



## A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER: MIKE MARGIOTTA - PAWS ON THE STREET

Hi Friends,

I Want To Personally Welcome You To The Very First Edition Of The Paws On The Street Newsletter—And More Importantly, Thank You. Whether You've Donated, Volunteered, Spread The Word, Or Simply Followed Along, Your Support Means The World To Us... And To The Pets We Serve.

When I Started Paws On The Street In Late 2024, It Was In Memory Of My Beloved Doberman, Brandy, And Inspired By The Heartbreaking Realization That Many Of Our Homeless Neighbors Struggle To Care For Their Most Loyal Companions. These Pets Are More Than Animals—They're Family, Therapy, Protection, And Unconditional Love In Its Purest Form.

Since Then, Thanks To A Growing Army Of Volunteers And Generous Donors, We've Shown Up Every Week At Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center—Feeding, Protecting, And Loving On The Pets Of Those Who Need Us Most. And We're Just Getting Started.

In This Newsletter, You'll Read Stories Of Kindness In Action, Get Helpful Pet Care Tips From Our Board, And Meet Some Of The Partners Who Are Helping Us Grow This Mission. We Hope It Informs You, Inspires You, And Reminds You That Even Small Acts Of Compassion Can Make A Massive Impact.

With Gratitude,

**Mike Margiotta**

Founder, Paws On The Street

 [PawsOnTheStreet.Org](https://PawsOnTheStreet.Org)












## 17 Upcoming Event: April 4th, 2025



Mark Your Calendars—Because Something Big Is Happening. On **Friday, April 4th**, Paws On The Street Is Teaming Up With The **Austin Street Dog Coalition**, An Extraordinary Group Led By **Dr. Michael Mullen And Kate O'Neill**, To Provide **Free Veterinary Care** To Pets Of Individuals Experiencing Or At Risk Of Homelessness.

The Event Will Take Place At Our Home Base, The Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center [Sunrisenavigationcenter.Org](https://www.sunrisenavigationcenter.org), And Will Offer:

-  **Basic Health Exams**
-  **Vaccinations**
-  **Flea & Tick Prevention**
-  **Supplies, Food, And Comfort Items**
-  **And Lots Of Love For Both Pets And Their People**

This Is More Than A Clinic—It's A Chance To Show Our Unhoused Neighbors That Their Beloved Pets Are Seen, Valued, And Cared For.

We Are Deeply Grateful To The Team At [The Street Dog Coalition – Austin](https://www.thestreetdogcoalition.org) For Their Commitment And Compassion. Their Work Embodies What This Mission Is All About—Meeting People Where They Are And Helping The Ones Who Mean The Most To Them.

### **Want To Support This Event?**

We're In Need Of **Supplies, Volunteers, And Donations** To Help Make This Day A Success. Visit [Pawsonthestreet.Org](https://www.pawsonthestreet.org) To Learn More Or Get Involved.

Together, We're Proving That Community Care Extends To Every Member Of The Family—Fur, Paws, And All.



**Special Thank You to H-E-B for thier Support**





## Impact Story

### Wrapped In Warmth: One Woman's Mission To Help Street Dogs Stay Safe This Winter

On Cold Winter Mornings At Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center, Amidst Sleeping Bags, Backpacks, And The Wagging Tails Of Loyal Companions, A Familiar Face Has Been Showing Up—Carrying Not Just Kindness, But Warmth.

#### Meet Joy.

A Dog Lover With A Heart As Big As Her Mission, Joy Began Handing Out Winter Dog Coats To Pets Living On The Streets With Their Owners. "It Broke My Heart To See Dogs Out There With Little To No Protection From The Cold," She Said. "Even If I Could Only Give Out A Few Jackets, That Meant A Few Dogs Were A Little Warmer."

At First, She Visited Spots Around Town Where Folks Gathered For Meals Or Clothes. But Once She Discovered Sunrise And Connected With Paws On The Street, Her Reach Expanded. "Meeting Mike And Standing At His Table Changed Everything," She Shared. "The Food And Supplies He Gave Out Brought Pet Owners Over—And With Just A Few Questions, I Could Figure Out Their Dog's Size And Hand Them A Jacket. Without Him, I Would Have Missed So Many Chances To Help."

One Moment Still Sticks With Her: A Young Puppy, Held Close By A Man Living Under I-35. "Just Seeing That Puppy Wrapped In Something Warm Still Makes Me Teary," Joy Says. "The Owner's Face Lit Up—Pure Gratitude. That's What It's All About."



Over The Past Two Winters, Joy Has Distributed Nearly 100 Coats—Growing Her Impact With Help From Those Who Believed In Her Mission. "You Just Have To Start," She Says. "Make People Aware Of What You're Doing. You'll Be Surprised How Many Want To Help."

Along The Way, Joy Discovered A Quiet Army Of Compassionate Volunteers Showing Up, Week After Week, To Serve. She Also Witnessed Firsthand Just How Much Our Homeless Neighbors Love Their Pets—And How Grateful They Are For Anything That Brings Them Comfort.

#### In The End, Her Takeaway Is Simple:

"I Hope I'm Making A Difference. It Breaks My Heart To Think Of All The Dogs We Couldn't Reach—But I Find Peace In Knowing Some Are Sleeping Warmer Now."



## Pet Nutrition Corner

**Keeping Your Dog Healthy On A Budget** By Kelly Jackson  
(BOD Member Paws On The Street, And Founder Of Happy Pooch)

Owning A Pet Brings Joy, But The Costs Of Vet Visits, Food, And Care Can Add Up Quickly. The Good News? Keeping Your Dog Healthy Doesn't Have To Break The Bank. With A Few Simple Strategies, You Can Provide Excellent Care While Saving Money.

- 1. Prioritize Preventative Care:** Routine Check-Ups And Vaccinations Might Seem Like An Extra Expense, But They Prevent Costly Health Issues Down The Road. Many Local Shelters And Pet Organizations Offer Low-Cost Vaccine Clinics And Wellness Checkups.
- 2. Feed Smart, Not Expensive:** High-Quality Nutrition Is Key To Your Pet's Health, But That Doesn't Mean You Need To Buy The Priciest Brand. Look For Affordable, Vet-Recommended Foods With Real Meat As The First Ingredient. Another Budget-Friendly Option Is Gently Cooked Homemade Meals Using Lean Proteins And Vegetables. This Allows You To Control Ingredients While Ensuring Balanced Nutrition—Just Check With Your Vet Or Canine Nutritionist To Meet Your Dog's Dietary Needs. Buying In Bulk And Using Subscription Services Can Also Cut Costs.
- 3. DIY Grooming & Basic Care:** Regular Grooming Helps Prevent Skin Infections And Keeps Your Pet Comfortable. Instead Of Frequent Professional Grooming, Learn Basic At-Home Care Like Nail Trimming, Brushing, And Ear Cleaning. Many Pet Stores Offer Self-Wash Stations That Are Cheaper Than Full-Service Groomers.



*Taking Small, Proactive Steps Can Keep Your Pet Healthy And Your Wallet Happy! Have A Question Or A Topic You'd Like Covered Next Month? Let Us Know!*







## Partner Spotlight

Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center More Than A  
Place—It's A Pathway.



From Day One, Paws On The Street Has Been Proud To Partner With The Incredible Team At **Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center**, Where Compassion Meets Coordination In Powerful Ways.

Sunrise Is More Than A Service Provider—It's A **Lifeline**. Their Model Offers **Low-Barrier Access** To Wraparound Care Including Housing Support, Mental And Physical Healthcare, Harm Reduction, And Benefits Enrollment —All Under One Roof. It's An Approach That Mirrors How Real People Live And Heal: With Complexity, Dignity, And Support.

*Thanks To Sunrise, We've Had A Consistent And Welcoming Space To Serve The Pets Of Our Unhoused Neighbors. Their Staff, Leadership, And Volunteers Are A Shining Example Of What Community Should Look Like.*

*We're Honored To Serve Alongside Them Every Week, And We're Even More Excited To Grow Our Shared Impact Together.*

Learn More About Their Amazing Work At [Sunrisenavigationcenter.Org](https://sunrisenavigationcenter.org).







## How You Can Help

More Pets Need Us—Here's How You Can Make A Difference.

Since Launching Paws On The Street, We've Shown Up Every Week At **Sunrise Homeless Navigation Center** To Care For The Pets Of Those Experiencing Homelessness. And Now... We're Getting More Calls.

**The Other Ones Foundation (TOOF)**—An Incredible Organization Serving Individuals In Deeply Challenging Living Situations—Has Asked Us To Expand Our Outreach To Support The Many Pets In Their Communities. And They're Not Alone. We've Been Approached By **Multiple Organizations** With Similar Needs.

Here's The Truth: **We Want To Say Yes.**  
But We **Can't Grow** Our Reach Without Your Help.

Here's How You Can Jump In:

🐾 **Donate:** Even \$25 Helps Feed Pets, Provide Flea/Tick Treatments, And Cover Weekly Outreach Costs.

📢 **Spread The Word:** Share Our Story With Friends, Family, And Your Social Networks. Awareness Fuels Support.

💖 **Volunteer:** Whether It's Once A Month Or Whenever You Can, We'd Love Your Help In Person.

📦 **Donate Supplies:** We're Always In Need Of Food, Collars, Leashes, Flea Prevention, And More.

These Pets Are Family. Let's Make Sure They're Not Forgotten.

👉 Learn More Or Give At [Pawsonthestreet.Org](https://Pawsonthestreet.Org)







## Sponsors

Give Your Dog The Best With **Happy Pooch**



At Happy Pooch, We Believe Every Dog Deserves Real, Nutritious Food. That's Why We Offer Gently Cooked, High-Quality Meals Made With Fresh, Wholesome Ingredients—No Fillers, No Artificial Additives, Just Real Food Your Pet Will Love. Our Meals Are Vet-Approved, Affordable, And Delivered Straight To Your Door For Ultimate Convenience. Because A Healthy Dog Is A Happy Dog!

Check Out Our Meal Options At [www.dogfood4u.com](http://www.dogfood4u.com) And Give Your Pup The Nutrition They Deserve.

Kelly Jackson, CPNC / Happy Pooch LLC / PH: 512-784-9952 / Email: [kelly@dogfood4u.com](mailto:kelly@dogfood4u.com)

## Sponsor Spotlight: H-E-B – Supporting Pets & People In Need



We're Thrilled To Share That **H-E-B** Has Generously Donated A **\$500 Gift Card** To Help Support Our Upcoming Paws & Support: Community Care Day Event On **April 4th**. This Donation Will Help Us Purchase Essential Pet Care Items Like Food, Flea/Tick Prevention, And Other Critical Supplies For The Pets Of Our Homeless Neighbors.

H-E-B Has A Long-Standing Tradition—Over 115 Years!—Of Giving Back To Communities Across Texas And Mexico, And We're Honored To Be Part Of That Story. Their Commitment To Causes That Make A Real Impact Is Felt Deeply, And We're Proud To Have Them Stand Beside Us.

We'll Be Sharing Moments From The Event Using **@HEB** And **#HEBHelpingHere**—Because Partnerships Like This Deserve To Be Celebrated.

Thank You, H-E-B, For Believing In Our Mission And Helping Us Protect The Pets Who Protect Their People. 🐾







## THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

### You Are The Heartbeat Of Paws On The Street.

To Every Single Person Who's Handed Out Food, Packed Up Supplies, Held A Leash, Smiled At A Stranger, Or Showed Up With Compassion—**Thank You.**

Our Work Wouldn't Be Possible Without The Incredible Volunteers Who Give Their Time, Energy, And Love To Help Our Neighbors And Their Pets. Rain Or Shine, Every Friday (And Soon, More Days To Come), You Show Up—And That Matters More Than Words Can Say.

Whether You've Joined Us Once Or Come Regularly, Know That You Are Making A Real Difference. Not Just In The Lives Of The Pets We Serve, But In The Hearts Of The People Who Love Them.

We See You. We Appreciate You. And We're So Grateful To Walk Alongside You In This Mission.

 With Heartfelt Thanks,  
**All Of Us At Paws On The Street**

