You helped Haley, so she could help Sam

Haley is a friendly retriever mix who came to us in December, after being saved from an uncertain future at a rural shelter by the MCHS rescue team.

Sam, a Marine Corps veteran, who has suffered from PTSD, was looking for a four-legged companion to share his new home. He agreed, and decided to visit MCHS. When Sam met Haley, it was love at first sight. “She was just quietly sitting there looking at me,” he says, “I knew she was the one I wanted.”

He spent some time talking to the staff about Haley, then took her into a room to play. When all 49 lbs of her climbed into his lap, he knew that she wanted him, too.

Haley is enjoying her new home. She follows Sam around everywhere, and is incredibly curious about everything. The first time Sam left her by herself, she went around and opened every cupboard and closet she could reach. “She didn’t get into anything, though.

She just had to see what was in there.”

“I can’t thank you enough. I can’t put into words the impact you’ve had on my life.”

Sam says he can’t imagine life without Haley. “Haley is a Godsend. She’s provided me with more mental and emotional support than anything I’ve ever experienced. I couldn’t have prayed for a better blessing. It’s been life changing for me, and I’m sure if Haley could talk she’d say the same thing.”

Your dollars always make a difference

Our work is 100% funded by private donations. Your gift is guaranteed to change the life of a homeless animal. Please give today. Visit mchumane.org or use the enclosed envelope.

In this issue:

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You gave Starly the care and the time he needed

When Starly arrived at MCHS in January, we could tell he was a little different from the other cats we’ve rescued: His head was always tilted to the right, and he would shake it back and forth whenever he looked at us. His back legs were a little unsteady, and they’d wobble whenever he’d jump off of a surface onto the floor. He was deaf. And, we soon discovered that he also likely had feline herpes.

Starly spent the next few weeks in the MCHS infirmary, where your generous support provided him with the medicine he needed to aggressively treat the respiratory infection triggered by the herpes. Best of all, you provided him with the time he needed, as well as a comfortable place to rest while he healed.

Some cats with special needs wait months before they find their new home. But not Starly. The first weekend he was available for adoption, his adopters visited MCHS. They’d never had a cat before, but when they first met him, they said “he just played and played” with them.

Now that Starly’s in his new home, he enjoys meowing in the bathtub, and playing with his new, large family.

Bereavement support sessions help grieving pet owners

Each month, Dr. Mary Knipmeyer leads a group discussion to help pet owners work through their grief and share ideas on coping after a loss.

Pet bereavement seminars are held at MCHS once a month. There is no cost, but reservations are required. Please call (240) 252-2555 to reserve a spot in the session.

Saved from a dumpster, Lenny and Squiggy now teach about compassion

A few years ago, Lenny and Squiggy, a pair of Guinea pigs, were rescued from a trash dumpster. Today, they live at MCHS as part of our humane education team. Your support sends them throughout Montgomery County, spreading the word about responsible pet ownership, compassion and respect for animals. In 2015, they met with several thousand children and adults in classrooms, scouting meetings, churches and community centers, and they have a full calendar of events for 2016.
"I found a charity that’s a good steward of my donations"

Until her retirement last year, MCHS’s newly elected Board Chair, Lisa Kingsley, spent nearly 40 years in finance, operations and accounting for both profit and non-profit organizations, such as National Public Radio and the University of Maryland’s Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

That experience is particularly useful whenever she and her husband Roger are considering charities to support.

She says, “I give to MCHS because I love animals and don’t want to see any of them homeless. I like that MCHS is no kill, and as a CPA I’m really impressed with how well-run the organization is. I was impressed with how low their overhead is.” Lisa became MCHS chairman last month. “The staff is really dedicated and does a great job,” she says. “I hope everyone will join me in supporting the Montgomery county Humane Society.”
Teenager's loss becomes gain for homeless animals

Last Memorial Day, the Clifford family suffered a loss when their faithful companion, a 10-year-old Goldendoodle named (appropriately enough) Faith, passed away. The loss was particularly devastating to 14-year-old Noah.

Noah’s father, Jack, tells us: “Noah has a servant’s heart,” so it was no surprise to his family when he decided to use the loss of his friend as an inspiration to help animals in need.

On December 6, 2015, he spent all day playing his saxophone in downtown Silver Spring, and raised more than $400 for the animals at the Montgomery County Humane Society. Since then, he’s started a philanthropic club at his school, and plans to do even more to help MCHS.

Thank you Noah!