

Carolyn Hoard

Volunteer Sushanto Shenai poses with a shelter dog.

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While Clatsop County finances the shelter building and staff, Clatsop Animal Assistance pays for external veterinary bills, which amount to about \$90,000 a year.

For the last 20 years, the program has held various fundraisers including a bake sale, silent auction and photos with Santa. Due to the pandemic, the non-profit's leaders are hosting a virtual fundraiser this year with a goal of raising \$40,000. Last year, a similar fundraiser exceeded its goal by \$5,000, and volunteers hope to see that success again.

"Our community really loves us, they know the hard work we're doing and they support us," explained Natalie Hannam, a Clatsop Animal Assistance volunteer of five years. "It's amazing."

Hannam manages the group's social media, and gets creative to grab the attention of potential adopters. She and other volunteers will post about the animal's astrological signs, and even present a "News Meow" talk show.

"Adoption is so important," said Hannam. "Animals can bring you a massive amount of joy and love to your life." Clatsop Animal Assistance President Marcy Dunning has volunteered with the organization for 12 years.

Dunning said she has a special connection to the animals and works to make sure they find the best homes possible.

"The safety and welfare of the animals come first and we want the right fit for the family that adopts them," she said. "It's like we're sending orphan children out into the world, and so we always think about them."

Dunning expressed she's amazed and

How to help

The goal of the Happy Trails Holiday Fundraiser is to raise \$40,000 for Clatsop Animal Assistance.

Donors can contribute through Jan. 1, 2022

Dogsncats.org

Send text message donations by texting **CAANOW to 44-321**

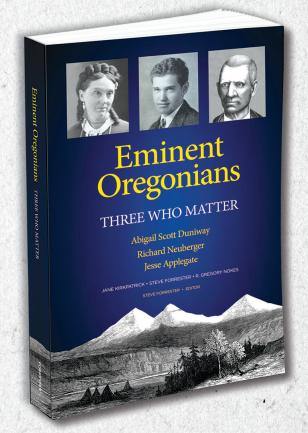


Shelter dog 'Shasta' is prepared for a rainy North Coast day.

grateful for the community's support of their mission. She especially appreciates when new owners post adoption success stories on social media or come in to visit and thank the organization for all their support. She stressed that the support from the community allows the group to help every animal that needs assistance.

"If you're looking to learn some history you may not have been taught in school, **Eminent Oregonians:** Three Who Matter should be your next read."

— Sienna Riley, The Eugene Weekly



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