RedRover. FALL 2018 COmpanion

Celebrating your impact

Kids learn it's cool to be kind • Massive fire brings outpouring of support • Scooby Doo and other pets say "Thank You" • Do you believe #PetsAreFamily?



Greetings!

As one of our RedRover Responders volunteers so aptly put it after deploying to help evacuees from the Carr Fire, helping animals and people provides a "deep sense of wellbeing." Whether you are donating, volunteering or helping in some other way, feeling that you're making an impact on the lives of others impacts your own life in incredibly positive ways.

With that in mind, this issue of *Companion* celebrates the impact

our programs have had on animals and people in crisis, as well as on our volunteers, staff and youth.

As a donor, I hope you feel as connected to the success and impact of RedRover's work as the staff and volunteers do. Without you, we could not be there for animals, individuals and communities in crisis. Without you, we could not develop innovative solutions to prevent cruelty and spread the message that #PetsAreFamily.

When an anxious, scared cat, separated from her family in a disaster transforms into a calm, secure cat in a matter of days thanks to the loving care of our RedRover Responders volunteers, YOU are part of that transformation as well.

Thank you for all you already do for animals and the people who love them. If you are looking for ways to help even more, please read on.



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If you know others who would benefit from joining RedRover, please consider giving gift memberships this year to your friends and family using the enclosed envelope.

With immense gratitude,

NICOLE FORSYTH President and CEO

Get ready to give back on Giving Tuesday

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NOVEMBER 27 is Giving Tuesday a day to give back to the causes you care about. This Giving Tuesday, help us keep pets safe from domestic abuse by spreading the word about RedRover. With our RedRover Relief grants we



help pets like Tillie, a dog who endured abuse alongside her "mom," Lisa. The abuse left Tillie with a stomach ulcer and intense anxiety. Now, Lisa and Tillie are safe and happy thanks to a Safe Escape grant and compassionate people like you!

Learn how you can be part of our Giving Tuesday #7safenights campaign at RedRover.org/GivingTuesday or follow our Facebook page at RedRoverOrg.



P.O. Box 188890 Sacramento, CA 95818

tel 916.429.2457 fax 916.378.5098 web RedRover.org email info@RedRover.org tax id # 68-0124097

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It's cool to be kind!

EVERY YEAR, ALL THIRD-GRADE CLASSROOMS

in the Plumas Unified School district in Northern California participate in High Sierra Animal Rescue's annual "It's Cool to be Kind" Humane Education program. Volunteers visit classrooms and read RedRover Readers program books that highlight the human-animal bond and help students practice perspective-taking and empathy-building skills. After five RedRover Readers visits, students then created a poster that represented what they learned from the RedRover Readers books and discussions.

This year's Grand Prize went to Katie Romero, and High Sierra Animal Rescue received many other incredible entries, including the Honorable Mentions pictured here. •

Learn more about the RedRover Readers program at **RedRover.org/Readers.**

Students created a poster that represented what they learned from the RedRover Readers books and discussions.

Grand Prize Winner Katie Romero



Honorable Mentions











Give the gift of kindness

Do you know kids between the ages of 5 and 11 who are interested in animals? Consider purchasing gift subscriptions to the kids' magazine *Kind News* or *Kind News, Jr.* at kindnews.org!

Follow Kind News on Facebook: Facebook.com/KindNewsMagazine.

Gratitude from the frontlines: Reflections on the Carr Fire

IN AUGUST, OUR REDROVER

RESPONDERS team was on the ground helping animals displaced by the Northern California Carr Fire. Our volunteers assisted the North Valley Animal Disaster Group (NVADG) with the shelter and care of nearly 200 beloved pets at a temporary shelter run by Haven Humane Society.

But the help didn't stop there: RedRover staff drove from Sacramento to Redding to help load and deliver supplies, take photographs and of course be there for animals and people in their time of crisis. Here are some accounts from those who were there.



"I was sent to photograph RedRover Responders volunteers in action and was blown away by their hard work, empathy and compassion for all the fire victims. Even though many people lost everything they owned in the fire, they were so grateful that their animals were safe and cared for. It was an absolute honor to stand with the RedRover Responders volunteers and to document families being reunited."

TARA LENEHAN, RedRover Education Coordinator

"The whole RedRover team has been amazing!!! Your team's help during such a trying time was critical to us being able to save and care for hundreds of animals in our community. Thank you so much for everything. We will never be able to thank you enough."

> MARK STORREY Haven Humane Society, CEO



"This experience has been a highlight of my year. Selflessly supporting families in their time of need provides such a deep sense of wellbeing within the soul."

V REDROVER RESPONDERS VOLUNTEER

"For my first deployment with RedRover Responders, I didn't expect to respond to one of the most devastating wildfires in California's history in my own hometown of Redding. To say this experience was one of the most humbling and inspiring of my life would be an understatement.

Our staff and volunteers couldn't be more passionate about caring for these animals who were evacuated during this horrible disaster. Witnessing the outpouring of generosity from the community where I grew up, coupled with seeing firsthand the incredible services RedRover provides for these animals, makes me tremendously proud to be from this community and a member of this fantastic organization. RedRover is actually on the front lines, making real, tangible, positive differences in the lives of animals and their people."

> ZACH TROWBRIDGE RedRover Database Administrator

"Delivering pet supplies to families who had nothing — helping in such a tangible way — has been one of the most humbling and rewarding experiences in my time at RedRover, and I'm grateful for the chance to have made a real difference."

> ERIN BIALECKI RedRover Director of Development

"The highlight of my deployment to the Carr fire response team was seeing the transformation in the demeanor of the cats from the first day, when so many of them were displaying anxious/fearful behavior due to the stress of evacuation and separation from their families, to calm, secure behavior two days into being cared for by our team."

> REDROVER RESPONDERS VOLUNTEER



Three cheers for RedRover Relief!



"We are a domestic violence shelter and had a victim who needed to leave a very abusive relationship but was afraid to leave her dogs behind and what might happen to them. RedRover was able to help with paying for the boarding of the dogs until the she was able to make other arrangements ...The victim was very appreciative and so were we with the help RedRover could give."



"I have been given so much support in every form from this organization. My best friend **Forrest** has been very sick and needed a big surgery and they were there to help me right away and so responsive and professional. I'm blown away and so grateful for this organization."

"Scooby Doo would like to thank RedRover for their generous donation towards his amputation surgery. Scooby is my best friend and means the world to me. Thank you so so much for helping my boy!"



"Sadie is the sweetest, happiest member of the family, and is well known around the neighborhood for always being the friendliest greeter to all our neighbors. RedRover really came to our rescue in a big way! I have never experienced a more sincere and accommodating group of animal lovers. Sadie got the care she needed and more because of their efforts! I'm so happy to be able to announce Sadie has made a full recovery and is back to normal!"



"I've had **Bonnie** for nine years and we've never been apart ... I don't know what I'd do without her; she's my best friend and now she gets to stay with me longer...Thank you so much for helping her ... She's acting like a puppy again!"

"I'd like to thank RedRover for the kindness and financial support. They helped me in a time of need with my precious furbaby **Callie** who needed emergency surgery. And to the people who donate to RedRover to the cause of helping people and their furbabies, I'd like to give a special thanks!"

Read more inspiring Happy Tail stories at greatnonprofits.org/org/redrover.



"I cannot thank [RedRover] enough for their help in getting **Maia** better, and making sure I can keep my best friend and make sure she is healthy."

Care to help?

HERE ARE MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP MAKE AN IMPACT:

- Like RedRover on Facebook
- Share and invite others to join our mailing list at redrover.org/email
- Leave a review at greatnonprofits.org
- Take surveys for animals at contribute.surveymonkey.com

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Share our stories! Leave *Companion* at your doctor's office, vet clinic, gym, lunch room or coffee shop. To protect your privacy, please clip out or blacken your name and address above.

Because #PetsAreFamily

THIS SUMMER we hosted three Pets on the Patio events with local coffee shops Old Soul Co. and Pachamama Coffee Cooperative to celebrate Sunday morning brunch with the whole family! Visitors enjoyed a pet-friendly atmosphere, delicious brunch specials and pet portraits from Piazza Photography, all while supporting RedRover's lifesaving programs. Pups and people alike had a great time just check out these smiles! ♥

To see more photos from the events, visit us on Facebook: Facebook.com/RedRoverOrg.

