



Nicole Saunders and Brandon Gittelman collect donations for the Four-Legged Food Drive

Four Legged Food Drive

Delaware County families get help from Best Friends Animal Society and Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry to keep their pets despite tough economy

This summer, Best Friends Animal Society volunteers will be working in 13 communities—including Delaware County—to collect pet food for families in need with the Four Legged Food Drive.

From **June 28 through August 31**, the local team will be collecting all kinds of sealed and unexpired pet food to be distributed at Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. (For complete list of locations please see the Pennsylvania Community on the Best Friends Network.)

Nicole Saunders, project leader for the Philadelphia Area Team and TCF Service Area resident, elaborates, “There is nothing more rewarding than preventing an animal from being displaced and keeping the family intact. Just like the animals, many families suffer when they feel they have no other choice but to surrender their pets.”

Ellen Gilmore, campaign coordinator for Best Friends Animal Society’s campaign First Home-Forever Home—which helps people provide loving, forever homes for their pets—explained the urgency of the food drive:

“In the past year, more pets have been finding themselves homeless because their families are facing tough economic times. With or without the downturn in the economy, every community has a homeless pet problem. In the past year, however, the number of pets who became homeless via relinquishment to animal shelters and abandonment has increased because of economic conditions, foreclosures, and joblessness.”

TCF Staff members were proud to facilitate the connection between Best Friends Animal Society and Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. TCF also lent a helping hand by to Ms. Saunders by transporting food to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, which is serving as a distribution point in Prospect Park.

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