

Independent Animal Rescue
3321 Guess Road
Durham, NC 27705

April 3, 2024

SPEECH TEXT

Who Are We and What We Do
Alan Dow, Speaker

Every year, more than 6 million companion animals (dogs, cats, etc.) enter animal shelters in the U.S. In our state alone, there were more than 56,505 stray animals in 2022.

As the President of Independent Animal Rescue in Durham, I see this issue firsthand. I'm here today to talk about the importance of what we do at IAR and how you can get involved.

Our main focus at IAR is the fostering and adoption of cats and dogs in the Triangle.

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We believe at IAR that the welfare of animals is paramount.

Because of our mission, we also provide free spay and neuter services to reduce the number of stray animals on our streets. Through our foster programs, we have found homes for over 350 cats and over 70 dogs in 2023.

However, we can only do this through the continued support of those in our community. Our organization is founded on the hard work of hundreds of community members like yourselves.

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Our community's need for the work we do at IAR has increased in the past year and in order to meet the demand, we need your support. We need volunteers across all of our programs, especially on our Cat and Dog foster teams. The beautiful thing about IAR is that our volunteer opportunities stretch wide.

From clinic volunteers, social media volunteers, foster parents, cat and dog support roles, fundraising teams, and community education programs, we have something for everyone.

We are also primarily funded by donations from supporters in the community.

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Donations go directly to our IAR general fund which pays for the medical care of the animals, maintenance of our facility, boarding of animals awaiting foster homes, and other supplies that keep our animals healthy and happy. We cannot continue to provide critical care for these animals without financial support and we hope that you consider supporting us.

If you want to get involved and help make a difference in the lives of these animals you can visit us at animalrescue.net for a full list of volunteer events, donation links and resources.

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Thank you so much for your
time and we hope you join us in
our mission to help animals across
the Triangle.

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3 Questions:

1. What types of events do you have for foster animals?
 - a. We have various events at IAR for people to come and meet the animals. Most of our events are adoption events where we bring our animals to locations in the community where community members are welcome to come and play with them. Our next event is going to be this Friday, April 6 at 12:00 p.m.
2. Do you have a specific annual fundraiser?
 - a. Yes, we have our annual 5k fundraiser "The Fast and the Furriest". This year will be the first year it is in person and will be held on Saturday, May 11 at 9:00 a.m. at Gold Park in Hillsborough. For more information and to sign up you can visit our website.
3. How are your Spay and Neuter services provided?
 - a. We partner with New Hope Animal Hospital and The Cat Hospital to provide these services. Most of the animals are strays that are caught and release after they are spayed/ neutered and vaccinated

