

October 2009



**Its official: Help-A-Pet is recession-proof!** It is uplifting to know the critical mission of providing medical treatment to sick and injured pets continues during the worst of economic times. Help-A-Pet's endurance is due to the "no expenses" structure which enables every dollar donated to flow directly to pets. This is in sharp contrast to other nonprofits which use up to 75% of contributions for overhead costs. The nationwide decline in giving and increased expenses such as medical insurance for employees put a further squeeze on how much of a donation is available for the purpose for which it is intended. Having no overhead or expenses of any kind is one component of what keeps Help-A-Pet going strong. The other equally important component is YOU. Without the generosity of loyal donors, this organization could not exist. I am overjoyed to welcome the Patch Foundation, which contributed \$1000, as a new sponsor.



### The Patch Foundation

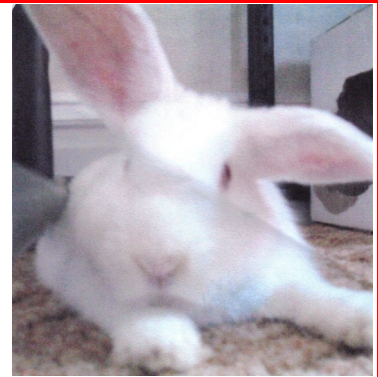
This Chicago-based private foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of domestic and wild animals. It is named in honor of a gentle one-eyed squirrel who, through the course of her life, displayed courage and a feisty, adventurous spirit that became an inspiration to the founders of The Patch Foundation. Because of Patch and those she inspired, the lives of three animals were improved and extended: \$400 provided surgery to amputate a toe and prevent the spread of infection.; \$350 provided surgery to remove a cancerous lump; and \$250 provided heartworm and Lyme disease tests and preventative treatment.

In the spirit of the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, I would like to express my gratitude to those of you who are able to share your good fortune with the pets and pet lovers served by Help-A-Pet during this tumultuous year. I am just as grateful for those of you who gave in the past and may not be able to continue to give because you provided the building blocks for the creation and growth of this unique organization. I hope the future treats you with the same generous spirit you have shown to Help-A Pet. Unlike the often depressing daily news, may the pictures, stories, and gratitude of a few pet-patients featured on the reverse side of this newsletter inspire your faith that the world is still full of good people taking care of and loving each other and animals. Please pass on the enclosed brochure to a potential new donor and enjoy the 2010 calendar as our token of appreciation.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
Allyson Regas, Founder



Meet HAP's first rabbit patients! (Move over iguana and guinea pig). Their names are Bunny and Motz. Thanks to \$200 in financial assistance for spaying and neutering, they will not be able to "breed like rabbits"



Angela Jones has cerebral palsy. She was deeply depressed by the recent death of her mother until a friend gave her a kitten she named Marley. \$230 was given to the local vet to pay for a check-up, neutering, and shots to ensure Angela is able to continue to enjoy the companionship of her fluffy friend.



***"Thank you so much for your help and generosity in our time of need. I cannot thank you enough for your help. I don't know what we would have done without you. Natasha is doing great, all thanks to you!"*** Gordon Putnam has taken great care of Natasha (dog in above picture recuperating with best friend, Tiana) until he became unemployed and Natasha developed pyometra and needed an ovariohysterectomy. HAP contributed \$500 and Gordon came up with the remaining \$400 for the surgery.



***"Dear kind, kind people, I am writing to thank you for helping my cat, Zoe. She had her thyroid operation last month and she is doing very well. I am so grateful for your help. If it weren't for you, Zoe would be terminal. Thank you for Zoe's life."*** - Pat Harris has a mental disability and works part-time for \$7.50/hour. HAP provided \$450 towards the cost of a thyroidectomy.