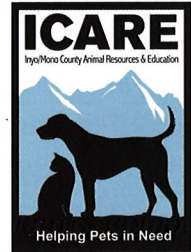


ICARE

Inyo/MonoCounty Animal
Resources & Education

Dedicated to the welfare of the Eastern Sierra's companion animals



Helping Pets in Need for Over 20 Years!

Okay, we're going to toot our own horn! We are very proud of the amazing difference we have made for companion animals of the Eastern Sierra these past twenty years. ICARE (Inyo/Mono County Animal Resources and Education) is a 501(c)3 non-profit animal welfare organization founded in November 1996. ICARE is all-volunteer and dedicated to providing assistance to Inyo/Mono County residents and their pets. We have no paid employees, no rented office space and we receive no government funding. This means that more than 90 percent of donations received go directly to our outreach programs.

We tackled our biggest project a couple of years ago. After an extensive two-year "Raise the Roof—a Cause for Paws" fundraising campaign, ICARE realized its original dream of replacing the 95 year-old dairy barn that Inyo County used as its animal shelter since the 1970's. The incredible outpouring of donations locally and from points far beyond totaled \$416,000! That amount was combined with Inyo County's contribution making it possible to build a brand new \$800,000 Animal Shelter in Big Pine, California. The modern facility opened its doors in July 2015; it now provides a nicer experience for visitors and adopters, increases the shelter's capacity and, more importantly, improves living conditions for the resident homeless pets. Shelter Supervisor, Julie Richardson says "The new shelter is a healthier, happier place for the pets in our care."

In 2002, we established one of our favorite programs, the ICARE Stitch Fund, which provides veterinary care for ill or injured Inyo County Shelter animals.



The brand new County Animal Shelter in Big Pine, California

Over 200 special needs shelter animals have received medical treatment at a total cost of \$95,000. Prior to the Stitch Fund, Inyo County oftentimes had to euthanize these animals due to budget constraints. We are committed to seeking financial support for this lifesaving program so all



The Stitch Fund helped "Delliah" the Persian and "Bugs" the Pug

Shelter animals with medical needs will always have the opportunity to be treated and find loving, adoptive homes. (See *Dot's story on page 3.*)

ICARE's most vital outreach program is our Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program. We believe the most effective and humane solution to the pet overpopulation challenge is prevention through spaying and neutering all companion animals. ICARE funds an annual average of 700 low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for cats and dogs from Tecopa to Coleville. Since 1998 we have funded 13,000 spay/neuter surgeries at a total cost of \$554,000.

Making spay/neuter affordable for pet owners in need is ICARE's core mission and has dramatically improved the quality of life for the Eastern Sierra's pets.

The results of ICARE's efforts can be accurately measured by comparing the Animal Shelter's statistics from 20 years ago (1996) with its current numbers. Because our Low-Cost Spay/Neuter

Program reduces the number of cats and dogs being born, the total yearly number of cats and dogs impounded (strays and owner turn-ins) has decreased by 53% (down from 1,164 to 536). Our shelter adoption promotion efforts have contributed to annual adoptions

skyrocketing from just 82 to 342 adoptions last year (a 417% increase!). But the number that really matters is how many shelter dogs and cats are euthanized each year. In 1996, the Inyo County Animal Shelter had to euthanize 970 animals due to an overwhelming influx of stray and abandoned pets, limited space in the old shelter and a lack of adoptive homes. The number of Shelter animals euthanized dropped to just 42

last year—that's a 96% reduction and the milestone we are proudest of. However, we believe that even one adoptable animal killed is one too many and we plan to continue our outreach programs to bring this number to zero. Working together is the only way to make the Eastern Sierra the greatest place to be a cat or a dog! None of this is possible without your faithful support.

To learn more about ICARE, visit us on-line at: www.ICAREforPets.org. Your tax-deductible donations can be mailed to: ICARE, P.O. Box 76, Bishop, CA 93515 or feel free to call us at 760-872-3802. 🐾