

I am the Community and Events Fundraising Manager here at Hope Rescue, and I am just writing to you in the hope that the Council might be in a position to consider supporting us this festive season by making a donation towards the work that we do here at Hope Rescue.

It will cost us around £160,000 just to keep operational over the festive period, and with the current financial crisis affecting us all, we rely on the generosity of our supporters and the community now more than ever.

Please find below some information about the difference that your council can make to the dogs currently in need of support at our rescue centre and with your support, we can continue to ensure that for every dog, there is hope!

HOPE RESCUE

HELP GIVE OUR DOGS A COSY CHRISTMAS

**An urgent appeal for support with our festive running costs
from Hope Rescue**



HOPE RESCUE

Cynllan Lodge
Old Llanharry Road
Llanharan
Rhondda Cynon Taf
CF72 9NH

01443 226659

fundraising@hoperescue.org.uk

www.hoperescue.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1129629



The animal welfare sector is in crisis. The huge rise in dog ownership during lockdown followed by the cost-of-living crisis has hit Hope Rescue exceptionally hard and impacted every area of our charity.

So far this year we have already helped almost 700 of the most vulnerable dogs in our local community. At the moment we have around 200 dogs in our care across our rescue centre and foster homes. Additionally, we are having to lease private boarding spaces for overflow kenneling to fulfil our stray dog commitments.

The cost of running Hope Rescue over the festive period is around £160,000, so by making a donation no matter how large or small, it will help us to keep our dogs safe, warm and cosy this winter.

ABOUT HOPE RESCUE

We are an animal welfare charity based in South Wales, established in 2005 and helping hundreds of stray, neglected and unwanted dogs every year. Our staff and volunteers work hard to provide a place of safety for the most vulnerable dogs in our local communities, regardless of age, breed or medical condition.

We commit to take every single unclaimed stray from six local authorities in Wales, these dogs would otherwise be destroyed after spending seven days in the pound. We work in collaboration with enforcement agencies across South Wales to take in dogs seized from rogue breeders and assisting prosecutions. We also take in dogs from the public, prioritising owners and dogs in crisis.

In early 2017 we secured a mix of loan and grant funding for the purchase of our very own Rescue Centre with support from Charity Bank, WCVA and the Social Business Growth Fund. The Rescue Centre in Llanharan provides 64 rescue kennels, six exercise paddocks, grooming facilities, an indoor training centre and 18 acres of private woodland. We also have a dedicated volunteer team of over 90 foster families.

We have helped over 4,800 dogs since the rescue centre opened in 2017. We don't just care about dogs that come through our doors though; we are also passionate about improving the lives of dogs, wherever they are, through influencing behaviour change and improving legislation. As a small charity we really do punch above our weight when it comes to our campaign work and its impact.

As our sector faces an unprecedented animal welfare crisis, our new Strategic Plan sets out our plans over the next 3 years to tackle the many challenges we are facing including restructuring our welfare team, launching a community outreach programme, building our own on-site vet facility and investing in income generation resources.

But right now we are asking for your urgent support in the interim so we can continue to support dogs and owners in crisis.

Helping the most vulnerable dogs in our local community



Scan QR code for Strategic Plan

WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

We would be grateful for your support to help keep us operational over the festive period, and on top of this, our annual vet bills alone are forecast to be in the region of **£312,000**. This compares to a figure of £94,000 in 2019/20, which highlights the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

With your generous and kind support, we can ensure that for every dog that comes through our doors, there is **Hope**.

Your support will enable us to:

- Ensure stray dogs across 6 local authorities in South Wales are not euthanised after completing their statutory 7 days
- Prevent dogs suffering in low welfare and illegal breeding premises across South Wales, enabling those responsible to be prosecuted by the relevant authorities
- Provide a lifeline and peace of mind to owners in crisis who are unable to continue to care for their dogs
- Ensure those dogs in our care receive the highest standards veterinary care and rehabilitation

A facelift for Francois

In August this year, 38 French Bulldogs were seized and signed over to Hope Rescue from Cardiff City Council. Sadly these dogs had been bred for exaggerated features such as thick nose ropes, fluffy coats and their desirable colouring without any care for the impact this had on their health.

Francois had a large nose rope that was causing irritation to his eyes and restricting his breathing. He needed urgent surgery to remove the nose rope and open up his severely narrowed nostrils. This has improved his quality of life immensely, and your support will improve the welfare of many more dogs, ensuring they receive life-changing vet treatment.



Changing the story for Lucy

In February this year we supported Animal Licensing Wales with the seizure of 33 dogs from a breeder. An inspection of their breeding premises revealed they had failed to comply with the required conditions, and as a result the dogs were seized to protect their welfare. Pictured are the before and after photos of Lucy, one of the young puppies who no longer has to live in solitary confinement. She moved to foster shortly after arrival and it was love at first sight so she stayed with her foster family.

We're proud to support the work of licensing authorities in Wales tackling puppy farming and illegal breeding. Sadly, there are still many more dogs and puppies being kept in similar conditions, and your support will help change their story too.

If you are able to support us, then you can make a donation by sending a cheque to the address below, or by card by calling us on: 01443 226659 -We can also accept donations via pacs payment, so if you require our bank details, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you in advance for any help and support you may be able to give, and we wish everyone involved with the Council a happy and safe festive period!