



A bond like no other

Kids and pets bond during COVID-19 • Thor's Happy Tail • New online volunteer training • Extending hope for pets fleeing abuse



Greetings!

FALL IS MY FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR:

I love the leaves, cooler weather, scent of apples baking, and the season for gratitude and giving back. It has been a challenging year to focus on gratitude, but one constant in my life — and I imagine in yours as well — is the love and connection I feel for the animals in my home. This connection fuels my passion for helping people and animals in need.

And the need for help has never been greater. We've seen a nearly 40% increase in the number of people applying for emergency veterinary care through our Urgent Care grants. Thanks to our partnership with Purina, we are increasing awareness for millions of people about the connection between domestic violence and pets — a timely issue since domestic violence has been increasing throughout the country with more people staying at home.

In August, RedRover Responders launched a new online training workshop, and members of our staff deployed in September to help with the fires in Northern California. Lastly, all of our RedRover Readers educational resources are now available online — including a new interactive



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digital *Kind News* magazine and website — to meet the need for distance learning!

All of this could not be possible without YOU. And I could not be more thankful.

With immense gratitude,

NICOLE FORSYTH
President and CEO

Get ready to give back on Giving Tuesday!

CHARITABLE GIVING SEASON is just around the corner! December 1 is Giving Tuesday, a global generosity movement dedicated to giving back, after the commercial Black Friday and Cyber Monday holidays. This year more than ever, this 24-hour online event offers the opportunity to show compassion to a cause you care about.

RedRover is funded solely by private donations and grants, so we rely completely on the generosity of others. Your support on Giving Tuesday will help save animals' lives and keep families together

GIVINGTUESDAY



through a variety of crises, including natural disasters, domestic violence, COVID-related hardship, and more. ♥

Learn how you can be part of our Giving Tuesday campaign by following our Facebook page at Facebook.com/RedRover.org.



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Building bonds during quarantine

DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, families and pets have been sharing a lot of time together.

When we reached out to some kids to see what they've been up to, we found out just how much they've learned about their pets!



Rachel has found that her cats love attention, and she is also grateful that they keep her company during this time when she can't see her friends.

Kolby discovered that his cat, Felix, likes to hide and sleep all day in his baby brother's closet. Felix's purr is comforting and makes Kolby feel safe.

Ezzie spent some time at her family's ranch with horses, goats, chickens, and dogs: "I learned that most prey, including horses, have their eyes on the side of their head. When horses recognize other animals as predators (including humans) they get scared. So when communicating with a horse, one of the greatest 'thank-yous' you can offer is actually to look away." ♥

Learn more and get at-home learning resources at RedRover.org/Readers.



Give the gift of kindness

Do you know any elementary school kids who are interested in animals, or educators looking for inspiring resources for distance learning? Consider purchasing gift subscriptions to the kids' magazine *Kind News* or *Kind News, Jr.*

For subscription information, interactive kids' games, and more, visit KindNews.org.



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

RedRover Readers goes virtual

CHECK OUT WHAT PARENTS and teachers are saying about the new online platform!

"I loved that the kids were participating via chat or aloud. I liked that they were able to make connections to the story and share their ideas. Also LOVED meeting your service dog!"

"I loved how you made my son feel special by using his name and reading out his comments he would share. It allowed Kade to feel like he was part of a group that were growing in their knowledge of animals and kindness towards them."



Learn more at RedRover.org/virtualreadings.

Caring for animals during California's massive wildfires

IN SEPTEMBER, RedRover was on the ground in Northern California helping Butte County Animal Control, North Valley Animal Disaster Group (NVADG), and International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) provide daily care for 130 animals displaced by the devastating North Complex Fire.

During the same period, a RedRover staff member lent a helping hand at Haven Humane Society, assisting with the care of several burned cats from the Slater Fire in Siskiyou County. ♥

Did you know RedRover also provides assistance during natural disasters by compiling emergency resource lists for people and animals?

Be sure to follow us on **Facebook** for the latest updates and to help spread the word: **[Facebook.com/RedRover.org](https://www.facebook.com/RedRover.org)**.

"The course is outstanding! Everything was clear and easy to follow, and I feel that you gave me an excellent understanding of what to expect on deployment."



RedRover Responders NEW Online Training

By 2022, we plan to increase our number of trained RedRover Responders volunteers to 5,000 to enable us to help more animals in crisis when called! You can help us meet this objective by taking our new online training to become a volunteer.

Sign up at RedRover.org/volunteer.



“So so happy that the training is now an online option. Looking forward to being a RedRover Responders volunteer!”

“I’m currently on the self-care part of the training reading the ‘Flip Side of Fatigue’ article by Beth Gammie. My mind is blown in a good way and I’m simultaneously falling more in love with this org!”



Extending options for survivors during COVID-19

WHEN STEPHANIE* MADE THE

DECISION in February to leave an abusive relationship, she could never have guessed the long and difficult road she'd have to travel to finally reach a safe place to call home. Nobody yet understood how serious COVID-19 was, or how deeply it would impact everyone's lives. Stephanie's main concern was finding a safe place for herself and her two dogs, Magic* and Heffalump*. She was very afraid of what her abuser would do to her dogs if she had to leave them behind to save herself.

Stephanie reached out to a local domestic violence shelter about leaving with her pets, and they contacted us on her behalf. We were able to approve a

RedRover Safe Escape grant — which meant Stephanie, Magic, and Heffalump could escape abuse safely, together.

Normally, that's where our story would end, with everyone safe, cared for, and then reunited not long after. But COVID-19 has changed so many aspects of our lives. A typical RedRover Safe Escape grant covers about 45 nights of boarding. In that time survivors are working with their advocates to find legal assistance, housing, work, and anything else they might need to move toward safety and independence. With COVID-19, many of the services

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available to survivors have been delayed, reduced, or have disappeared. Such was the case for Stephanie.

Due to quarantine, low-cost housing wasn't becoming available as quickly as it had in the past, and the programs that help with placement and finances were understaffed. Because of the lack of affordable housing options, Stephanie, Magic, and Heffalump ended up having to spend nearly five months in shelter.

When Stephanie was finally able to take Magic and Heffalump home, she sent us this kind note:

"I am so grateful that RedRover did this for me. My dogs are like children to me and one of my chief concerns was if I had left them behind what would have happened to them. My abuser was violent toward my dogs and there is no telling what he would have done. Not only did the clinic board them, but also saw to their needs as well. While I got the care I needed, it really helped to see them getting help too."

We are so thankful to our donors for stepping up with us to meet the increased needs during COVID-19, so we can keep people and their pets safe! ♥

Learn more about our domestic violence assistance programs at RedRover.org/domestic.

**Names have been changed to protect privacy.*



Magic (who is camera-shy) and Heffalump are now safe and sound, thanks to you.



Thor: A Happy Tail for all seasons



THOR MAY BE a little Miniature Pinscher, but he has a big personality — and the natural modeling talent to match! With his sister Shelby, also a rescue, and their mom Samantha, this handsome pup loves starring in holiday photoshoots. From Easter to Halloween, a celebration with a camera was how this family enjoyed each other's company and made lasting memories.

When Thor needed emergency dental extractions and Samantha couldn't afford the full cost of his urgent surgery, your support guaranteed that they would continue making memories together for years to come. With a RedRover Relief Urgent Care grant, Thor was able to have his infected teeth extracted and the remaining teeth cleaned.

Though he may have fewer teeth, Thor's smile is bigger and brighter than ever now, without the pain of an



infection. He can go back to playing with his sister and discovering his most flattering angles and poses.

Samantha shared with us this update:

"Thor is doing great! He is my child, he honestly brings me so much joy. Thank you again for everything. Thor and I really do appreciate everything RedRover did for us."

We at RedRover appreciate everything that you do to make this work possible. Thank you for your support in helping us keep families together and bring animals from crisis to care. ♥

For more heartwarming Happy Tails, visit RedRover.org/happytails.



West Virginia domestic violence shelter becomes FIRST in the state to accept pets

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PURINA, our Purple Leash Project is making a meaningful difference in the lives of domestic abuse survivors and pets. In August, RedRover staff was on the ground in West Virginia with Rescue Rebuild, helping YWCA Charleston Resolve Family Abuse Program become pet-friendly. This domestic violence shelter received a Purple Leash Project grant (an extension of our RedRover Safe Housing grants) and is now the FIRST shelter in the state to accept pets!

Nearly 50% of pet-owning survivors of domestic violence delay leaving their abuser because they are afraid to leave their pet behind, and less than 17% of domestic violence shelters in the U.S. currently accept pets. We know that pets are family, and we're working to ensure that ALL survivors and pets can find safety and heal together. ♥

Learn how you can get involved at RedRover.org/dvhelp.





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Visit RedRover.org today to get the latest updates to share with friends and family who also love animals.

Get involved!

Here are more ways you can help make an impact



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RedRover.org/email



Leave a review:
greatnonprofits.org



Take surveys for animals:
contribute.surveymonkey.com



Sign up to become a RedRover Responders or RedRover Readers volunteer with our online trainings:
RedRover.org/volunteer



Give the gift of kindness with a *Kind News* magazine gift membership:
KindNews.org



Share domestic violence assistance resources and join the Purple Leash Project:
RedRover.org/dvhelp



Find more everyday ways to help at
RedRover.org/waystohelp

Leave a legacy of kindness

Do you have a plan for yourself, your family, and your pets? Learn about the various kinds of estate or planned giving options, including the creation of a Pet Trust, with our virtual estate planning seminars.

Watch the free recordings at
RedRover.org/Legacy.

