



We Could Really Use Your Help.

Above: Just recently, on the morning of Saturday, July 5 this puppy was found abandoned with her brother at the SPCA's back door. Cost could have been a factor in the anonymous abandonment.

What You Can Do:

Even if you can't adopt a homeless pet, there are still plenty of ways you can help them get a home!

Donate Pet Food!

Donate food to the SPCA animals and to the new Pet Food Pantry to help keep pets in their homes.

What brand of pet food?

The premium, high quality brands are best! Premium brands have fewer fillers than the really cheap pet food and pets will eat less and digest more! A small bag of good quality pet food is healthier *and* more economical than a huge bag of cheap, but low quality food.

What types of pet food do you need?

- Dry puppy food
- Dry kitten food
- Dry cat food
- Dry dog food
- Ground, canned kitten and canned cat food

What other supplies do you need?

- Clumping (scoopable) cat litter
- Kitten milk replacement formula (KMR)
- Paper towels
- Bleach
- Waterless hand sanitizer

Donations can be dropped off at the SPCA loading dock at any time near the side parking lot of the SPCA Curtis Dail Pet Adoption Center located at 200 Petfinder Lane, Raleigh, NC 27603. If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please drop off items during open hours. Visit www.spcawake.org/directions for directions and hours.

Thank you so much!

Finding Ways to Keep Families Together

SPCA works to establish a Pet Food Pantry to provide temporary assistance to people trying to keep their pets.

As Mike and Lynn walked up to the SPCA Lost & Found Pet Center with Charlie*, their three-year-old Rottweiler-mix, their hearts broke. They wanted so much to turn around and drive home, but there were obligations pushing them ahead with the tearful decision; groceries, gas, a pending foreclosure, a lost job and a new baby.

When Mike and Lynn walked up to the front desk they spoke of Charlie like the family member he is. They spoke as if making a plea for the SPCA to find him a good home. "He loves to be with people. He's great with children, cats and other dogs. He is very affectionate and thinks he's a lap cat." Pushing back the tears they handed over Charlie's leash. They ordered him to 'stay' and walked towards the door, making a point not to look back.

Lately, this has been a common sight at the SPCA intake facility. However, most of these stories do not have happy endings like Charlie's. The first phone call the SPCA staff received the next morning was Lynn in tears, asking for Charlie back.

Mike and Lynn knew that Charlie was irreplaceable, and they'd never forgive themselves for letting him go like this. The family drove by to pick up Charlie later that morning. They received a loan from family members that would allow them to keep him.

More Pets Coming to the SPCA

The SPCA is seeing a dramatic increase of

owner relinquished pets due to the declining economic situation. Our community is being forced to make hard decisions regarding the state of the economy, and sadly some people are giving up their four-legged family members. The SPCA understands the importance of companion animals enriching the lives of their owners. Families should not have to give up their pets because of the rising cost of food and gas.

To help alleviate the burden, the SPCA is currently working to establish a Pet Food Pantry to reach out to families like Charlie's. Keeping pets in their homes and out of animal shelters is a priority of the SPCA.

The Pet Food Pantry will allow the SPCA to provide temporary assistance to pet owners on fixed incomes or pet owners facing the choice of feeding themselves or feeding their pets. This new program will help keep families together and pets out of the sheltering system.

Ongoing supplies from the SPCA Pet Food Pantry will also be used as an incentive to motivate lower-income pet owners to let the SPCA "fix" their pets in the new spay/neuter clinic (see page 4).

Consequently, the creation of the Pet Food Pantry could serve as a powerful tool in the fight against pet overpopulation as well as providing the means for individual families to stay together.

The SPCA is confident the opening of the new Pet Food Pantry will keep pets in their homes and food in their bellies. 🐾

** names have been changed*