Humane Society of Elmore County News – 7 Jul '25 Rea Cord Executive Director

Huge shout out to the <u>Walmart Supercenter Tallassee</u> for giving our Shelter a \$1500 Community Grant! We are truly grateful that they thought of our work and the animals in our care to help us like this! This comes at our most challenging time of the year, and we can certainly put it to quick use to help even more special pets in need. So help us thank the team at the <u>Tallassee Walmart</u> location for being fellow animal lovers and stepping up to help our pets like this!

We also want to thank all of our incredible Volunteers at our Tail's End Thrift Store which is co-located with our Shelter at 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL? This 100% Volunteer run operation is absolutely vital to our non-profit Shelter as all of the proceeds generated by the store's sales come to our Humane Shelter. Volunteering in our <u>Thrift Store</u> is a fantastic way to help our pets in a very big way.

There are numerous opportunities to volunteer at the <u>Tail's End</u> – helping receive donations (Thu-Sat, 9 am-noon), help shoppers, move items ready for sale to the store, check people out at the front register and just all those things that most any 'store' needs done to keep customers happy and merchandise flowing when the store is open for shopping Thu, Fri & Sat's from 9-3. But there are also volunteer opportunities Mon-Wed as received items have to be sorted, priced and tagged, clothes have to be sorted and sized (men, women, children, etc) and hung to make it easier to move them to the store and for customers to find what they are looking for. Some items need cleaning or checking out to make sure they actually work (small appliances, lamps, electronics, power tools, etc). Price researching is sometimes necessary for unique or collectible items, and items that have been sitting in the store for too long may need removed or marked down.

One other group that also deserves some very special thanks and recognition is our group of intrepid dog exercisers! While dog exercising sounds like fun (and it is) – it is also very hard, hot, funky and dirty work. While our staff is focused on taking in new animals, caring for the 350+ animals in our care, working with adopters and more, our Volunteer Dog Exercisers are seeing to the physical and mental health of our dogs by getting them out daily (Mon-Fri) for leashed walks or play-time in our exercise yard. Most dogs coming in to us have no experience walking on leashes so that creates the first challenge, and some can be quite a handful as well. Obviously a love for dogs is paramount, but being able to physically handle mostly large and exuberant dogs in this Alabama heat right now is a significant challenge. We know how hard they work and count our Volunteer Dog Exercisers as vital members of our Shelter family.

If you might be interested in volunteering with our <u>Shelter</u>, easiest way to get started is to go to our website at <u>https://www.elmorehumane.org/volunteer-information--forms.html</u>.

And next week we will talk about yet another special group of volunteers – our foster families whose lifesaving work truly means the world to so many animals in need.