

Other ways you can help:

Do you belong to a group that might want to help our cause by sponsoring a food drive or donating supplies? Do you direct a youth group- church, scouts, 4-H- that might enjoy working on a shelter project? Are you a college student, missing your pet back home? Come take a pet home for a day – it will do you both good!

Be an Advocate:

Spay and neuter your pets. Spaying and neutering our pets and advocating that others do the same is the number one way we can help reduce the need for animal shelters and help those in existence function more effectively. We share responsibility to encourage our friends, co-workers and families to make this happen.

Approximately 5 million to 7 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide every year, and approximately 3 million to 4 million are euthanized. (ASPCA) RCHS has one of the highest adoption rates in WV.

Foster an Animal for Adoption:

Perhaps you are a traveler and therefore cannot be “tied down” with a pet at home but you enjoy animal companionship. Consider fostering a dog or a cat, a litter, a senior or an injured animal for a brief period of time. This is very helpful in preparing our residents for adoption and gives them a break from shelter living.

Provide a Forever Home:

If you have the proper environment, life style, and love in your heart, adopt a shelter animal. You already have one? Many pet owners agree that ‘two is easier than one’ and a lot more fun!

Become a Member of RCHS:

There are three levels of membership. If you are interested in becoming a member, go to rchs-pets.org and you will find a membership form under the **donation** tab, or request a form at RCHS or at RCHS off-site events.

Donate:

Our doors remain open largely due to private donations. We appreciate all monetary donations, large or small. **All donations are tax deductible.** You may wish to donate to:

- ❖ Yelp For Help fund (*emergency medical care*)
- ❖ Spay and Neuter fund
- ❖ Adoption Sponsorship
- ❖ General Operations fund

To make a donation, make your check out to RCHS, noting how you would like your dollars spent, and send it to RCHS, PO Box 785, Elkins, WV 26241. In return, you will receive a confirmation from us, along with a robust Thank You!

Shelter hours of operation:

Open to the public: Monday and Tuesday closed; Wednesday -Friday, 1:00 – 5; Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Volunteer hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9:00- 4; Saturday and Sunday, 9:00- 3:00

To inquire about becoming a RCHS volunteer, email Ginny Zuboy, the volunteer coordinator, at gzuboy@gmail.com or call her at **304-636-2075**. If you decide to be a volunteer, you will then be asked to fill out an application form and make an appointment with the coordinator for the purposes of introduction and orientation. Belong to an organization and want to learn more? Invite her to come and speak about our work and the volunteer opportunities at RCHS.



Want to Help?

**Become a RCHS
Volunteer...**

**Make a difference
for our pet population
and your community**
volunteer@rchswv.org

195 Weese St Ext., PO Box 785

www.rchs-pets.org

304-636-7844



like us on facebook!

Who We Are:

The Randolph County Humane Society was founded in 1958 by a small group of women dedicated to addressing the needs of homeless and abused companion animals. Established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, the Randolph County Humane Society is a private, open admissions animal shelter. The city of Elkins and Randolph County contracts with RCHS to provide shelter for stray, abandoned, abused and injured animals that are picked up by The Animal Control officer, who is employed by the county. The shelter accepts most homeless, lost, neglected, injured, abused and owner relinquished pets that are brought to us.

It is the mission of RCHS to provide all of our canine and feline residents the most humane treatment possible with regard to living conditions, medical treatment, socialization, and daily care, and to be their best advocate for placement in safe, loving, and permanent homes. RCHS promotes the spaying and neutering of all companion animals as the primary solution to pet overpopulation.

RCHS houses and cares for more than 150 animals each month or approximately 1800 per year.

It costs \$200,000 to operate the shelter, annually. A large portion of that amount must be raised through private donations and fund-raising efforts by volunteers. **Volunteer help is critical, both on-site and off.**

Become a RCHS volunteer:

On-site

- Animal bathing and grooming
- Dog walking, socializing
- Cat cuddling and play
- Laundry
- Dish washing
- Kennel, facility cleaning
- Photography
- Organizing supplies, office work
- Grounds keeping, lawn care
- Repair work – lighting, plumbing
- Carpentry

Off-site



- Web management, book keeping
- Fund-raising committee work
- Sign/poster distribution and removal
- Donating needed supplies:
Blankets, towels, newspapers,
cleaning materials, cat litter, food
- Funds solicitor
- Animal sponsorship: *(pay for the cost of spay/neuter and adoption fees for an adoptable animal)*
- Become a card carrying member
- Become a board member

"I could never work at the shelter; I love animals too much. I don't know how you do it..."

We hear this statement a lot. You love your pets and can't imagine them without a home and someone to love them. You would want to bring them all home with you. It would be too sad; too up close and personal.

Please don't imagine that you love animals more than the staff and volunteers at RCHS. It is because we love and care about our own pets and we have love in our hearts for all companion animals that we are the ones who advocate for those animals who are less fortunate. If not we animal lovers, then who?

Yes, you will want to bring them all home. Yes, initially, you will feel sad. You will wonder if you can "really do this." **YES, you can.** After a few volunteer experiences you will shape your expectations and perspective and realize that you are making a meaningful difference in the daily lives of our residents and will appreciate the importance of our mission. Each week we share happy adoption stories and watch shy, mistreated, and traumatized animals come out of their shells to greet the world with hope, a purr and a wag. It is very rewarding to play a part in these happy transformations and more often than not we leave the shelter, smiling. We can't deny that we share heartache and discouragement, but we also share great joy!

Children must be 16 or older to volunteer unsupervised