



Responsible Solutions For Valued Pets

Post Office Box 335 · Eastport · New York 11941-0335

Dear Friend,

RSVP, Inc. is celebrating its 15th year of all volunteer animal welfare work, servicing the eastern end of long island.

Our Spay/Neuter Community Outreach Program continues to grow and more volunteers have come on board this past year giving us the ability to enter areas that have not yet been touched by our pro-active spay-neuter approach.

Parvo has been at an all time high in these new locations. It is very common for pets living in squalor. Four week old, sick puppies were left in basements or in boxes by the side of the road. This is the typical age pups are sold in these neighborhoods. Puppies are a form of currency. They are literally disposable because there will always be more. Those already purchased, who would make it to 4-5 months would assume their place on the end of a chain in the backyard until the symptoms would present themselves. Suffering is an understatement with parvo. They can linger for quite awhile not being able to eat or drink. For some it would be too late but with proper vet care and a lot of TLC from RSVP volunteer, fosters some would thrive into healthy, adoptable pups.

Our pro-active community outreach program makes a difference on so many levels. While the ultimate goal is always to stop pet overpopulation, the suffering of the starved or sick is eased immediately. Typically, the young teenage boys are the "owners" of these pets. When an adult in the house is asked about the pet on the chain their response is, "I don't go back there."

In some of the parvo cases, we were able to make the young pit bull "owners" aware of the suffering due to neglect and requested them to be there when "their" pup had to be put down. While this is not always possible, in some situations they did consent. The experience did help them understand the consequences of not responsibly caring for the pet. They did eventually let us spay/neuter and vaccinate their other pets.

From the very beginning RSVP has always been determined to stop the needless suffering of companion animals. Our dedicated volunteers continue to work quietly behind the scenes taking care of the problems we witness first hand, trying to break this culture based cycle of neglect/abuse. These problems will not warrant the authorities attention, because a chained, sick pet is not against the law. If only a warning is given the animal will simply disappear. RSVP intervenes, works "with" the people and progress is made on behalf of "Our Society's Forgotten Companion Animals".

THANK YOU FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT THAT MAKES THIS VITAL PROGRAM POSSIBLE.

Sincerely,
Deborah Benjamin
Deborah Benjamin, Co-founder
RSVP, Inc.