

# Homeward Bound Animal Rescue

*Until one has loved an animal, part of their soul remains unawakened.*



**Goals for this Video:** Create a product that Homeward Bound Animal Rescue can use to increase public awareness of the organization. It will include what the organization does and how the community can help!

## **Objectives:**

Viewers will be able to

- ★ Recognize Homeward Bound Animal Rescue as an organization that specializes in rescuing pregnant dogs and their puppies in efforts to help rescued dogs achieve the ultimate goal of adoption into a family.
- ★ Identify ways community members can help Homeward Bound by volunteering, donating, fostering, or adopting.

## **Script:**

Imagine. A cold dark floor. Loud and unfamiliar noises. People coming and going. Minimal attention and touch from a human hand. Fear and confusion. Hunger and discomfort. Longing for love, safety, and protection. These are just a few of the many experiences a pregnant dog who has been abandoned, neglected, and taken to a shelter may be faced with.

Did you know that pregnant dogs living in shelters almost always end up being euthanized because there is no space for them? Many shelters are facing capacity, and few rescue organizations are willing to take on a pregnant momma pup. This is where Homeward Bound Animal Rescue, in Mechanicsburg, PA, steps in. This impactful, caring organization focuses their rescue efforts on pregnant dogs, or dogs who have just had their puppies and are living in a shelter. Lonely, scared, and confused, these dogs are in need of loving, permanent homes. These mommas and their unborn puppies deserve more than a life in a shelter where their days are numbered.

What Exactly Does Homeward Bound Do?

A love for dogs is what started their journey in the rescue community in November of 2006. It is estimated about 15,000 dogs have been rescued since the organization's inception!

Communicating with local shelters, as well as shelters in the southern states, Homeward Bound influences the rescue community by giving these dogs, their unborn puppies, and potentially newborn

puppies, a chance to live and to ultimately become adopted. Let's take a look at what happens after the rescue.

Pregnant dogs are with Homeward Bound for at least three months. During this time a few things will happen. Momma dogs will become fully vetted and spayed. They will also become fully house-trained, crate-trained, and leash trained, ensuring readiness for her future home. When her puppies are born, they will enter the world in a safe, caring environment where their days are filled with love. The goal is to ensure these puppies start life on the right path, never having to feel fear or a need that cannot be provided. From the get-go, newborn puppies are kept in heated whelping nests until they are four weeks old. They will then be given vaccinations, multiple scheduled wormings, a health certification from Homeward Bound's veterinarian, and a microchip, all in preparation for their adoptions. All the while, volunteers and foster families get to know the mommas and puppies very well, which allows the puppies to be placed in the proper homes where they can thrive.

So How Can I Help?

Great question! Receiving no federal or state funding, Homeward Bound relies solely on donation and volunteers. There are 4 avenues in which you can volunteer to help Homeward Bound continue to achieve their rescue efforts.

### **Number 1. Donations**

Homeward Bound accepts monetary donations as well as items. Check our Facebook page for an Amazon Wish List link. Items such as floor cleaner, Odoban, and toys or dog bones to keep momma pups busy! These can be shipped directly to us, or dropped off to us, at 437 Woodcrest Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA.

### **Number 2. Fundraisers**

Homeward Bound has many benefit events throughout the year. You can help by attending them, spreading the word about them, and even helping to plan or run them. Be on the lookout for those announcements on our Facebook page. Some fundraisers we have held in 2023 include: Texas Roadhouse, Pints for Paws, Cassel's Vineyards, Wet Nose Wednesdays, and more. If you are part of a company that would want to help with fundraising in any way, please contact us for more information.

### **Number 3. Adoptions**

If you're looking to add a pup to your family, please consider adoption.

- Go to [www.homewardbound2u.rescuegroups.org](http://www.homewardbound2u.rescuegroups.org) and complete your adoption application today.
- Wait 3 - 7 days for your approval
- Find a puppy or litter you love on our Homeward Bound Animal Rescue Facebook Page.
- Reach out to the pup's foster family through their provided email.
- Wait for the foster family to contact you!

### **Number 4. Fostering**

If you live within an hour of Mechanicsburg and would like to foster, go ahead and fill out a foster application today. You will find the application on our website, just like the adoption application. Homeward Bound will provide you with everything you need to take care of the pup, including supplies, veterinary care, food, and more. The commitment is usually about 2 - 8 weeks. You will be giving back to a wonderful cause, and you will also benefit from a new walking buddy, snuggle buddy, and companion during that time.

Now Imagine this. Warm, soft, clean bedding. Soothing and familiar voices. People staying by your side. Frequent attention and the loving touch from a human hand. Happiness and certainty. A full belly and comfortable spot. Longing for . . . nothing. These are just a few of the many experiences a pregnant dog and her puppies experience when rescued by Homeward Bound. And then, one day, your forever person brings you home. You are truly Homeward Bound.