Geauga
MAMA DOGS AND PUPS

Greetings Friends and Supporters of Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups:

EIN: 82-2472334

Who We Are:
Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups is a private, independent, non-profit (501c3) group focused on the care and rescue of pregnant dogs, mom dogs with litters, and puppies under six months old. Our program is entirely volunteer based, including the board members and director. We have no staff and no physical shelter. What we do have is team of dedicated volunteer drivers and fosters that is the backbone to our success. Our rescues come from all over Ohio and the surrounding states.

Our goal is to give each Mama dog and each puppy that comes into our care the nutrition, medical support, and love needed to become a healthy happy family pet. As a private non-profit organization, Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups does not receive any government funding. We rely on donations to provide all of the necessary supplies and medication for our mamas and puppies.

Our partner animal protective leagues provide spay and neuter services to ensure that there will be no more unwanted pregnancies. Last year, working with our adoption partners, we were able to give over 3000 dogs and pups a chance at their best life. Should you have any questions associated with this request, please do not hesitate to contact us via email or on the number above. We hope that you will be able to support us and we look forward to hearing from you.

Last but not least, please find additional information regarding our program, efforts and history attached to this email.

Sincerely yours,
Volunteer Board Members

CONTACT: PO BOX 107, BURTON OH 44021
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https://sites.google.com/view/geauga-mama-dogs-and-pups/home
https://www.facebook.com/GeaugaMamaDogsAndPups

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Summary	Adult Dog	Female w/ Litter	Pregnant	Pups	Running Total
2022	75	92	34	3014	3215
January	7	7	4	214	232
February	14	11	0	230	255
March	2	11	3	209	211
April	4	7	2	218	222
May	6	7	12	224	249
June	14	5	1	274	294
July	9	11	0	286	299
August	8	8	0	246	262
September	4	3	0	259	263
October	5	10	0	298	313
November	0	4	3	257	264
December	2	8	9	299	318
Avg. Pup Intake	251		Other Animals	Cats	30
Avg. Dog Intake	6			Rabbits	1
Avg. Female w/ litter	8				
Avg. Pregnant Intake	3				
Avg. Total Monthly Intake	265				

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PAW PRINTS

Every day is Mother's Day at this nonprofit



MICHELE MURPHY

While we celebrate Mother's Day today, 120 volunteers at Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups believe every day is Mother's Day.

For the past 20 years, the organization has saved cast off pregnant dogs and puppies, providing them with life-saving medicine, food and perhaps most importantly, a safe, warm foster home.

Some readers may ask why this column is about a group in Burton, an hour drive east of Lorain County. The answer is pretty simple. According to board member Joyce Studen, volunteers live across Northeast Ohio including Lorain County, and as far away as Pennsylvania.

In addition, Friendship Animal Protective League is one of the partner organizations that helps mamas and wee ones get adopted. As a matter of fact, Studen said the majority of the 1,600 adoptions achieved in 2021 were through their partnership with Friendship.

Their story begins when founder Karen Braun visited her daughter, Heidi, at her Kentucky college. She saw an inordinately large number of pregnant dogs and learned they were just dumped, leaving them to fend for themselves with few, if any, resources — including food or water. So Braun began bringing a few back with her each time she visited Heidi. She talked friends Patricia Carney and Diane Schubeck into fostering. Ultimately, they became founding board members of the group, which incorporated as an Ohio nonprofit and earned 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service.

Studen emphasized there is no paid staff. Instead, volunteers take on the myriad tasks of running the organization, with the vast majority serving as fosters to either pregnant moms or to puppies that are just a few weeks old. She said volunteers who foster pregnant dogs generally need to do a lot of rehabilitation to improve their physical health because so many come in malnourished and to work on socialization skills.

"They've been kicked to the curb and had a very rough life," she said, adding that volunteers who foster mamas specialize in teaching dogs to trust people.

Studen said those who foster puppies usually take in two, possibly three, at a time. It's partly to help puppies socialize but also to protect volunteers from being overwhelmed by the needs of the puppies.

This includes feeding, deworming and meeting other medical needs. Plus, "they gotta be willing to clean up a lot of poop."

Others volunteer for transportation teams that twice weekly venture into junkyards, abandoned farms or warehouses and other desolate places in southern Ohio and Kentucky known by locals to be dumping locations for dogs, according to Studen. She described how volunteers literally crawl into or under abandoned vehicles or broken down equipment to fetch a frightened dog or puppy and bring it to safety.

"Many are starving to death," Studen said.

Like many rescues across the country, the call for service has increased exponentially. Studen said they took in 80 mamas and puppies over the past weekend, one of the highest counts on record.

In 2020, they assisted 1,200 animals. In 2021, it jumped to 1,600 and Studen estimates it will inflate to 2,000 in 2022, based on the fact they took in 706 animals from Jan. 1 through April 30.

They continually seek volunteers willing to help a pregnant mom or a few puppies.

She said they screen volunteer applications carefully, knowing from experience the time it takes to do the job properly.

"This isn't for someone who works outside of the house and is gone long hours every day," she said.

That doesn't mean they can't find a job for someone with less time to give. For example, volunteers are needed to transport puppies to Friendship in order to be adopted. APLs in Akron and Trumbull County are two other adoption partners. She said she has often made the trip from her home in Geauga County to Friendship and that it takes one hour, one way.

The organization also needs donations — either cash or in-kind. They are currently in need of puppy food. They have a Wish List on Amazon and those purchases can be shipped directly to the organization for distribution to fosters. To help, visit here: https://tinyurl.com/359p53bd.

If you have ideas for stories about pets, send them along. Michele Murphy looks forward to sharing them with her readers. Contact her at avonlakemurphy@gmail.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Above: Even mama dogs help save lives at Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups. Mama Scarlett, rescued while pregnant, delivered her puppies by emergency C-section in January. She then fostered these orphan puppies after her own brood was weaned.

Below: Dave Braun enjoys a playful moment with a group of puppies saved by Geauga Mama Dogs and Pups. This group was headed to Friendship Animal Protective League, where they were quickly adopted.



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