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\$5,000 Grant Awarded to ALMOST HOME ANIMAL RESCUE January 2015

Almost Home's \$5,000 grant request was for \$4,000 to help cover veterinary and healthcare costs and \$1,000 to replace worn and damaged crates and carriers. Due to unusually high veterinary costs this year, all of the funds were allocated to help cover those costs. Our highest priority is always the health and wellbeing of our animals.

Cooper the Italian Greyhound, Mozzie the boxer mix, and our cats who survived the upper respiratory infection that threatened the cat population in this area during the spring and early summer were the primary beneficiaries of the grant.

Remaining funds helped cover veterinary costs for serious allergy issues, diabetic care, and teeth cleaning and tooth extractions when deemed medically necessary.



Cooper is a male Italian Greyhound, 1.5 years old, 9 lbs. A few months ago, his owner took him to our vet, Dr. James at Broadway Veterinary Clinic, to be euthanized. He didn't want him anymore because he was not housetrained and he was attacking his older dog. Fortunately, the clinic staff convinced him to allow them to contact us instead. Cooper is very timid and was obviously abused by his owner. He was not housetrained, but, no way did he ever attack another dog or anything else. He was neutered, tested for heartworms, and vaccinated. The vet cleaned his teeth for free. Between us, his foster mom Angela and her family, and the vet clinic staff, he had lots of people working to make sure that his life would be safe and happy from now on.

Then while on a walk at his foster home, Cooper was scared by a loud noise, escaped his harness, and ran. He was hit by a car and thrown down a ravine. He suffered two broken pelvic bones, a broken leg, and minor abrasions. He was lucky to be alive. After a night in the ER, a week of being stabilized at Broadway Veterinary Clinic, orthopedic surgery by Dr. Hackett at the Pellissippi Veterinary Hospital, and several weeks of recuperation, he has made an unbelievable recovery. People cannot believe how well he can move. He can still run like a champion greyhound. Thanks to his very patient and caring foster family he warms up to people faster and enjoys playing with other dogs and cats his size. And, best of all, he enjoys cuddling and sleeping in the bed.

Cooper's total veterinary costs were close to \$3,000. The Petco Foundation grant was used to cover almost \$2,700 of the cost.

Cooper was adopted in early September by the Hernandez family in Western North Carolina. He was renamed Piccolo and his new best bud is another Italian Greyhound named Giorgio.



Piccolo is doing great in his new home! If it weren't for the Petco Foundation and his awesome foster mom Angela, this poor boy wouldn't have had a chance. He has been a blessing and an angel for us. Is it perfect? Is it easy? No. But the incredible resources you all have provided him have given him a bridge to make it to the other side. If it were not for your efforts he would be even further wounded both physically and emotionally. He has a long way to go but because of your efforts he is SO MUCH further along. You thank me? I thank YOU!

THE HERNANDEZ FAMILY



Mozzie is a 1.5 year old boxer mix we pulled from a high kill shelter in rural East Tennessee on his last day. He was very under weight, had scars and sores all over his body, and was heartworm positive. Whatever bad things happened that caused him to end up in a shelter did not change the fact that he is a very energetic, fun loving, trusting, handsome boy. We had him neutered and vaccinated first thing, but, he needed a month of good food and exercise to be healthy enough to start the heartworm treatment. He breezed through the two months of heartworm treatment. The biggest problem was slowing him down and keeping him quiet. Mozzie is now very healthy and heartworm free.

Mozzie took over his foster home. Judy, his foster mom, could not help but spoil him rotten while he went through his heartworm treatment. Look at that face. How could she not? Even at 55 lbs. he is a lap dog and he insisted on sleeping as close as he could get to her in bed. He is a good boy most of the time and obeys most commands, especially if there is a treat involved. He requires a no pull harness on outings because he is very strong and so excited to be out visiting other people and dogs. He even likes visiting the cats. He and a kitten exchanged kisses one day. He really wanted to take the kitten home. Mozzie has a wonderful personality and it is hard not to smile and laugh a lot when he is around.

Mozzie's total veterinary cost was almost \$1,000. The Petco Foundation grant covered around \$800 of the cost.

Mozzie was adopted and is now living in Franklin, NC with his new mom Darlene. She is retired and Mozzie is her constant companion. He truly is her new best friend. They live on lots of land and he loves riding with her on her four wheeler. He and Darlene are working with a trainer to help him be the best dog he can be. They come to Maryville often to visit her son and his family, including their lab. Life is great for Mozzie.

A very serious upper respiratory infection affected the cat population earlier this year, in Tennessee and in many other states. Shelters and rescues were hit particularly hard and many cats and kittens did not survive. Any of our cats showing any symptoms were immediately started on antibiotics and isolated from the healthy cats. In spite of our efforts, we lost one momma cat and one of her kittens. Her other three kittens, as well as other cats and kittens infected with the virus, survived and are doing great.

Total veterinary cost was over \$600. The Petco Foundation grant covered all of the cost.

Pictured below are a few of those who survived the virus: Clockwise from the top are Crystal, Kendall, Noah, Winnie, and Sasha.

