

Since opening our adoption center in late 2007, HSDC has adopted out over 1,700 cats and dogs. We provide access to affordable spay/neuter surgery for community pet owners through a clinic transport program that has enabled 2,500 pets to be altered in the past seven years. These programs have respectable outcomes and have advanced our mission to save more lives.

But we want to do more.

- We want to see even more abandoned pets rescued and adopted.
- We want to be much more effective with community outreach.
- We want our organization to leave a bigger paw print both within the county and throughout the region.

To help us in reaching those goals, we launched a new business name for our organization:



So why Partners 4 Paws?

- We believe that the name Partners 4 Paws will broaden our market appeal and network of support, which will contribute to our ability to rescue more pets. Over 50% of our adoptions fall outside of Davie County so we want to capitalize on that fact to expand out from our Davie County home base.
- We believe that the new name affords us an excellent opportunity to work with and recognize other organizations which support our core mission. HSDC cannot succeed without the support of the community, from our local veterinarians, to suppliers, to our media partners, and event sponsors and donors. All of these entities and individuals are critical to our success and we want to do an even better job of recognizing them and demonstrating our appreciation of their support. Partners 4 Paws provides the perfect avenue for us to do that. Our intent is to acknowledge and promote these supporters in our marketing. As our supporters succeed, HSDC succeeds.

HSDC is not the only rescue organization in the area. We believe that a life saved is a life saved regardless of the organization caring for that pet, so we will help to cross-promote adoptions for other rescue groups, just as we already do for Davie County Animal Control.

- HSDC believes strongly that community outreach and education are critical components to long term changes in our community. We particularly hope to launch two programs related to education:
 - Pre-school through Elementary education about responsible pet ownership;
 - Reading to Dogs and Cats program: children come to the adoption center and read to the dogs and cats; great for socialization for the pets and studies point to stronger reading skills for children who participate in such programs;

- There is a 3rd component to education that we want to improve on communicating.
 - HSDC rescues abandoned cats and dogs. For many of us, that is sufficient reason to be involved. But really we do much more than that: we change the lives of individuals and families through our work. Just ask Annie's family about how she alerted them in the middle of the night to their son's dangerously low blood sugar; ask my friend who has seizures how important her dog is to her, giving her 5-7 minutes advance notice of an impending seizure so that she can get to a safe place; ask a veteran suffering from PTSD about how their service dog enabled them to reduce the amount of meds they were on and actually be able to leave their home; talk to parents of an autistic child about how the family pet reached that child in a way no one else could and enabled that child to push back the boundaries of their life. These are all stories that we have been told or have seen; we know the difference in human lives these animals can make. We want to get this message out more effectively.

- On the Community Outreach front, we want to be more visible and vocal about animal welfare issues and problems. Potential projects on this front include:
 - Advocacy for Animal Welfare
 - Unchain initiative

Our vision is a network of community partners who collaboratively and collectively work toward the elimination of unnecessary euthanasia in the county shelter. Significant progress is being made on that front already; we want to continue seeking ways to reduce both intake and euthanasia.

Our legal name will remain HSDC. Our rescue and adoption program will continue and hopefully expand. Donations to the organization will still be in the legal name of HSDC. Partners 4 Paws will be our moniker for marketing and community outreach purposes, as we work toward building a greater presence across the Piedmont.

You can help. Your support will contribute to the success on all of these fronts. Your voice added to our voice will effect positive change. Your time and talents working with us will move things forward....There are so many opportunities for you to step up and help: volunteer, adopt, donate, serve on board, and much more. Won't you step up and be a part of the Humane Society of Davie County's Partners 4 Paws initiative?

Contact HSDC today and pitch in to be one of our Partners 4 Paws.