

# Pet Talk

FALL 2022

LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org / 402.817.1168

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors (LAA) is addressing the root causes of animal homelessness in Lincoln and the surrounding area.

LAA assist pets and their people through a voucher-based low cost spay/neuter program, an income-based temporary assistance pet food bank and teaching people about being responsible pet guardians at community events.

## Donate

**Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program  
Pet Food Bank, General Funds**

**Mail to:** PO Box 67072,  
Lincoln, NE 68506

**Or donate through our website  
[LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org](http://LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org)**

**Pet Food Bank drop off locations:**

Super Saver; 56th & Hwy 2, 27th & Cornhusker Hwy, 27th & Pine Lake St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street

Arnie's Pet Food, 56th & Hwy 2 Hy-Vee, barrel on rotation at Lincoln stores, excluding N. 27th Street location

*Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible.*

## LAA's outreach helps young animal lover

My name is Dalia. I am a sixth grader at Fillmore Central. I have always loved animals and helping them. My goal is to go to college to be a wildlife rescuer or a veterinarian.

Last year, my dream came true, and my family moved out to the family farm my mom grew up on. I am the third generation of my family to grow up on our farm. When we moved in, there were cats that were being taken care of by the previous tenants however they did not take good care of them. On our farm, we have twenty-four chickens, thirteen cats, three dogs, four feeder cows, and one bucket calf. I am responsible for chickens, cats, and calves.

Moving in, I took the responsibility for the cat's care very seriously. One of the original cats is about 8 years old and has only three legs. With the previous owners, she has had multiple litters, and many of the kittens did not survive, due to the lack of a safe dry place to keep her kittens. After her last litter earlier this year, I made it my goal to raise money to get her spayed. I joined 4H and saved my cake winnings, sold eggs, and vegetables from my first garden.

I also took care of my neighbor's plants while she was on vacation. I was able to save up \$200 to spay my three-leg Cali, but not enough to spay and neuter the other cats. My Grandma referred me to the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors spay and neuter program and I was so excited to be approved to get help for my other cats. With my \$200 and their help we can take care of not just Cali but four more of our cats.

I am so appreciative of all the help and glad I can help my cats have healthier lives. When I earn my degree in Animal Science, I hope to help Lincoln Animal Ambassadors help other people's pets have healthier and happier lives.

Forever Grateful, Dalia



# GIVING TUESDAY

**Celebrate  
Giving Tuesday,  
November 29, by  
donating to LAA!**

# Thank you to our Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner donors!

Sadie Aalberg in memory  
of Belle and Queenie  
Pauline Balta  
Tom Bassett  
Steve Beal  
Beatrice Humane Society,  
Brad Beam  
Capital Humane Society  
The Coffee House  
Dairy Queen  
David Clark Framing  
Deer Springs Winery  
Domesti-Pups  
Mary Douglas  
Ehlers Animal Care  
Eidos Ergonomics  
Pauline Einemann  
Embassy Suites  
Mark Fahleson  
Blake Gilmore  
Del Gould  
Mitzi Graham  
Happy Dogz Rescue  
Hearts United for Animals  
High Society Cheesecakes  
Hy-Vee  
Ramzi Hynek  
James Arthur Winery  
Nature's Logic  
Jane Nelson  
Olive Garden  
Second Chance Pups  
Shelter Me Nebraska  
Instinct Pet Food, Nature's Variety  
Paw Bakery  
Paws Up Nebraska  
Perkins  
Pug Partners of Nebraska  
Rabbit Hole Bakery  
Rembolt Law Firm, Ramzi Hynek  
Darryl & Sarah Rivers  
Super Saver  
Valhalla Bee Farm  
The Warm Cookie  
Mary Yager

## LAA's Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner returns!

After a long COVID recess, LAA once again was able to hold the Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner on October 8th welcoming around 100 guests at the Unitarian Church. A delicious spaghetti dinner was served, with meatballs available for an additional charge and wine and beer available for purchase.

Following dinner, Matt Madcharro, the new Executive Director of the Capital Humane Society spoke about the new Pawsitive Impact Project and other changes happening at both 70th Street and Park Street locations.

To cap off the evening, Tom Bassett

auctioned off almost 30 desserts to the crowd. Desserts were donated by local bakers and bakeries and raised a nice amount to add to the event proceeds.

Proceeds from this event go to support the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors low-cost income-based spay and neuter program. The event brought in approximately \$5,000 which will go a long way to spay and neuter Lincoln's pets.

A huge thank you to all of those that donated to this event and to all of the attendees for coming and supporting LAA's cause.



## Volunteer Spotlight: Martha Carter

### Where did you first learn about Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?

My veterinarian, Dr. Hiebner at Pitts Veterinary Hospital, told me about Lincoln Animal Ambassadors. I had some dog beds to donate, and she suggested LAA might want them. After reviewing LAA's website, I was impressed with what they're doing and decided I'd apply to volunteer.

### Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I'm a Lincoln native who worked in Washington, D.C. for a few years, but my career has been with the Nebraska Legislature. I've always loved animals. I've been a "cat person" since childhood and almost always had one, or two, or (briefly) three cats! As an adult I've had dogs as well, especially black lab mixes who needed homes. They're so sweet and comical. Teddy, my 85-pound lab-Shar Pei mix, has a booming bark, but he's actually bossed around by Bruce, my 12-pound grey tabby! Coco, my other cat, isn't too concerned about either of the boys.

### What areas do you primarily volunteer for us at this time?

Mostly responding to calls from people needing pet food from LAA's pet food bank. Soon I'll also be doing some grant writing.

### What do you find rewarding in your volunteer activities?

Knowing I'm helping pets and their people. It's good to know the pets are being fed and

nice knowing the owners won't be quite as stressed about providing for them.

### Do you do other volunteer work in Lincoln?

Not right now, but I may explore ways of helping other non-profits get grant funding.

### What would you recommend to anyone looking to volunteer for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?

Check out the options on the website and give it a try! There are many ways to help out, both ongoing, like helping with the phone calls, and one-time, like taking a shift at a fundraising event. It's a great cause with nice people, so if you love pets, you'll definitely enjoy them helping out.

### If you could add one thing to the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors "wish list," what would it be?

I'd say more security in pet food donations. There's a lot of need in our community, and LAA can't always give everyone all that they need. Recently, donation barrels have been set up in several grocery stores, so if anyone's looking for a really easy way to help out, just add a bag of cat or dog food to your shopping list and drop it in the barrel.

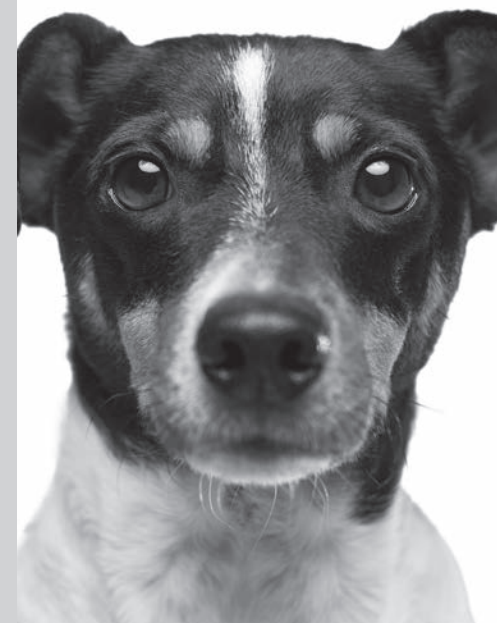


## Thank you to our donors!

Marge Anderson  
Arnie's Pet Food  
Andrew & Renee Benson  
Judith DeGraff  
Capital Humane Society  
Paula Einemann  
Heather Ferguson  
Fidelity Charitable  
Food Bank of Lincoln  
Giving Realty  
James Hewitt  
John & Diane Huseman  
Judy Johnstone  
Sue Kuntz  
Lincoln Community Foundation  
Kent & Monica Marschman  
Barbara Michael  
Nature's Variety  
Target  
Walmart  
Norman West  
Scott & Michelle Zabik

## Donations in MEMORIAM

In Memory of Chihuahua, Lily



# WE NEED YOU!

**Volunteer and prevent homeless animals.  
See page 5 for open positions.**

We are currently in need of volunteers. Training is provided. If you have a desire to volunteer and help others in the community, reach out to us at [info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org](mailto:info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org), call the hotline at 402.817.1168, or fill out a Volunteer Questionnaire on our website.

# Spay/neuter numbers

## Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

3,644 total animals  
1,882 dogs  
1,751 cats  
11 bunnies

## Think of LAA for year-end giving

LAA is run entirely on donations, so we count on community support to do what we do. If you are thinking of your year-end giving, consider donating financially to LAA. You can do this on our website at [LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org](http://LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org), or via mail at P.O. Box 67072, Lincoln, NE 68506.

Consider running a pet food drive for LAA's pet food bank, or donate pet food at one of our donation barrels around town. See new donation locations elsewhere in this newsletter.



## LAA's Pet Food Bank has new donation drop-off sites

LAA cannot thank you enough for your support and generosity!

We are trying to make it easier for you to donate. So, we've added some new donation sites.

### Permanent donation barrels are located in Lincoln, Nebraska at:

- Super Saver, North 27th Street
- Super Saver, South 56th Street
- Super Saver, South 27th Street
- Arnie's Pet Food, 56th & Hwy 2
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2325 South 24th Street

### Lincoln Hy-Vee Stores

Rotating donation barrels will be at Lincoln Hy-Vee stores (excluding N. 27th Street location) for two weeks at a time and then move on to another Lincoln Hy-Vee store. Watch our Facebook page for those dates and times.

### Smile.Amazon.com

You can also donate through Amazon Smile and choose LAA as your selected charity. ANYTIME you order ANYTHING from Amazon, order through Amazon Smile and Amazon pays a percentage of your purchase to LAA. Amazon pays it...not you...so it doesn't cost you anything, but LAA benefits.

You can also order pet food and pet supplies for LAA off Amazon Smile and have it shipped to LAA. Our address is on record for shipment.

### Walmart.com/registry/registryforgood

Search for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors as a charity and order pet related items to be shipped to LAA. Our address is on file with them.



## Shop Walmart Registry for Good or Amazon Smile

One of the easiest ways to donate pet food and pet related items to LAA's Pet Food Bank is to order online at Walmart's Registry for Good or Amazon Smile and search for LAA as your selected charity. They will ship your selected items to LAA for you. How could that be any easier?! Shop our wish list at [walmart.com/registry/registryforgood](http://walmart.com/registry/registryforgood) or [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

Did you know that you can donate to LAA through your Amazon Prime account without costing you a dime? Order through Amazon Smiles—still utilizing your Amazon Prime benefits—and choose LAA as your charity and a percentage of ALL of your Amazon purchases is paid to LAA as a donation from Amazon. This is paid by Amazon—not by you. So your purchase through Amazon Smile can benefit LAA with no additional cost to you. Shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com).

# Rescue Spotlight: Old Poor Farm Animal Sanctuary

In 1872, Dodge County, Nebraska established a Poor Farm Committee to procure land and build a working homestead to provide care to its least fortunate citizens. Every county in every state had this earliest form of welfare for the needy. Being a farming community, this facility was designed as a family setting on farmland to be subsistent. Under the County's supervision, over 400 of this state's pioneers received shelter until 1945 when Federal programs took full effect and the last resident left.

The farm went to auction and was sold in 1954 to a private citizen. After years of neglect, the homestead was separated from the cropland in 1989. Since that time, restoration of the property and history has become a priority including the creation of an animal sanctuary for special needs animals in 2001. We offer long term care of special needs birds and animals who have overcome their disabilities to live full lives

here on the farm. While there are numerous rescues catering to dogs and cats, we offer shelter for all creatures in need including farm and exotic animals.

The Old Poor Farm Animal Sanctuary, a non-profit organization, now offers services to a growing number of handicapped, abused and unwanted creatures along with a museum and tour of this state's historical site honoring those who helped pioneer this area of the country. We are an organization that relies solely on donations to operate and staffed completely by volunteers that believe in its mission "Where each life is treasured and time has no bounds".

The farm homestead is open to visitors May-October, Wednesday-Sunday, 12-5 p.m. (closed holidays). Admission is \$10 adults, \$7 children over 5 (senior discount available). Group tours are free, including history tours for students as we recognise the importance the Poor Farm system held in our state.

## Open LAA volunteer positions

### Phone Line Volunteer

LAA requires a 6 mo.-1 year commitment for this position. This can be done from your own home picking up voicemail messages and returning calls. Telephone and internet is required. Training is provided to enter information into our software program. Depending on the phone shift the amount of time required to fulfill this is from 30 minutes to 1 hour weekly.

### Marketing

LAA is looking for volunteers with marketing experience to help LAA with any marketing endeavors. This could become a board position.





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LINCOLN COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



# We need your **support!**

Did you know that you can name Lincoln Animal Ambassadors on your United Way donation? Your donation helps provide services to pets and their people in and around the Lincoln area. We couldn't do it without the support of people like you!

**Donate through our website, [LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org](http://LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org) using PayPal** or mail this form to LAA. Pet Food Bank donation items can be dropped off at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street; Super Saver, 27th & Cornhusker and 56th & Hwy 2.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** (City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select your contribution amount:**

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program**

**Pet Food Bank**

**General Funds**

**Make checks payable to:**  
Lincoln Animal Ambassadors  
**Mail to:** PO Box 67072  
Lincoln, NE 68506



# Thank you!