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PROMOTING RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

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The **Jackson Galaxy** Foundation's Cat Pawsitive Program: *Positive Reinforcement Training for Cats in Shelters*

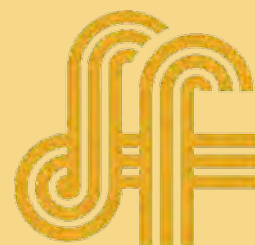
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Edith Latham's MANDATE:

"To promote, foster,
encourage and
further the
principles of
humaneness,
kindness and
benevolence to
all living creatures."



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The Latham Letter

Balanced perspectives on humane issues and activities

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The Latham Letter

Volume XXXVII, Number 3, Summer 2016

**BALANCED PERSPECTIVES ON
HUMANE ISSUES AND ACTIVITIES**



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The Latham Foundation is a 501(c)(3) private operating foundation founded in 1918 to promote respect for all life through education. The Foundation makes grants-in-kind rather than monetary grants. Latham welcomes partnerships with other institutions and individuals who share its commitment to furthering humane education.

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Do You Care?

By Dr. Emily Weiss

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<http://aspcapro.org/blog>

Dr. Emily Weiss shares some studies regarding empathy in various species – and asks you to put yourself in your adopters' shoes.

I am close to quitting Facebook. It makes me cry. The feeds I follow are from those who consider themselves kind folks, but daily I read posts that discount groups of people or animals with no basis other than a lack of ability to see – or, more accurately, feel – from another perspective.

Empathy. Simply defined, empathy is the ability to understand and share another's experiences and emotions. It is a fascinating topic in animal behavior and comparative psychology, both from an evolutionary perspective (why and when did such a behavior evolve) and a strict behavioral perspective. Understanding that animal behavior may be influenced not just by simple motivators of hunger, thirst and sex, but potentially by the comfort or 'concern' for others shifts the behavior landscape quite considerably.

There are studies regarding empathy (and other moral-based behaviors) for many species, although most common have been those with primates. However, back in 2011 a study was published in the prestigious journal *Science* that showed some powerful evidence of empathy in rats.

In the study, one rat was restrained in a cage, while the other was loose in an arena. The loose rat consistently freed the trapped rat. This was the case even when chocolate (a rat favorite) was placed in another cage in that arena. Not only that, in most trials, the rat then shared the chocolate with the freed cagemate (note that most of us hesitate to share our chocolate). Pretty darn fantastic.

More recently, a study of prairie voles found that voles will console their friends (the term friend used loosely here –

more scientifically accurate would be familiar conspecifics) when the friend is stressed. And here is where voles can be like us ... they will not console strangers, only the voles they know.

Empathy is pretty powerful – and part of it is the notion that we can identify enough with the other entity to think they would feel as we do. Interestingly, in our field, many folks can empathize much more easily with dogs and cats than with each other. Empathizing with another species is not without its dangers. Misunderstood readings of behavior are common, which then lead to all sorts of challenges and opportunities to resolve the real behavioral motivator. For example, the misreading of 'guilt' in dogs (which is really submission) often leads to all sorts of assumptions about what the dog remembers of his misadventure – and therefore misguided interventions that are ineffective.

Not empathizing with our own species is thought by some scientists to be part of being human. I hope that is wrong. However, the fact is that we form tribes, groups and cliques, and challenge those who are not 'us' – we tend to choose to be with those who are more 'same' – be it color, movement, clothing or any other myriad of variables. We can empathize because it is familiar.

While I would love world peace, I am asking for something much smaller here. I am asking for us to pull back from our assumptions, notions and identities enough to view the person walking into our shelter to relinquish their pet as someone who is enough like us that it could be us (it could, you know). I ask for you to think about that person who may have and love a dog or cat living in conditions that you may see as less than ideal, and see that person as someone who could use a helping hand. I know I am just as guilty as most of jumping to an assumption of "them" instead of "us" when it comes to all sorts of things – and I am working harder to be like the rat. Will you join me?





Do you recognize this actor?

We were thrilled to discover Emmy-nominated actor Jeffrey Tambor as Mr. Dandyweather in one of our “Wonderful World of Brother Buzz” episodes.

“The Wonderful World of Brother Buzz” was a children’s TV series that the Foundation produced in the 1950s & 60s. A puppet character named Brother Buzz hosted each episode, which encouraged kindness to animals.

Jeffrey Tambor’s early acting is just one of the many interesting things we are discovering as we search through our archives. The Latham Foundation will be celebrating 100 years of humane education in 2018.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1-5nZShdUw>



From a New Subscriber

I have been interested in animals, humane education, and animal welfare my whole life and I had not heard of your Foundation. It seems like the mission of the Foundation is exactly what I have been searching for in a group in a very long time. I am excited to read my first *Latham Letter*!

Thank you,
Jennifer Wallace, DVM

Clever!

Unlike traditional electronic games, Pokemon Go forces its users to get off the couch and get moving. In order to collect the coveted characters, the user must physically travel to various places.

So, the Muncie Animal Shelter in Muncie, Ind., had a brilliant idea: Pokemon Go players serve double duty walking shelter dogs while they’re hunting for Pokemon.



Correction

Page 21, Spring 2016 *Latham Letter*

We mistakenly printed an earlier version of Dr. Aubrey Fine’s review of Deirdre Rand, Ph.D.’s online continuing education course offered through Professional Development Resources. It should have read:

“Animal-Assisted Therapy and the Healing Power of Pets provides an essential foundation to anyone interested in animal-assisted intervention work, whether as a healthcare professional or as a volunteer therapy animal team with their dog or cat. Dr. Rand uses a narrative writing style, supplemented with photographs, to give the reader a deeper, more experiential understanding of the material and makes for a good read. The course includes numerous clinical examples, evoking an awareness of the unique bond between people and their companion animals.”

Aubrey H. Fine, Ed.D.

Author, *Our Faithful Companions: Exploring the Essence of our Kinship with Animals*

Editor, *Handbook on Animal-Assisted Therapy: Theoretical Foundations and Guidelines for Practice*



**Animal-Assisted Therapy
& The Healing Power of Pets**





The Jackson Galaxy Foundation's Cat Pawsitive Program:

Positive Reinforcement Training for Cats in Shelters



In his hit TV show, “My Cat From Hell,” our founder, the Cat Daddy himself, Jackson Galaxy, has shown us that a mentally stimulated, active cat is a much more happy cat. In a shelter environment, behavior enrichment and physical activity can also make that cat a much more easily adoptable cat. And adoptability saves lives.

Shelters can often be overwhelming places for cats. The sights, loud sounds and strange smells can make even the most outgoing, active cat become nervous and shut down. For cats who already tend to be shy, the stress of their shelter surroundings can make them hide under blankets and in the corners of cages to avoid contact with anyone who approaches. Stress can also lead to illness such as upper respiratory infection. All of these things can contribute to making a cat seem less “adoptable.”

Cat Pawsitive was created to help keep that from happening.

Developed by Jackson Galaxy and a team of animal behavior experts, Jackson Galaxy Foundation's Cat Pawsitive is a mojo-enhancing, positive-reinforcement clicker training initiative that enriches day-to-day life for cats in shelters, builds new skills for cats as well as shelter staff and volunteers, promotes the human-cat bond, and helps improve adoptability.

By utilizing positive, reward-based Cat Pawsitive training, a shelter volunteer or staff member can reduce the stresses that might keep a cat from connecting with an adopter. With clicker training that positively reinforces good behaviors, a shy cat can learn to feel comfortable coming up to the front of her cage to meet a potential pet parent, a feisty cat can learn to play nice, and an outgoing kitty can even learn to give an endearing “high five” to his visitors to seal an adoption deal. Cats gain confidence and get mental and physical stimulation through their clicker training sessions, and soon they are building connections with staff, volunteers and potential adopters.

The Jackson Galaxy Foundation selected nine shelters from across the country to be a part of the inaugural class of the Cat Pawsitive initiative. They were: Washington Humane Society/Washington Animal Rescue League, Animal Care Centers of New York City, Maryland SPCA, Furkids, Cat Adoption Team, The Anti-Cruelty Society, Providence Animal Rescue League, Tabby Town, and the SPCA of Texas.

Ranging from small, limited-admission private shelters to large, open-admission municipal shelters, the common goals of these organizations were:

- *Increasing the adoptability of cats in their shelters*
- *Keeping cats in the shelter engaged, and behaviorally and physically active*

A LETTER FROM HAPPY JGF CAT PAWSITIVE CAT ADOPTER



Photo courtesy of Jackson Galaxy Foundation and Washington Humane Society/Washington Animal Rescue League

- Empowering and inspiring shelter staff and volunteers through increased knowledge
- Showing people in and out of the shelter that cats can be taught using positive reinforcement training methods
- Raising the public profile of shelter cats and the great work being done at Cat Pawsitive shelters

Cat Pawsitive shelters:

- Participated in training webinars with our team of feline behavior experts
- Had direct access to consultations with our trainer-mentors during the program
- Received exclusive JGF training tools, handouts and videos
- Received national exposure through the social media outlets of Jackson Galaxy and JGF

To receive information about future Cat Pawsitive classes, please e-mail director@jacksongalaxyfoundation.org.

Hello –

I just want to drop a line and thank you for this amazing program. I was fortunate enough to adopt a Cat Pawsitive kitty from The Anti-Cruelty Society in Chicago on May 23rd.

I had lost my sweet kitty of 13 years to kidney disease the previous Saturday. It is my belief that a shelter animal wills their space to another shelter animal once they are gone. I wasted little time to get to The Anti-Cruelty Society to rescue another four-legged friend.

I had seen Felix online weeks before as a Featured Pet on the Anti-Cruelty Facebook page. I figured he had been adopted and went to Anti-Cruelty with the intention of looking at another Featured Pet. After speaking with the volunteer, I learned Felix was indeed still there.

We walked over to his cage and this shy, scared little kitty was eating under a blanket. The volunteer explained that he was so skittish and scared that he found safety under his blanket and paper towels. Understandable but not great when trying to find a forever home.

Little did I know, Felix had recently started Cat Pawsitive training. I was in for a happy surprise!

The volunteer told me to sit on the floor with some treats and she coaxed Felix out. After some treats and much needed petting and face scratches, she brought Felix into the room with all the toys. She taught me his feather trick (he dances around) and then told me to sit and point at my nose. He Eskimo kissed it then asked for a treat. I was done. This shy, scared kitty just wanted someone to play with him.

We went home together and other than an initial 6 hours of hiding under beds and furniture and a blanket I had put out, he has been social and playful and catting around out in the open. Not once has he gone back to eating under blankets. He likes to cocoon in his cat tree every now and then but for the most part, he adores the windows and space to play and lounge.

Without this program and a dedicated volunteer to get this little guy adopted and show potential, I may have missed the kitty under his blanket. He is very social and an active guy who brings us much laughter. We've continued clicker- and treat-based-training, and are working hard on kitty "high five."

I can't thank this program enough for allowing us glimpses of cats' true personality and not just their coping mechanisms in the shelter.

Proud to have a Cat Pawsitive graduate as my little companion.

*All the best,
Brigitte and Felix*



Anti-Cruelty Society, Chicago, Ill.

Also Available from the **Jackson Galaxy Foundation**



The **Monthly Mojo** Program

The **Monthly Mojo program** is an example of the JGF vision in action. This unique program allows the Foundation to use its extensive media reach to share the inspiring work that animal welfare organizations across the nation and even around the world are doing.

From independent rescues to spay/neuter providers, from small TNR organizations to large municipal shelters, Monthly Mojo recipients are doing things that JGF can tout as shining examples to the public and to other organizations. They look for groups that are innovative, inventive, and collaborative; groups that are rising to meet the challenges of their situations and working beyond expectations to save lives.

The chosen organization receives:

- *Social media exposure through Jackson Galaxy and Jackson Galaxy Foundation (websites, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, etc.) throughout the recipient's assigned month. In addition to receiving regular shout outs on social media, the organization receives special attention on Sundays as part of Jackson's #ShelterSunday series. Each Sunday, Jackson shares a success story submitted by that month's Monthly Mojo organization.*
- *A "Gift That Gives More" entry on the GreaterGood.org GTGM crowdfunding website. The GTGM website allows the Monthly Mojo recipient to create a unique funding plea, raise funds, and gain added attention from being designated as one of "Jackson's Picks."*

- *A portion of the proceeds raised from sales of a "WonderFunder" product on GreaterGood.com. During the assigned month, every time someone purchases a product that has been designated as a Monthly Mojo "WonderFunder" item, \$5.00 of the purchase price goes to the recipient.*

2016 Monthly Mojo recipients include:

- *Demi's Animal Rescue (Colorado), January, 2016*
- *Fearless Kitty Rescue (Arizona), February, 2016*
- *Animal Lifeline (Pennsylvania), March, 2016*
- *Animal Defenders (Jakarta, Indonesia), April, 2016*
- *Animal Ark (Minnesota), May, 2016*
- *Seattle Area Feline Rescue (Washington), June, 2016*
- *Native America Humane Society (California/nationwide), July, 2016*



Applications for the program are accepted in a year-round rolling submission process.

To receive an application for the **Monthly Mojo** program, or for more information, please e-mail director@jacksongalaxyfoundation.org.



Understandings about Animal Cruelty:

Why Animal Abuse is a Critical Concern for Law Enforcement Practitioners, and Promising Antidotes to Youth Violence

By Heath Grant, Ph.D., Cathryn Lavery, Ph.D., MS, and Kimberly Spanjol, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LMHC, CHES

Animal Abuse: A Serious Law Enforcement Concern

For years, law enforcement agencies nationally have encountered disturbing animal cruelty cases involving youths, leading to the development of a variety of new training programs for practitioners at all levels on the prevalence of animal cruelty and its identification. Law enforcement practitioners are being trained in topics of animal abuse including links between animal abuse and later violence, effective animal cruelty law enforcement, and prosecution enforcement strategies. Importantly, poor data collection techniques and reporting to law enforcement agencies makes it very hard to estimate the extent of the animal cruelty problem in the country. A positive step has been the recent incorporation of animal cruelty measures into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Report (UCR) program.



Photo credit: pixabay.com

Pathways to Violence: The Animal Cruelty Connection and Future Offending

Recognition of the link between cruelty toward people and abuse of animals is nothing new. The National Link Coalition was created to stop violence against people and animals, highlighting the connection between child maltreatment, domestic violence, elder abuse and animal abuse (nationallinkcoalition.org). However, research in this area has been confined to select researchers and occasional studies (Ascione, 2001).

An early study to examine animal cruelty and a link with criminal behavior was in 1966 by Hellman & Blackman. Results indicated that the likelihood that inmates sentenced for violent felonies were three times as likely to have experienced (as participant or observer) animal cruelty in childhood and early adolescence as those sentenced for nonviolent acts (Hellman & Blackman, 1966; Haden & Scarpa, 2005). There is literature using diverse methods to look at different aspects of animal abuse and the link with violence. From methods of abuse, to recurrence and patterned behavior, to comparative analyses of offenders, to the examination of specific populations of offenders, animal cruelty has consistently been identified

as a predictor of such a variety of crimes across the continuum of seriousness (Randour, 2008; Hodges, 2008). Examples include:

- *Forty percent of animal abusers have committed crimes against people.*
- *A study examining comparative data between undergraduate college students and inmates found that 63% of inmates and 20% of college students reported abusing animals.*
- *A retrospective study (1988) found that 46% of rapists abused animals during adolescence and 36% began as children (Burgess et al, 1988; Haden & Scarpa, 2005).*

More recently, a strong connection has been discovered linking animal abuse and intimate partner violence/domestic violence. Findings have shown that abusers target those who are defenseless and powerless, thus violent crimes towards partners, spouses, the elderly, children and animals “go hand in hand” (McDonald, 2011; Hodges, 2008). Kellert & Felthouse (1988) interviewed abusers and discovered several motivating factors that can be applicable to both adult abusers of animals as well as juveniles. They include:

- *The use of animal abuse as extreme discipline.*
- *To satisfy a prejudice against a breed or species of animals (hatred of squirrels, cats, etc.).*
- *To express aggression through an animal, for example, inflicting pain to create an angry or mean animal.*
- *To enhance one’s own aggressiveness, like using an animal for target practice.*
- *To shock others.*
- *To retaliate or take revenge against others (hurting pets or abusing animals in their presence).*
- *Displacement of hostility, whereby one attacks an animal since hurting a human is too risky.*
- *To experience a specific or nonspecific sadism and enjoy the suffering experienced by the animal and the ripple effect to people, if applicable.* (Kellert & Felthous, 1986; Ascione, 2001).

The Link to Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Bonds between children and animals naturally exist (Viegas, 2011). Researchers have established that positive benefits occur when bonds are nurtured, but negative short and long term consequences have been found when these bonds are broken. Consequences include: higher risk of developing behavioral problems, academic failure, and engaging in status and delinquent offenses – which may lead to more chronic criminal behavior (Arkow, 2006).

Childhood cruelty to animals is one of the earliest reported symptoms of conduct disorder (Frick, et al., 1993) and further, children cruel to animals exhibit more

severe conduct disorder problems than other children (Luk et al., 1999). Evidence has demonstrated the link between the social and emotional health of children and their overall success in life from decreasing forms of acting out behaviors to much higher academic success at school (Zins et al, 2004). Although the link between SEL and delinquency has not yet been adequately studied in the research literature, problem behaviors such as bullying, emotional intelligence and empathy have been linked to various forms of delinquency in numerous studies (Coelho, 2012; Robinson et al, 2007).

It is very possible that SEL deficits could be triggers that lead to various forms of animal cruelty, and/or participating in or observing acts of animal cruelty, and may help to generate the social and emotional deficits that later result in violence or other forms of delinquency. Research is necessary to further explore these pathways between animal cruelty and violence.

Evidence-based Practices Involving the Human-Animal Bond in Youth Violence Prevention Strategies

There is a growing evidence base of programs that have focused on the social-emotional needs and cognitive skills of youth working with animals (Arluke, 2006). Variations of animal-assisted programs utilize the typically innate human-animal bond include Animal-Assisted Therapy, (AAT) Animal-Assisted Activities (AAA), and Humane Education. Given the link between SEL, animal cruelty, and violence noted above, these attempts offer novel and effective ways to build



“ **Childhood cruelty to animals is one of the earliest reported symptoms of conduct disorder (Frick, et al., 1993) and further, children cruel to animals exhibit more severe conduct disorder problems than other children (Luk et al., 1999).** ”

empathy and compassion, empower and increase humane behaviors and reduce violence in youth toward both human and non-human animals.

Children and adolescents report a connection to animals regardless of socio-economic status, race or gender (Loar & Coleman, 2004). Animals provide opportunities for interaction, including interactive touch, and are typically highly socially responsive and provide unconditional positive emotional feedback such as attention and affection (Myers & Sanders, 2002). The rapport that is easily built with animals translates into relationships with program-involved adults. Even in cases where animals may not be as socially responsive, such as abused, wild or farmed animals, benefits include learning how to form relationships with healthy boundaries and the ability to identify with the animal's plight,

behavior and future. Anecdotal and research data on animal-assisted program outcomes suggest that attitudes and behavior of problem youth can be transformed (Dalton, 2001; Hill, 2003; Rathmann, 1999). This includes reducing aggression, recidivism, anxiety, and depression while increasing vocational and social skills and interpersonal communication (Arluke, 2006). Evidence is promising but limited in this field. Some reasons cited as to why animal-assisted interventions appear effective point to the ability for animals to teach relational skills through the social support they can provide.

Animal-Assisted Interventions to mitigate violent behavior in at-risk youth developed from programs for adult offenders in correctional facilities worldwide. Homeless animals and incarcerated youth both need to be cared for, rehabilitated and integrated while housed in a secure facility. They are largely seen as “throw-away” populations with little societal visibility or voice. Pairing these populations is beneficial to all, including the larger community (Davis 2007, Furst, 2006). Teamwork, problem-solving, positive emotional experiences and nurturing relationships built on trust with animals, peers and adults are experienced, very often for the first time. This allows participants feelings of self-worth, responsibility and competence as they build skills and accomplish goals. Animal-assisted programs lend themselves to cognitive-behavioral approaches to shape pro-social behavior as skills that are taught, practiced, and acquired in small, manageable steps with built-in positive feedback and results. Participants view themselves in new positive roles. Suddenly they are no longer only the sum of their anti-social past, but now hold a hero role in their community as someone, for example, who saved a dog from death in a shelter while helping a family find a loving companion in an adopted home.

These programs give an opportunity for participants to teach skills to peers and be in a role model position that can lead to mastering communication and vocational skills for career paths in a variety of jobs and careers. They give participants teachable opportunities to deal with challenges and frustrations in new and effective ways that require self-control, patience, sustained attention, calmness and self-awareness (Arluke, 2006). This is made easier as the very presence of animals provide comfort. The rituals often associated with these programs, such as “graduation” ceremonies and placement of rescued animals are positive events that teach participants to discuss and deal with the loss and sadness that comes with saying goodbye to their charges once successfully trained.

“ **Some reasons cited as to why animal assisted interventions appear effective point to the ability for animals to teach relational skills through the social support they can provide.** ”

Animal-assisted therapies and activities are not the answer for all children/adolescents with histories of violence or delinquency. In some cases they are not appropriate specifically because of that history. These programs however should be considered for young people who can learn from their benefits, and use the work of researchers to identify essential and effective programming elements.

The disciplines of Animal-Assisted Therapy and Humane Education are emerging and evolving fields that intersect and lend themselves to social emotional learning programs for at-risk, abused, and special needs youth (Arkow, 2006, Loar & Colman, 2004, Rathmann, 1999). Programs that target youth committing anti-social, abusive and violent behavior based on the knowledge of link violence (nationallinkcoalition.org) have the potential to reach children/adolescents who are high risk for both perpetrating and being victims of violence.

Humane Education has a history in the United States. In the 1850s the animal protection movement began to identify humane education as the intervention of choice for guiding “wayward youths into a righteous path in which animals were well regarded, respected and cared for – not just for the animals’ welfare, but to improve human behavior” (Arkow 2006). Founders of the animal welfare movement believed the focus should be on moral education and public advocacy over rescuing and sheltering animals. Humane Education was seen as an effective way of ensuring public order, suppressing anarchy, smoothing relations between the classes, and reducing crime (Arkow, 2006).

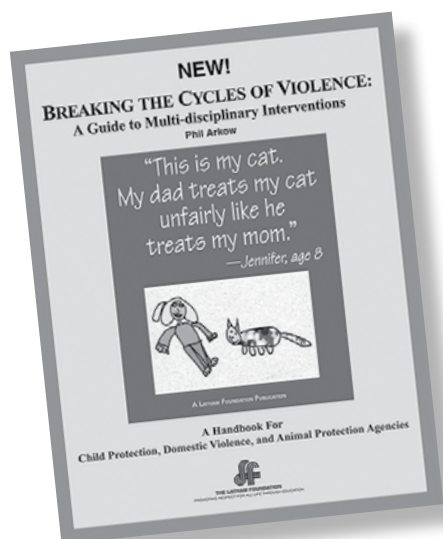
Animal cruelty as a precursor to antisocial behavior was seen as an integral piece of Victorian-era education to build compassion toward animals and people. Today, humane education is promoted as an effective way to reduce antisocial behaviors and increase pro-social behaviors. Humane Education addresses

the seeds of social justice including suffering and oppressions, and helps empower critical thinking, respect, and pro-social bonds (Itle-Clarke, 2011; Weil 2004). The connection between animal protection, human rights, environmental protection and media literacy is all part of humane education. Teaching kindness and compassion toward non-human animals leads to the psycho-social development of children and the natural progression of extending kindness and compassion toward people. The combination of Humane Education and Animal-Assisted Interactions is a potentially powerful intervention to support youth in developing and sustaining pro-social skills in all settings.

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Heath Grant, Ph.D. is faculty of John Jay College of Criminal Justice was most recently the Director of Research of the Police Executive Research Forum, a leading Washington DC organization dedicated to advancing law enforcement and crime prevention internationally. As the former CEO of Success for Kids (SFK), he oversaw the planning, implementation, curriculum development, partnerships & strategic program alliances and evaluation of the organization's international programs and services. His experience and innovative style has positioned SFK's unique approach to Social Emotional Learning as one of the most sought after program partnership opportunities throughout Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. He has developed and evaluated school-based programs to promote youth resiliency internationally. He has also developed and implemented successful police training programs in Bangladesh, Mexico, Colombia, and the Caribbean region. Correspondence can be sent to: hgrant@jjay.cuny.edu.

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Upcoming Training Opportunities from the National Link Coalition



www.NationalLinkCoalition.org

The National Link Coalition is an informal, multi-disciplinary collaborative network of individuals and organizations in human services and animal welfare who address the intersections between animal abuse, domestic violence, child maltreatment and elder abuse through research, public policy, programming and community awareness. We believe that human and animal well-being are inextricably intertwined and that the prevention of family and community violence can best be achieved through partnerships representing multi-species perspectives.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ON THE LINK

As listed in The LINK-Letter Vol. 9, No. 6 June 2016, a monthly report of news from the national resource center on the link between animal abuse and human violence (Phil Arkow, Coordinator and Editor)

To subscribe to The Link-Letter (it's free!) – Just send an e-mail to Coordinator Phil Arkow (arkowpets@snip.net) and tell him what organization(s) you're with and where you're located.

Sept. 13 – (Online): Allie Phillips will present on her program “Sheltering Animals & Families Together” (SAF-T) on a webinar for the Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance.

Sept. 15 – Mashantucket, Conn.: Phil Arkow will train on the domestic violence/animal abuse Link at the Connecticut State Animal Control Officers' conference.

Sept. 25 – Louisville, Ky.: Jennifer Woolf, DVM will speak on “Everything You Never Wanted to Know About Animal Cruelty (But You Know You Should Ask)” at the 105th Annual Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association Meeting and 43rd Mid-America Veterinary Conference.

Sept. 27 – Winnipeg, Man., Canada: Phil Arkow will speak on Animal and Family Abuse at the inaugural international One Welfare Conference.

Sept. 28 – Norman, Okla.: Phil Arkow will present on The Link at the Oklahoma Attorney General's annual Domestic, Sexual Violence and Stalking Partnership Conference.

Sept. 29 – Black Hawk, Colo.: Phil Arkow will present on how The Link can shift the paradigm of animal shelters at the Colorado Animal Welfare Conference.

Sept. 30 – West Lafayette, Ind.: Lila Miller will present on the veterinarian's role in recognizing, documenting and handling animal abuse cases at Purdue University's 2016 Veterinary Conference.

Oct. 6 – Seattle, Wash.: Phil Arkow will deliver the keynote presentation on “Advancing Animal Care and Control via Species-Spanning Services and Systems” at the National Animal Care & Control Association Training Conference 2016. Other conference presentations will include Belinda Lewis speaking on “Crime Scene Processing,” and a discussion of animal control officers' role in the FBI's NIBRS reporting system by Mary Lou Randour, Dan DeSousa and Martha Smith-Blackmore.

Oct. 17-21 – Keene, Plymouth, Rochester, Manchester, & Concord, N.H.: Phil Arkow will present Link training to the New Hampshire Division of Children, Youth & Families, and other government, domestic violence and animal care and control agencies.

Oct. 23-26 – Denver, Colo.: Diane Balkin, Jim Pyle and Phil Tedeschi will present on The Link at the Animal Grantmakers Conference.

Nov. 3 – (various locations): The One Health Commission, One Health Initiative, and One Health Platform will sponsor the 1st Annual One Health Day, a worldwide series of events highlighting transdisciplinary, collaborative approaches to overarching community health and welfare issues.

Nov. 4 – Phoenix, Md.: Nancy Blaney will present at the Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office Animal Abuse Unit Animal Abuse Leadership Summit.

Nov. 5-6 – Sydney, Australia: Lucy's Project will hold its 2nd annual conference on Perspectives of Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse. Speakers will include Lydia Tong, Catherine Tiplady, representatives from RSPCA offices, academia, and domestic violence programs.

Nov. 9 – Stamford, Conn.: Phil Arkow will train on the Link between domestic violence and animal abuse during Grand Rounds at Stamford Hospital.

Dec. 1 – Ontario, Calif.: Phil Arkow will present on “Overcoming Challenges at the Intersections of Animal Abuse and Other Family Violence” at the San Bernardino County District Attorney's annual Animal Cruelty Task Force training.





Latest Trends in Animal Sheltering

By Jennifer Dragotta, M.S. Ed., Director, Community Initiatives, ASPCA

Many industries – from fashion to tech gadgets – experience new trends, and the same can be said for the field of animal sheltering. New programs, ideas, and initiatives – founded in solid research and sometimes made to challenge long-standing myths in the field – are shifting from “new ideas” to the new normal. Below are just some examples of new thinking that are benefiting this long-standing cause.

Fee-waived Adoptions/Promotions

It has been a few years since ASPCA research found that those who adopt a pet with a waived adoption fee love their pet just as much as those who paid a fee, and the popularity of these kinds of adoption promotions has continued. By using these promotions, shelters have the ability to attract more of the market share and find loving homes for more animals. Increasing adoptions is also a win for the shelter staff, freeing up more of their time and resources to care for other animals in need. While some myths about fee-waived adoptions persist, our research has debunked them, making a strong case for their use.

<http://aspcapro.org/resource/saving-lives-adoption-marketing-research-data/research-fee-waived-adoptions>

Pets as Gifts

Contrary to myths about the perils of gift adoptions, our data shows that pets obtained as gifts are no more likely – or even less likely – to be returned after the holidays. To that end, more and more organizations have not only begun allowing gift adoptions, but have created unique promotions to take advantage of them, like surprise Christmas morning deliveries!

Horse Adoption and Rescue

Because their plight may not be as well-known as homeless dogs and cats, the ASPCA has been working to spread the word about homeless horses and the work equine rescues and sanctuaries





across the country do each day to not only save and care for at-risk horses, but to find homes for them. We've seen a remarkable increase in participation in our equine grants programs – especially in national campaigns like 'Help a Horse Day' – proving that horse rescue is an area of animal welfare that many in the field are increasingly passionate about.

You can learn more about Help a Horse Day at:
www.aspcapro.org/about-us/aspcapro-events/aspcapro-help-horse-day-2016.

Adoption Ambassadors

Many shelters have embarked on this novel concept to rally community members to take an active role in both promoting an animal available for adoption and facilitating the adoption process outside the shelter. Research conducted by the ASPCA found that Adoption Ambassadors are likely to reach clients who would not have come to the shelter. (<http://aspcapro.org/research-behind-adoption-ambassadors>) Even more exciting is that those that adopt from an Adoption Ambassador are significantly less likely to return the pet to the shelter! When a shelter or rescue group has their Adoption Ambassadors actively working to find homes for the animals under their care, they are able to tell potential adopters much more about how that pet behaves in a home. Additionally, getting more adoptable animals into the homes of Adoption Ambassadors opens up space and resources at local shelters or rescue groups, enabling them to invest more in animals requiring more critical care.

Keeping pets in homes

According to ASPCA research, it is estimated that more than 1 million pets are re-homed every year. Of those, many are re-homed for reasons such as lack of access to affordable veterinary care and pet-friendly housing. But new programs – like the ASPCA's "Safety Net" program in Los Angeles – provide critical

low and no-cost services – including vaccinations and spay/neuter surgery – to financially challenged communities to help owners keep their pets. This is important because the most ideal place for most pets is at home.

Relocation

Animal Relocation and transport can be an important step in ending the euthanasia of animals due to shelter overcrowding. These programs save lives by moving animals from areas of oversupply to areas where there are few, if any, similar animals available for adoption in shelters. For many years, relocation programs focused almost exclusively on dogs, but a great need among homeless cats has created an opportunity – and a trend – to relocate them as well. On the West Coast, the ASPCA's Relocation Program has transported over 1,700 cats out of the Greater Los Angeles area in just the first seven months of 2016, something that was not thought possible a few years ago. Additionally, as relocation encourages shelters in different regions of the country to connect with each other, it increases opportunities for learning and collaboration.

These are just a few examples of "trending" programs that save lives and empower communities to address animal welfare challenges. With so much at stake, it's never a bad time for a good idea.

Jennifer Dragotta, M.S. Ed., started her animal welfare career in Humane Education and now works in the ASPCA Community Initiatives department where she provides mentoring and coaching opportunities to animal welfare organizations across the country.



THEN ...

Latham Square, the long-dormant plaza at the intersection of Broadway and Telegraph Ave. in downtown Oakland, Calif., is open after three years of construction.

Designed in 1913, Latham Square was originally a small patch of land bearing the ornate Latham Memorial Fountain, which at that time had drinking fountains alongside water troughs, so that people could drink companionably with their horses.

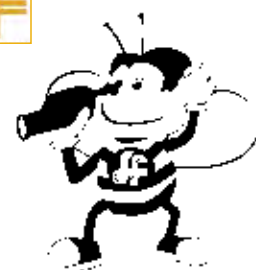


AND NOW ...



Today the Plaza is decked with flower beds, trees, a storm water drain system, and a plaque commemorating the Latham family and The Latham Foundation for the Promotion of Humane Education. Thanks to several state, county, and city redevelopment grants, the century-old fountain spouts water again for the first time in 75 years.

"This is a magical place," said Oakland Mayor Libby Schaff.



DO YOU LOVE FILM AND TELEVISION HISTORY? ARE YOU CURIOUS ABOUT HOW THE FIELD OF ANIMAL WELFARE HAS EVOLVED?

This news is for you.

We are excited to announce that several **full-length** episodes of *The Wonderful World of Brother Buzz* are now available on YouTube. Additional ones will be coming soon. These vintage episodes join clips from many of our recent DVDs on the Latham Foundation channel.

Although most of our readers are too young to remember, Brother Buzz was a marionette character who hosted the Foundation's TV series in the 1950s and '60s encouraging kindness to animals.

As with the historical *Kind Deeds Messenger*, some of the Brother Buzz topics (such as in *Togar the Lion* which features a young pet lion) are examples of how much our attitudes toward animal welfare have evolved; others, such as *Myra's Guide Dog* stand the test of time. After all, Latham has seen a lot in its almost 100-year history.

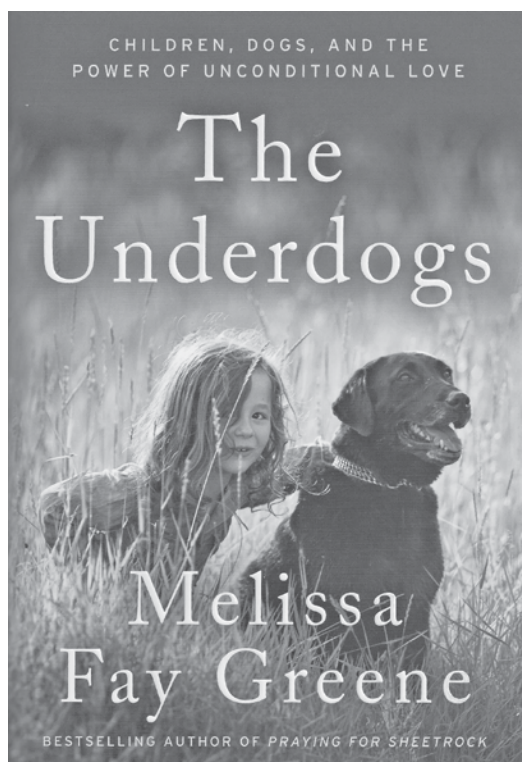
See for yourself and let us know what you think.

Brother Buzz #30: Mr. Dandyweather starring Jeffrey Tambor – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1-5nZShdUw>

Togar the Lion: <https://youtu.be/25UvJyemeg0> • **Myra's Guide Dog:** <https://youtu.be/iZuAnGwSOG0>



The Underdogs tells the story of Karen Shirk, who at age twenty-four was felled by a neuromuscular disease and faced life as an immobile, deeply isolated and depressed, ventilator-dependent patient. She was rejected by every service dog agency in the country as “too disabled” but her nurse encouraged her to raise her own service dog. Ben, a German shepherd, dragged her back into life. “How many people are stranded like I was,” she wondered, “who could lead productive lives with a service dog?”



Karen went on to create “4 Paws for Ability,” the first service dog academy in the U.S. to train dogs for children with disabilities. It has become a world leader in training assistance dogs for children with autism, seizure disorder, Down syndrome, attachment disorder, fetal alcohol syndrome, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other physical and “invisible” disabilities.

Author Melissa Fay Greene, a prolific award-winning author (including one from the Dog Writers Association of America), is a current Guggenheim Fellow. www.melissafaygreene.com

She weaves the latest scientific discoveries about the inner lives of dogs into these modern wonder tales and explores the frontiers of the human/dog bond with insight, compassion, humor, and joy. You can read an excerpt from *The Underdogs* in the Summer 2016 issue of *The Bark* magazine, which is also highly recommended.

The Underdogs

Children Dogs, and the Power of Unconditional Love

By Melissa Fay Greene

ISBN 978-0-06-221851-3 • \$27.99

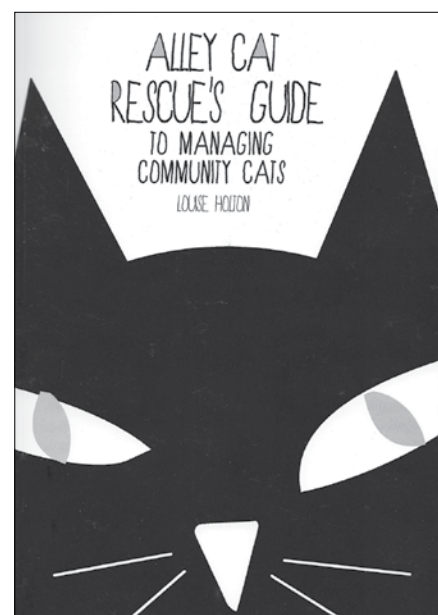
Ecco, An Imprint of Harper Collins Publishers

NOTE:

Latham’s classic film, *Hi Ya Beautiful*, documents the animal-assisted therapy program at the Lima State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, which the author describes on page 224. We were the first organization to be allowed to bring cameras in to document this innovative program, now recognized as the first modern prison-based animal program.

Louise Holton, Co-founder of Alley Cat Allies and Founder and President of Alley Cat Rescue, Inc., (saveacat.org) has written a handbook that will surely go a long way towards helping all the community cats, feral cats, and alley cats of the world live a better and more humane life.

While this book is an excellent how-to-guide for safely implementing a successful TNR (trap, neuter, release) program, it is much more than that. As Elizabeth Marshall Thomas says, “...it highlights a tsunami of misinformation (about cats) that now burdens us, and opens the way to a far better future for a species we value highly but seriously misunderstand.”



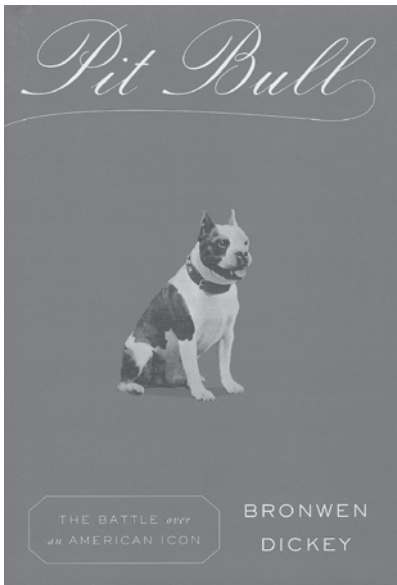
Some environmental and conservation groups have mounted a campaign blaming cats for the decline in bird and wildlife populations, and they are pushing government agencies to make TNR illegal. Despite national and world reports that name human activity such as habitat destruction, pollution, and pesticides as the culprits, these groups continue to scapegoat cats. This book contains an abundance of information dispelling that information.

Written for both animal welfare professionals and the general readers, this book is a gem.

Alley Cat Rescue's Guide to Managing Community Cats

By Louise Holton

ISBN 978-0-9861855-0-2 • \$15.99



“Bronwen Dickey’s *Pit Bull* is the most well written comprehensive and thought provoking examination of pit bulls and the mythology surrounding them. Every dog lover, historian, or compassionate individual should read this book. It’s a fascinating study of fear mongering in today’s fast paced world and the ramifications it has on man’s best friend. Pete the pup would be proud.”

So says Ledy VanKavage, Senior Legislative Attorney for Best Friends Animal Society. We couldn’t agree more.

Pit Bull

The Battle over an American Icon

By Bronwen Dickey

Alfred A. Knopf, New York • www.aaknopf.com

ISBN 978-0-307-96176-1 • \$26.95

FILM REVIEW

The Champions

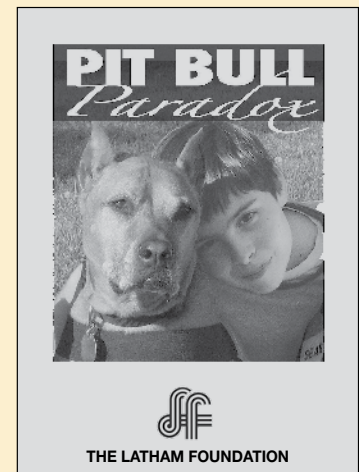
The journey of the Vicktory dogs is one of redemption and triumph in the face of adversity. The dogs’ inspirational story was captured in the award-winning documentary film *The Champions*, which follows five of the dogs as they transition from life in a fighting ring to a life using their fighting spirit for a second chance.

Now, there are more ways than ever to watch *The Champions* and be inspired by these formerly abused dogs and their journey to recovery. The documentary is now available for purchase on Blu-ray or DVD from the Best Friends store, and anywhere else DVDs are sold.

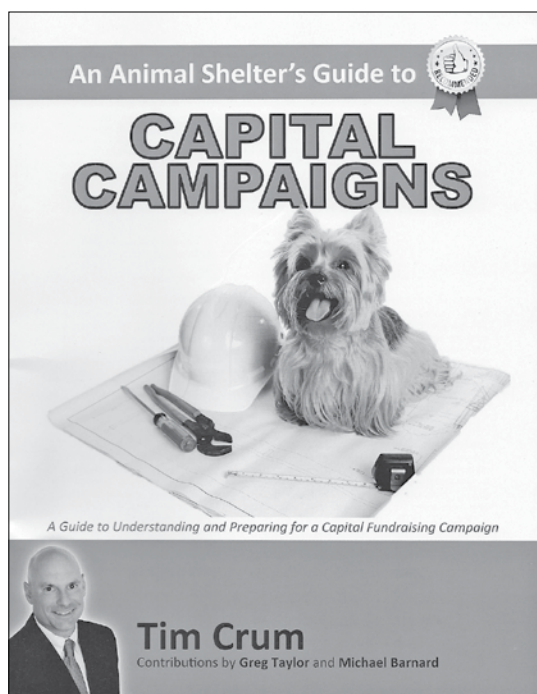
The film is also still playing in theaters across the country through community-based screenings in cities like Tampa, Cincinnati, Las Vegas and Beverly Hills. Find a full list of screenings and more information at <http://bestfriends.org/champions>.

“We are humbled and overwhelmed by the positive response we have received to the film so far, and hope that securing wider distribution will allow many more people to share in the uplifting story of these extraordinary dogs and the inspirational work of Best Friends Animal Society,” says Darcy Dennett, the film’s producer and director.

“Not only is it an inspiring story of recovery, but it also explores and raises the importance of fighting breed discrimination,” said Ledy VanKavage, Best Friends Senior Legislative Attorney. “By reaching a vast audience, this documentary does a great job of showing that all dogs, including victims of cruelty, are individuals and deserve a chance. All people should be able to love and care for any dog they choose.”



See also Latham’s DVD
Pit Bull Paradox



In the third installment of his *Animal Shelter Guide To* series, Tim Crum takes up one of the more challenging elements of fundraising – capital campaigns, sometimes known as brick-and-mortar campaigns (new building construction or extensive renovations).

This hands-on book shares the stages, traits, and practices of capital campaigns that have been successful, then it

shows you how to evaluate and prepare your own shelter for success.

As Angela Marzec of Alamo Heights Animal Care Services says, “...I do not believe that a clearer path to a successful capital campaign could have been laid out by anyone. The animal sheltering community is lucky to have such an experienced leader sharing his guidance in this (series of) books. The wisest among us will be pulling this guide off the shelf time and time again.”

Author Tim Crum is a nationally-recognized expert on fundraising, board governance, and animal shelter operations who is often called to speak at national and regional conferences. As founder and CEO of Animal Shelter Fundraising, he has consulted with more than 200 animal welfare groups and has raised in excess of \$200,000,000. He co-founded a related company, Animal Shelter Services, to provide shelter evaluations and help shelters and rescue groups with operational issues ranging from shelter practices to board development and staff training.

An Animal Shelter's Guide to Capital Campaigns

Shark Press Publishing

16772 West Bell Road, Suite 110-117 • Surprise, AZ 85374

ISBN 978-0-9861690-1-4 • www.animalshelterguide.com • \$49.99

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- Think independently from others
- Think creatively
- Feel more empathy

BY	THROUGH
Practicing skills: Perspective-taking Listening Critical thinking Decision-making Comprehension	Listening to stories about people and their relationships to animals Asking and answering open-ended questions Using reciprocal teaching methods that help students clarify, summarize, predict and interpret Personally relating to story content Providing genuine responses to genuinely asked questions (with no preconceived answers) Imagining situations, role-playing and reflecting on questions
Learning animal behavior	Making observations and using information gained from illustrations and text Comparing and contrasting illustrations that display accurate human and animal behaviors
Exploring positive relationships	Experiencing compelling stories that model positive relationships Anticipating what will happen next in a story based on illustrations or a character's behavior Writing and illustrating a story or poem using a concept from the book and discussion
Building connections with peers and classroom teacher	Sharing interests and personal experiences Genuinely listening Feeling confident and engaged in group discussions

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www.redrover.org



NEW AND IMPORTANT!

Red Rover's E-Books for Empathy Program Using the power of animals to teach children about empathy

The *Restricted Adventures of Raja* app is designed to inspire kids to want to make the world a better place, while giving them a much-needed opportunity to practice skills related to emotional awareness, critical thinking and compassion.

E-BOOK APP FEATURES:

- Interactive stories told in a graphic novel format
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- Discussion topics to help kids understand what characters are feeling, practice perspective-taking skills and learn about animal behavior
- In-app games to help kids practice and test what they've learned
- English and Spanish language options
- Intended for ages 7-11

<https://redrover.org/e-book#e-books-for-empathy> for more information
Download the app now on iTunes or Google Play.

Additional resources: <https://redrover.org/educator-parent-resources>

**Red Rover, thank you for all you do.
from all of us at Latham**

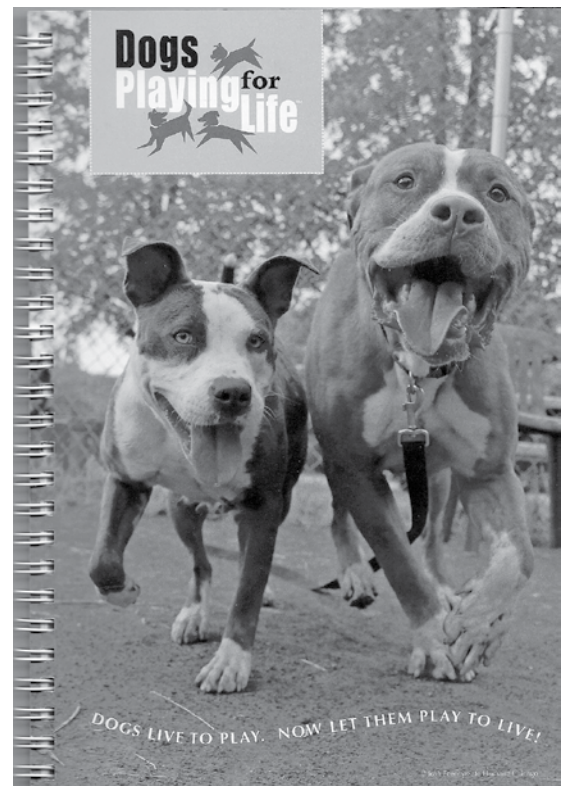
Guide to Dogs Playing for Life™

Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) is an innovative play group enrichment program rooted in the notion that a dog's natural instinct is to PLAY. The desire to play does not have to be taught to or learned by most canines. Playing is a dog's most natural form of positive interaction and communication with both humans and fellow canines. A dog at play provides the best opportunity to peer inside the canine soul and explore who the dog really is.

DPFL was founded by professional trainer Aimee Sadler. The Program demonstrates both the practical efficiencies of play groups for the rescue organization, and the emotional and behavioral benefits for the animals. Play groups have proven to be a critical enrichment and assessment tool for shelters.

This guide provides an excellent foundation, but it is quick to point out that there is much more to learn through their in-person trainings.

For more information, resources, tools, and contact information, please visit: <http://dogsplayingforlife.com>.



HelpMeHelpYou

A series of films that examines a variety of animal-assisted activity programs across the USA – programs in which animals help children, and in turn, children help animals.



SERIES



FAITH and HOPE on a FARM

FIRST IN A SERIES

An inspiring reminder of why we teach compassion, empathy, and respect to help break the cycle of abuse.

This 15-minute DVD highlights Forget Me Not Farm at Sonoma Humane Society in Santa Rosa, California, where children and animals bond and heal. At this safe haven, children learn gentle touch and respect for both other humans and animals through animal-assisted and horticultural activities.

The film features Faith, a formerly-abused child who was adopted by wonderful parents. As you see her blossom, you'll be reminded that where there's life, there's hope.



2
SECOND IN A SERIES

At Green Chimneys in Brewster, New York, visitors see smiling students and well-cared-for animals. What's not immediately evident on this beautiful campus is that the children there are struggling with emotional, educational, social, and behavioral challenges. Green Chimneys includes a New York State-Approved Special Education Program, a Residential Treatment Program, and a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility. All are designed to help children succeed academically, socially, and emotionally – to see blue skies in their futures.

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies



The USDA-accredited Farm and Wildlife Center is at the heart of this unique, multi-faceted setting. At Green Chimneys animals have been helping kids and kids have been helping animals for more than 65 years. How and why do they do it?

Green Chimneys, Blue Skies is a comprehensive and detailed look at the philosophy and methods behind this successful world leader in animal-assisted therapy. It is also a reminder of the power of the human-animal bond and sure to leave you moved and inspired.



BARC

If You Need Help

**Project BARC =
Building Adolescent
Responsibility and
Compassion**

Project BARC is a collaborative program between the Humane Society of West Michigan and the Kent County Juvenile Detention Center. Its purpose is two-fold: to build responsibility, compassion, and self-confidence among the teens in the detention center and to increase dog adoptions.

The selected trainees participate in daily classroom lessons to build empathy. At the same time, they work with an animal trainer to help their dogs pass the Canine Good Citizen test, which greatly increases their chances for adoption.

You'll see some of the lives (both human and canine) that Project BARC has transformed in this inspiring film with a very happy ending: the BARC Graduation Ceremony and the joyful results of everyone's hard work.

(All ages; 15 minutes. Social Studies, Science, Undergraduates and above, Professionals, Occupational Therapy, Juvenile Justice, Criminology, Corrections)

4 FOURTH IN A SERIES

Horses Heal Too

Two Different Paths to Healing



Rescued horses in two very different programs help troubled youth learn respect, responsibility, empathy, and compassion. Both programs benefit children and horses in need of a second chance.

Zuma's Rescue Ranch – A well-established program near Denver, Colorado, where rescued horses are paired with at-risk youth in mutually therapeutic programs.

Reaching Hands Ranch – A grass-roots program in northwest Wyoming where youth assist in the rehabilitation and adoption of horses after school and on weekends.

(24 minutes, appropriate for all ages)



See YouTube clips of these films at
Latham.org in the Products/Services
section or by searching
"Latham Foundation" on YouTube.

**Save by ordering
the complete series.**

Photo credit: pixabay.com



Happy Summer, Ya'll.

THE LATHAM FOUNDATION



The Latham Foundation

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