



## Dust Bowl Animal Rescue, Inc.

### 2015 Annual Newsletter

### *Surviving and Looking Forward*

#### 2015 Milestones

- 221 spays & neuters were performed in 2015 bringing our total since forming to over 700.
- New foster homes have been added to our group along with some great Kitty Krew volunteers.
- 15 animals were saved through transfers or joint efforts with other rescue groups.
- On average, over 83 animals are safe in DBAR foster homes at any given time. We have new intakes of approximately 37 animals each month!
- **270 animals adopted in 2015, bringing our total since forming in 2013 to over 900 adoptions!**
- Over \$180,000 in veterinary care provided since forming in 2013 with your support and donations.

#### What a crazy year!

2015 has been challenging to say the least. The local economy has struggled with oil prices dropping. This resulted in decreased donations at the same time that people were struggling to keep their homes and pets. Rescues across the area have stretched resources as far as possible to meet an increased need with lower funds. Our small group of officers have survived frightening health scares for two members, and juggled the arrival of a new baby for another.

We are glad to say we have survived all of the struggles that came to us in 2015! Although we have had to close to intakes when resources and foster space were thin – we are still here and still going strong. We look forward to 2016 with renewed hope and resolve.

January 2016 will be the 3 year anniversary for DBAR, and opens the door for us to finally do larger fundraising activities that we are already planning including benefit dinners with a silent auction, raffles, gaming nights and more! We are so excited to share the details of these events with our supporters as the year progresses.

You are receiving a copy of our annual newsletter as a friend, donor, or supporter because we know we could not have weathered the storms of 2015 without the help and support of the community. We cannot thank you enough for your continued support through 2015 and beyond! We have tried to include something for everyone including:

**Success Stories on Page 2**

**Helpful Pet Tips on Page 3**

**How You Can Help & How Donations are Spent on Page 4**

Thank you again for your support, YOU make this all possible!

Mesha Randolph, President      Carly Underwood, Vice President  
Katherine Kirk, Treasurer      Aimee Neusch, Secretary

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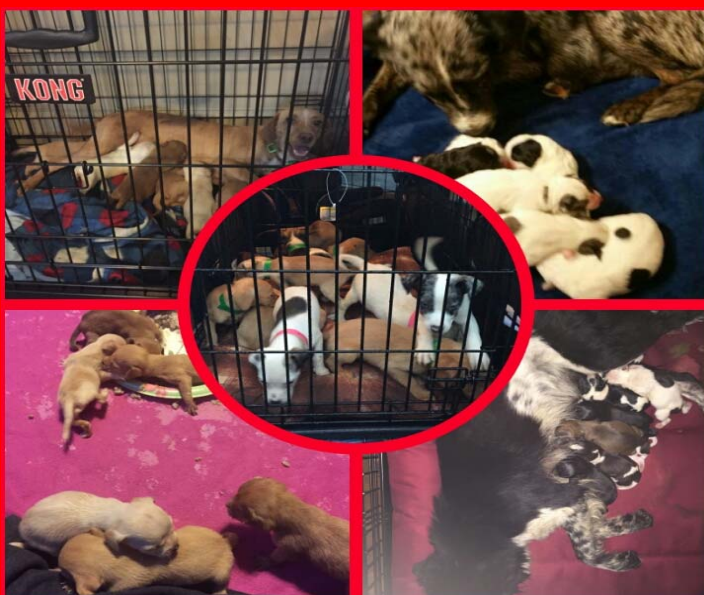
### *Success Stories – Your Donation Dollars in Action!*

Crash was found in Odessa after being hit by a car. The vet determined that he had multiple pelvic fractures and a broken femoral neck, which required surgery to repair. After surgery, he was on strict kennel confinement for six weeks to allow his body time to fully heal. His leg gets stronger every day and he is becoming more and more active. He has since finished all of his vetting and is looking for his forever home.



Cinderella & Shamrock were both found as strays with injuries to one of their legs. Each was seen by a vet and it was determined that too much damage had been done and the best course of action was to amputate. Both made full recoveries and have since found their forever homes. Cinderella has a human sister who spoils her rotten. Shamrock is an only dog in a home where he gets to travel frequently & he's even gotten a prosthetic leg to make walking easier.

Ranger was found by a good Samaritan out in the country in Midland with what looked to be a bullet wound on his chest. He was taken to our vet who discovered that this poor baby was riddled with bullet wounds. After a short stay at the vet and getting many of the wounds cleaned as best as could be done, he went to his foster home where he received hydrotherapy for the biggest wound twice daily for multiple weeks. Through lots of TLC, Ranger made a full recovery with little evidence as to any injuries. He has since found his forever home with 2 human brothers and 1 human sister that he loves very much.



Puppy season hit DBAR hard this year. First, we had a Shih Tzu momma who had to have a C-section because she was too small and the puppies were too big. Thankfully, Tinker and 3 beautiful puppies made it out of the surgery just fine.

We then got Millie & Sally from the pound, both very pregnant and ready to pop any minute. Millie had 6 beautiful babies and Sally had 8!!! Then came Mona, a heeler momma who had been dropped off at the pound with her 6 new born puppies. We were already up to 23 puppies. And then, Brandi was dropped off at a foster's door along with her 6 puppies. All moms and puppies were vetted and most have found their forever homes. These 5 mommas became a total of 34 pups!

**Please, Spay & Neuter!!!**

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*Helpful Pet Tips are back!*



**Catching stray dogs:**

Most strays are frightened and will run when trying to be caught. Instead of calling the dog or moving towards it, watch the dog out of the corner of your eye instead of making eye contact. Keep a bag of treats that makes noise when you crinkle it to get their attention and pretend to eat the food. Also, drop a few pieces and kneel down to pick it up while still pretending to eat. You are no longer seen as a threat by kneeling and you've caught their attention with treats. Most times, the dog will come to you.

**Midnight Crazyies:**

Have a cat who likes to play in the middle of the night? Most cats recognize daytime hours as quiet time, when their humans are away. But don't let them win. If you get up to play with them at night, they may see this as a reward for their behavior.



**Maintain a healthy weight:**

Many cats and dogs are considered overweight or obese. Just as with people, obesity can cause multiple health risks, including diabetes, arthritis and cancer. Keeping your pets at a healthy weight can add years to their lives. Dogs, on average, need about 30 calories per pound of body weight per day to maintain their current weight. Cats, on average, need about 180-200 calories per day. Of course, activity levels and age can also play a role in the amount they need as well.

**Listen:**

Learn to listen to your pets. If your dog or cat appears to be uncomfortable meeting new people or other animals, don't force them. They are telling you they are uncomfortable for a reason. Forcing the issue can lead to mistrust between you and your pet.

**With proper training,  
man can easily  
become a dog's best  
friend!**



**Be Generous:**

None of us are slow to tell our animals when we are unhappy with their behaviors. It is also important to praise them for the good stuff. When your pet is doing things right, let them know! Be extra generous with your attention and praise. It's even okay to be a little over the top and silly about it.

**Keeping the bugs away:**

Fleas can lead to irritated skin, hair loss, hot spots and can introduce other parasites into your pet. Ticks, aside from being really gross, can cause blood loss leading to anemia, tick fever and even Lyme disease! It is important to keep your yard mowed and treated as well as providing year round prevention for your pets.

**Dangerous Foods**

Any of the following can make your pet sick or kill them. Also animals can get sick from too much "people food" so food and treats designed for them is always best.

Alcoholic Beverages  
Any kind of fruit seed or nut  
Avocados  
Chocolate  
Any caffeine  
Garlic  
Grapes & Raisins  
Yeast dough  
Small bones  
Sage



# Dust Bowl Animal Rescue, Inc.

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### *How You Can Help!*

### **DONATE**

We are a non-profit animal rescue. Our adoption fees rarely cover the cost of the medical care that animals coming to our group need and we rely on donations and fundraisers to bridge that gap. As a 501c3 organization all donations are tax deductible.

You can donate in several ways:

**PayPal, Debit, or Credit Card** - [www.dustbowlanimalrescue.com](http://www.dustbowlanimalrescue.com) and select the Donate button

**Check or Money Order** – Mail to us at PO Box 62104 Midland, TX 79711

You can also buy items from our **Amazon wish list** that ship directly to us for our fosters from our website as well as supporting us through **Amazon Smile, Pet Rescue RX**, and other programs that are described on our website.

**HOW IS MY DONATION USED?** We know that donations are something our supporters choose to give, and we do our very best to be good stewards of that choice. **In 2015 we had 86% of our expenses go directly to animal care** including food, supplies, crates, and veterinary care. Only 4% of expenses were spent on fundraisers in 2015 – and those fundraisers raised enough money to more than double each dollar we spent. The remaining 10% of expenses went to administrative costs such as our website, transport costs, legal and accounting fees, office supplies, and all of the behind the scenes pieces required to keep the business side of DBAR running smoothly. **No officers, fosters, or volunteers receive any compensation for their time to maximize funds for the animals in our care!**

### **If you can't Donate or Adopt – FOSTER**

Fosters are the bridge between the pound or street and a loving forever home. We cover all veterinary costs and can help with food and other supplies. Fosters also have the first opportunity to adopt the animals they have cared for if they fall in love. You tell us how many animals, what size, breed, and/or age you are comfortable with and we work together to find a foster animal that fits your situation. We commonly start new fosters off with a fully vetted animal we have had that is “done” and awaiting adoption to get you comfortable with the fostering process.

### **If you can't Foster – VOLUNTEER, TRANSPORT, and NETWORK**

Even though we are foster based with no central shelter location, we do have a regular need for volunteers! Our DBAR Kitty Krew goes by the Odessa Petsmart adoption center in their store to clean and play with our cats and kittens there on a regular basis. We also have periodic needs for volunteers to help with transport, adoption events, and fundraisers. Contact us at [dustbowlanimalrescue@gmail.com](mailto:dustbowlanimalrescue@gmail.com)

for more information on getting involved.

Find us on Facebook! We have events, animals in need, pet tips, and funny stories that we need your help to share. Tell your friends, family, or co-workers about us so we can help them find the perfect pet! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dustbowlanimalrescue/>



*Everyone can do something to help save a life.  
Please remember to spay, neuter, vaccinate and  
THANK YOU so much for your support!*