



# Capital Humane Society SHELTER SHARING

Spring 2019

*Mission: To fulfill the promise of animals, Capital Humane Society shelters animals, protects animals and teaches compassion and respect.*

Capital Humane Society  
Admissions & Assessment  
Center  
2320 Park Boulevard  
Lincoln, NE 68502

Capital Humane Society  
Pieloch Pet Adoption Center  
6500 S. 70th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68516

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[www.capitalhumanesociety.org](http://www.capitalhumanesociety.org)

## Articles

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## Upcoming Events

Dine In Fundraiser at  
Don & Millie's - April 10th

Dine In Fundraiser at  
Don & Millie's - May 8th

Tails 'N Trails Pet  
Walk & Festival - May 18th

Give to Lincoln Day  
- May 30th

Dine In Fundraiser at  
Don & Millie's - June 12th

## #Project84

By Matt Madcharo,  
Director of Fundraising & Operations  
Admissions & Assessment Center

A single weekend in mid-January brought 84 new feline residents to Capital Humane Society. These 84 cats & kittens all came from a single owner household in Lincoln. The previous owner had decided to surrender all of them and they were brought to our Admissions & Assessment Center. Fortunately, they were mostly all in good condition. Some were a little unsure of their new surroundings but began to adjust with time.

We knew we could help these cats & kittens and our team put together a plan to begin preparing them for the adoption program! Now, as you can imagine, this significant influx of cats & kittens over a single weekend put a strain on not only staff time but other resources, as well. We needed more litter, more kitten chow, more canned food, more cat chow, additional microchips, more vaccinations, and so much more!

We put the word out about the situation and called these cats & kittens #Project84. The amazing support that followed left us speechless! Monetary donations rolled in through our website and in person. Items from our wish list like food, litter, shoeboxes, towels, blankets, and more were dropped off at both of our locations! Our Amazon wish list exploded with orders of food, litter, toys, and more!

By Wednesday of the following week, we decided the best way to help them find



homes quickly was to have an adoption special for the #Project84 cats & kittens. We announced the promotion that evening and the next morning we had a line of people ready to open their hearts and homes to the #Project84 cats & kittens. On Thursday, we had 42 animals adopted! Not only did this include cats and kittens from #Project84 but many other cats, kittens, dogs, and critters found new homes too! We ended up with our second most adoptions in a single day behind Clear the Shelters in 2017! Friday

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## Save the Date

Tails 'N Trails Pet Walk & Festival on  
Saturday, May 18th at Fallbrook Town Center

Use promo code "Trails2019" to save \$5 on your registration!



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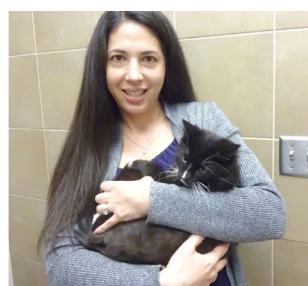
Director of Fundraising  
& Operations  
Admissions & Assessment  
Center

was more of the same and by the end of day we only had a handful of animals left available for adoption in the entire building! Friday also brought two additional cats from the same household to make it #Project84+2. Thankfully, no more cats or kittens have come from this household.

At the time of this writing:

- 64 cats & kittens have been adopted.
- 6 cats are still available for adoption.
- A mom & her four kittens along with another litter of three kittens are in foster care. Unfortunately, one little kitten passed away unexpectedly about two weeks after arrival.
- 1 cat was transferred to a local veterinary clinic for placement due to a gum disease called stomatitis.
- 6 cats are waiting to be placed as working cats due to their temperaments through our CHS Working Cat Program.

We are truly grateful for all of the support we received to help us care for the #Project84 cats & kittens! We couldn't do it without the support of the community and people like you! We are thankful to have such an amazing and dedicated staff and for our volunteers who helped accomplish all of this!

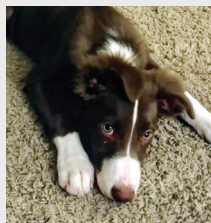


## Housetraining 101

By Shelby Backhus, Director of Operations – Pieloch Pet Adoption Center

Potty training your dog can be a daunting task. The messes to clean up and the stains on the carpet can be frustrating. Here are a few tips and tricks to help Fido learn to potty outside:

- Set a schedule for your dog and stick to it. Dogs love routine! Start by taking Fido outside every hour on the hour when you are home. If they do well with that extend it to every two hours. If issues arise, decrease the time in between each trip outside.
- A general rule of thumb for housetraining puppies less than 6 months of age is to add one to the puppy's age in months and that is how long they should be able to hold it. So, for example, a three-month-old puppy should be able to hold it for four hours.



- If you cannot supervise your dog, place them in a crate or room where they do not have the freedom to potty in inappropriate areas.
- If your dog is easily distracted take them outside on a leash. Once your dog has done their business reward them with a treat or let them roam the yard off leash, as a reward. Sometimes dogs become preoccupied with the world around them and forget to potty outside so when they come back inside they have accidents because they never stopped and went potty outside.
- Associate a command with potty breaks. When your dog completes their business outside tell them "good potty." This way when you need your dog to go, you can tell them to go potty.
- Train your dog to sit or ring a bell before you let them outside. With some dogs, this will help them alert you when they need to go outside.
- If you are experiencing continued housetraining issues, consult with your veterinarian, as there could be an underlying medical cause.



# Volunteer Spotlight – Cara Bentrup

By Charleen Engberg, Director of Education & Volunteers

I volunteer because it has taught me there is complexity in compassion and a person can never do too much to help within their community," Cara Bentrup, a dedicated foster care volunteer, explained.

*Last year, more than 570 animals were sent into foster care from Capital Humane Society. Nearly 400 of those animals were kittens.*

Cara's commitment to fostering and understanding its value is exceptional. "Fostering has allowed me to establish a new identity; connect with animals myself, connect those animals with humans, plus give directly back to the city of Lincoln and surrounding areas," she said.

Cara said her husband, Gary, is her partner in the process. "Last summer when we took on our bottle baby kittens it went without saying a challenge was in store. We had to coordinate times coming home from work (with the help of a dear friend and her daughter) to take care of feedings, which got more chaotic as the babies grew bigger and learned we were their mothers." Unfortunately, her husband was out of town when weaning time came. "Weaning is hard. It is also gross," Cara quipped. "You mix kitten formula with stinky wet food (called slurry) and syringe feed it until they learn to eat from a shallow dish." "By the end, I am pretty sure I could taste the slurry and may very well smell it forever." That said, she also added, "I would do it again!"

"Though some tasks can be challenging the end reward outweighs it all," Cara explained. "Not only is one helping keep open space at the shelter for other animals, one is also giving their foster animal a quiet place to rest, socialize, or heal so they can be a better pet for future adopters."

Cara and her husband have been fostering for almost four years. She said it has changed her as a person. "I have been a lover of animals since I was a child. Growing up, we had a house full of critters from guinea pigs to birds, dogs, cats, fish, and a turtle," said Cara.

"Volunteering has been a part of my life since junior high. And when chronic health issues began to impact me as an adult, doors opened with an opportunity to put more time and effort into a longstanding passion."

Two lucky kittens, Regina and Gretchen, were adopted by Cara and Gary. Countless others have received outstanding foster care while with them before finding adoptive families. "I would encourage anyone with a spare bedroom to sign up as a foster parent," Cara explained. "My husband and I have taken in kittens needing to gain weight for their spay or neuter surgeries, mother cats and kittens, cats with various illnesses, and even a potentially pregnant guinea pig!" "Spring is just around the corner and the upswing of intakes will be here before we know it," she added. "The incredibly friendly (CHS) staff is always available for questions."

We are so grateful to Cara and her husband, as well as all the other amazing foster care volunteers who open their hearts and homes to help prepare pets for adoption. They touch and improve the lives of so many pets in need. If you are inspired by Cara and would also like to play a vital role in fostering animals, please complete a foster care application, which can be found on our website.



**We supply the food.  
You provide the love.**

***Become an animal foster parent  
with Capital Humane Society!***

To find out how: Call 402.477.3270 or  
email [foster@capitalhumanesociety.org](mailto:foster@capitalhumanesociety.org).

## Capital Humane Society Out & About

Lincoln Journal Star  
Pet of the Week – Friday

Neighborhood Extra  
1st Saturday of the month

### KOLN-TV 10/11

Monday, 5:50am  
Thursday, 12:20pm

### KLKN-TV 8

Wednesday, 6:40am  
Wednesday, 11:50am

### KZUM 89.3 FM

Saturday, 10:15am

### KLIN 1400 AM

Thursday, 6:55am

### KFOR 1240 AM

Monday, 6:15am  
Thursday, 8:35am

### KFRX 106.3 FM

Monday, 6:25am  
Thursday, 8:50am

### FROGGY981.com

Click on Pics/Videos to  
find Frogs for Dogs



CapitalHumaneSociety



capitalhumanesociety



@capitalhumane

### Web Site

capitalhumanesociety.org



Community  
Services Fund  
of Nebraska

Proud member of  
Community Services  
Fund of Nebraska

# What You Need To Know About Heartworm

By Kelly Anderson, DVM, Director of Veterinary Medicine

Hopefully spring is around the corner, which also means mosquito season. All dog owners should know this means there is potential for heartworm disease too. So let's review the disease:

## How is heartworm disease transmitted?

A mosquito bites an infected dog and contracts the heartworm larvae. This larvae molts in the mosquito and then the infective mosquito (carrying an L3 larvae) bites your dog.

## How does heartworm disease develop?

These larvae migrate and molt into adult worms eventually ending up in the pulmonary arteries of your dog. This can take 50-70 days from the initial bite. These adult worms can then reproduce, creating L1 larvae (babies), as soon as six months from the time of infection. The cycle repeats when a mosquito bites your infected dog and then bites another uninfected dog.

## How is heartworm disease treated?

Heartworm disease is very serious and can be fatal to your pet. Treatment, as recommended by the American Heartworm Society, consists of 30

Pepper was recently  
treated for heartworm  
disease & has now  
been adopted!

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days of therapy with an antibiotic (Doxycycline) followed by an injection of Melarsomine and two more injections 30 days after the initial injection. Treatment is time consuming and potentially very expensive, estimated at \$400-\$1000 or more.

## How do you prevent heartworm disease?

Thankfully, for dog lovers, prevention is readily available and highly effective. There are numerous products on the market you can choose from with some being monthly chewable tablets and others being topical applications. Testing your dog for heartworm disease via a blood test, prior to administration of preventative, is easy and often recommended. Consult with your veterinarian for the best preventive treatment for your pet.

You can protect your pet and save yourself a lot of heartache by making sure your dog is on a heartworm preventative!



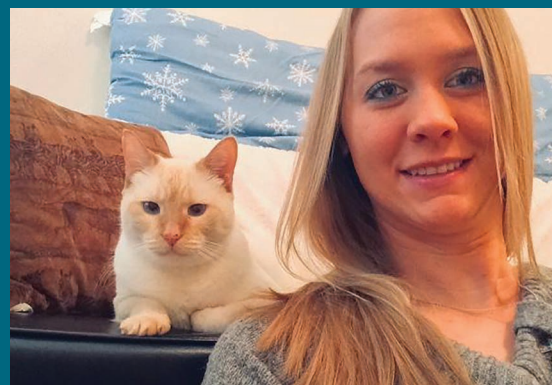
## Staff Profile - Kristy Topil

By Matt Madcharo, Director of Fundraising & Operations – Admissions & Assessment Center

Kristy has been with Capital Humane Society as an Animal Care & Adoption Counselor staff member since August 2015. She always loved the Capital Humane Society and when she saw an opportunity to come work at Capital Humane Society she jumped on it.

One of Kristy's favorite things about working at Capital Humane Society is seeing the "working cats" find a home. Her parents have a farm and have adopted a few "working cats" to be mousers on their farm. Also, by working at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center she has met many new and interesting people, who she enjoys interacting with. She also enjoys all the different types of animals who come through the shelter's doors.

Kristy grew up on the farm in Rising City, Nebraska and has always loved animals. She remembers animals being dropped off at the farm and she would nurse them back to health. Before coming to work at the Capital Humane Society, she went to school in Norfolk to become



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a veterinary technician. She currently shares her home with two Siamese cats, both adopted from CHS. In her spare time, she enjoys taking her cats for a walk in their stroller, hiking, and spending time outdoors. We are happy to have Kristy and her passion for animals on our team!