YEARS, PACT HAS APPEARED ON
TV, Radio, Podcasts, at national sporting events, and in Newspapers, Movies, Magazines, Social Media, and More!

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
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SECRETARY
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MILITARY PET FOSTER PROGRAM

Many of us do not realize that when a soldier is called to serve our country, they have a limited amount of time, resources, and support to find long-term foster care for their beloved pets. Without capable friends or the ability to afford expensive kenneling services, these soldiers are often forced to make the horrific decision to surrender their precious pets to animal shelters or rescues, knowing they may never see their “kids” again. Just imagine having to go on a mission in service to our country, knowing that your best friend could be euthanized at a shelter because no one else could help you and space in the shelter ran out! PACT is there for these brave military families, who put their lives on the line to protect our country. Our team provides hands-on, individualized services to support both the companion pet’s well-being and the owner’s peace of mind until they can be reunited with their best friend.

MEDICAL PET FOSTER PROGRAM

Just imagine what would happen to your pet if you suddenly became ill and needed to be hospitalized for a month or longer. What if you needed to recover in a medical facility that did not permit pets? Across the country, every day pet lovers and animal caregivers are hospitalized, but their animals still need daily food, water, and love. Without a close family member or expensive kenneling service, hospitalized pet owners are often left with no options. PACT works directly with hospital patients, their families, and social workers, to match the companion animal with an appropriate foster home that will give the pet the care and love they need, while their hospitalized owner recovers.

WHAT PACT OFFERS

We are the only nation-wide non-profit that manages the entire pet foster care process EVERY STEP OF THE WAY from the first desperate request for support until the joyous pet reunions.

PACT provides

- Screening of prospective pet fosters to identify an appropriate match for each pet
- Transportation assistance, when possible
- Monthly foster family check-ins
- Personalized pet foster counseling
- Individualized plans to facilitate reunions
- Abundance of animal resources
“If I didn’t find PACT, I absolutely would have had to give up my dogs. I don’t have words to describe how grateful I am to PACT.”
—Anya in Boston

“I’m happy to help soldiers, veterans, and people in hospitals to keep their precious pets. Also happy to help the animals keep their homes and people. Thank you for all you do for them all.”
—Linda, MA

“The work you do is tremendous and fills such a need for our military.”
—Peggy in Maryland

“I came across PACT on Facebook and decided to foster, once I saw it was for people in the military! My dad was in the Coast Guard. I loved the idea of taking care of someone’s pets while they are deployed. It’s a great thing to do for someone that is defending our country. I am so happy I decided to foster for PACT! I have made life-long friends with some of the pet parents! I even attended a pet owner’s wedding.”
—Janice, FL

“Jacob and Hopper’s reunion was so sweet. I already miss Hopper.”
—Foster mom Sandy, CA

“Thank you!”
Sonic the turtle, in MO

“Thank you!”
Bear, in IL

“Thank you!”
Obi, in CO

“Thank you!”
Arpeggio & Figaro, in TX

1200+ FOSTER FAMILIES IDENTIFIED

2000+ PETS SUPPORTED

49 STATES PARTICIPATING

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
PACT
LUNA STARS

Saramarie was a little girl facing a life-threatening illness. During her treatment, her family continued to think of ways to lift her spirits. They knew she had dreamed of having a puppy and decided this was just the type of joy she could use. For a while after adopting a little Yorkie named Luna Stars, Saramarie appeared to be getting better. Suddenly, her health took a turn for the worse. Saramarie was moved to the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). Doctors told her family she had only a 20% chance of survival. Her family planned to move to the Ronald McDonald House to be closer to CHOP, but they did not permit animals. Now what would they do? Live an hour away from their critically ill 4-year-old daughter, or surrender Saramarie’s new “best friend” to a shelter and never see her again? That is when the family turned to PACT.

PACT found Luna Stars a very loving foster home with Elizabeth at her retirement community, where the little dog quickly became everyone’s favorite. Elizabeth took her on regular walks. She frequently shared pictures of the dog with Saramarie’s family. And, when she heard of Saramarie’s approaching birthday, she worked with PACT and together we mailed more than 500 birthday cards and gifts from well-wishers to Saramarie in the hospital.

As time passed, Saramarie’s condition greatly improved, and she was released from the hospital. Today, Saramarie and Luna Stars are doing fantastic. In the midst of all this family had to endure, PACT was so pleased to be able to offer them peace of mind by caring for Saramarie’s “best friend” until they were all safely reunited.

MUNCHIES & FUDGE

Although most requests for support involve cats and dogs, PACT has also seen our share of frogs, birds, rabbits, hamsters, turtles, and even ferrets. Once, PACT received a request from a family, whose daughter would be treated at Dupont Children’s Hospital for several months. Luckily the child’s parents could stay in nearby housing, but the family’s precious ferrets, Munchies & Fudge, could not stay with them. PACT was delighted to find a temporary foster home with Carol, a loving ferret expert, who graciously welcomed Munchies and Fudge into her home until they could be reunited with their family.

To watch some of PACT’s pet reunion videos from the past 10 years, please visit our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/c/PACTforAnimals/videos
CALVARESI FAMILY

When Lt. Kathleen Barton received her orders to deploy to Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, she knew she would have many work and personal responsibilities to address. But, for this deployment, a new challenge presented itself. Who would care for her dogs while she was fighting for our country for the next 8 months? When Kathleen reached out to PACT, our staff and volunteers went to work right away to identify a loving family to care for Sasha and Jeda. But the story doesn’t end there.

As a mechanic in the Airforce, Kathleen worked on planes that flew through war zones. For each of those daunting flights, soldiers would often place an American flag on the plane. When the planes returned, the flags were then offered to the soldiers. After one of these successful missions, Lt. Barton came up with a great idea.

Upon returning from Afghanistan, Kathleen met with the Calvaresi family to be reunited with Sasha and Jeda. After smiles, tears, hugs, and wagging tails, Lt. Barton thanked the family by presenting them with a framed American flag — one of the flags that had been on a plane that she had worked on. This is just an example of how so many of our pet owners and fosters go out of their way to make sure everyone is happy and respected. Some even become lifelong friends.

EMMIE & BRIAN

Brian is a veteran and a proud pet owner. In his time serving our country, Brian sustained both physical and mental injuries. Recognizing that his PTSD was severe and would require extensive treatment felt impossible to face. What made it even more impossible is that he had no one to care for his loving dog, Emmie. He knew he would need help for at least six months, and he did not know what to do.

Emmie was Brian’s love and his support. He first met Emmie when she was just 5 months old, and now at 7 years of age, both Brian and Emmie depended on each other in their shared life. Emmie was a mixed breed dog, who had been attacked by another dog in the past. She had some hesitancy when making new pet friends. However, despite her trauma, Emmie was just the sweetest pup!

Understanding this urgent need, the staff at PACT went to work and found a foster for Emmie. Tanya was able to give Emmie the love and care she deserved during Brian’s medical leave. After six months, it was time for Emmie and Brian to be together again. Following his treatment, Brian was reunited with Emmie and was able to once again provide a stable life that both he and Emmie deserved to share with one another.
JOIN PACT!

DONATE 🐾  FOSTER 🐾  VOLUNTEER 🐾

Connect with us on: @PACTforanimals ✨ YouTube ✨ www.pactforanimals.org

PACT is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization