

9/15/25



To Whom It May Concern:

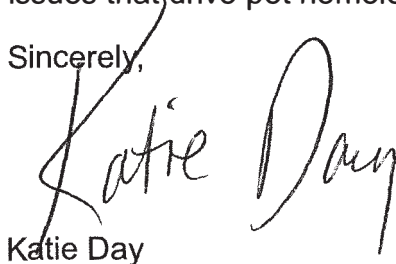
I am the director of Almost Home Canine Rescue (AHCR), a 100% volunteer run organization helping abused, abandoned and unwanted animals get a second chance in life. We adopt out and network to place more than 200 dogs and cats each year. AHCR is greatly impacted by the current animal welfare crisis. It is worse than it has ever been in my 15 years volunteering to help animals. We partner with dozens of shelters and rescues to save lives, but the animals just keep coming. There are more and more needy animals and nowhere for them to go.

AHCR supports the work of the Hanson Family Foundation for the Well-Being of God's Creatures (HFF) and their efforts to keep pets and people together. Oftentimes we find pet owners truly cannot afford to care for a pet, and are forced to surrender them to give their animal a better life. The HFF is helping us provide safety-net programs like free pet food, affordable veterinary care, low cost spay/neuter, and pet-friendly housing assistance. If we start to address these financial issues, we can reduce the unnecessary surrender of animals to already overburdened animal shelters and rescues like AHCR.

We met with the HFF team to discuss gaps in animal services. We identified AHCR's need for short-term temporary housing of animals until they can receive a vet exam and be transported to other organizations, and the need for a warehouse facility to receive large scale donations of pet food and supplies to distribute to pet owners. The HFF's Animal Resource Center will help us fill these gaps at their new facility in southern Sioux Falls.

By working collaboratively with the HFF, and other animal welfare organizations in the Sioux Falls area, we can help responsible pet owners who simply cannot afford basic pet care due to temporary, financial challenges. In doing so we can start to address issues that drive pet homelessness in the Sioux Falls area and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Day". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie Day