



sanctuaryone

at Double Oak Farm

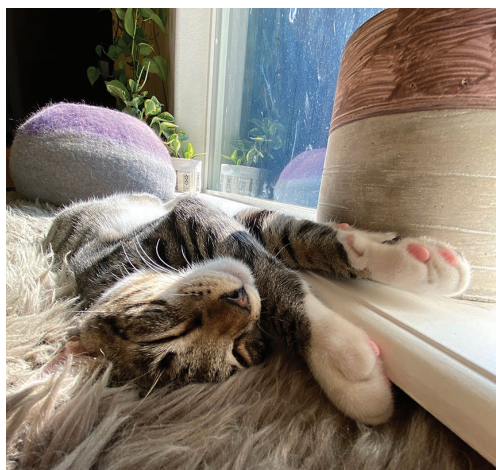
We all have a role to play in helping the animals, healing the earth, our community, and ourselves. Now more than ever, the care farm at Sanctuary One has been a welcome source of healing and calm. We know that with challenging times comes an increased need for healing. **Despite the hardships of 2020, Sanctuary One has stepped up with a 38% increase in animal in-take this year.** With your support you can help provide a healing place for animals who have run out of options in addition to a therapeutic environment for the people who join us at the care farm.

While the Almeda/Obenchain and other Oregon fires destroyed homes and businesses, our sense of community has remained strong in Southern Oregon. **After working together to evacuate over 60 animals during the fire, Sanctuary One again partnered with the Jackson County Animal Shelter to distribute donated animal food to a myriad of animal agencies working with animals impacted by the recent fires.** Kim Casey, Program Manager with Jackson County Animal Services loves that “Sanctuary One is able to be that conduit for distributing these donations in a way that we do not have the capacity to do.” Our hearts are warmed by the many ways in which our community has come together as we rise from this tragic event. One of our favorite examples is Arf’s story, an FIV+ kitten who was adopted from Sanctuary One just before Labor Day. Tragically, his adopted family’s home was destroyed in the fire but in the aftermath he found an unlikely new friend.

“The first week, we were in a home that had three other cats which made his FIV+ status difficult. Lucky for us, there is an apartment on the property with a very



Volunteer Terri walking Mila, a dog taken in from the Jackson County Animal Shelter due to the wildfires



Kiomi relaxing after the wildfires, safe with his family

kind tenant... a nun from Tanzania named Sister Donatha. She kindly took care of him for the week while we figured out the next steps. She would speak to him in her native language and would call him Kiomi, which was what her tribe called the wild cats she grew up with. We have since found a temporary place to live with friends. But in honor of Sister Donatha we have decided to rename Arf, Kiomi.”

Stories like Kiomi’s embody what Sanctuary One is all about: reciprocal healing relationships that arise between people, animals, and the earth. The interconnection of these three tiers propel each of us from a place of surviving to thriving. When you make a gift to Sanctuary One, you take an active role in these stories of connection. **Kiomi is just one of 59 animals who were adopted from Sanctuary**

One already this year. Your gift today will provide the animals with so much more than food and shelter—you will ensure that the care farm can continue to provide a home for animals who have nowhere else to go. Your contribution can elevate the care farm’s ability to work together with community members and other animal organizations, ensuring that no one falls through the cracks.

Now more than ever, we need the sense of connection to others and to the outdoors that the care farm provides. Tours, home school groups, and service learning groups like Compass House continue to visit the farm for a welcome socially distant, outdoor experience. Did you know that researchers have found that even one gardening session could result in significant improvements in self-esteem and mood, with reductions in tension, depression, anger? Robert, a regular visitor to Sanctuary One with local partner organization Compass House, shared with us why he continues to visit the care farm:

“I go to Sanctuary One once a month to volunteer to help the animals. I always count down the days until we go again. Volunteering at Sanctuary One is great therapy for me and keeps some of my mental health symptoms away. I love the animals and plan on going every chance I get!”
—Robert with Compass House

With your gift to Sanctuary One, you can give Robert, and so many others, opportunities to destress by connecting with nature and animals who have also healed from incredible adversity. **You will be honoring the positive potential in people and animals by investing in their futures.**

Your contribution can even help local youth and students, who visit the farm for outdoor learning experiences. The young



*Top: Lorenzo and Robert, service learning partners from Compass House
Bottom: Pippa enjoying a spa day by a youth service learning group*



Ambassador goats, Ned, Dusty, and Lucky "helping" with chores; Pickles getting in touch with nature; 26 alpacas were rescued in 2020

people in our community are experiencing a uniquely stressful schooling environment without the full benefits of socialization and time outside. The care farm serves as an outlet for local youth to get outdoors for much needed time out of the house and virtual classroom. Not only that, visiting allows them to have meaningful interactions with other kids, in addition to the animals, helping to ease the isolation that kids may be experiencing in these challenging times. Your gift to Sanctuary One is a commitment to the young people in our local community and beyond.

As 2020 comes to a close, many of us look back over the year and may feel trepidation about what the future holds. **Your support of Sanctuary One allows people (through our programming and food donations from the gardens), and animals to have hope instead.** Hope is a powerful thing. It is a great gift with positive ripples throughout Southern Oregon and beyond.

With deep gratitude,

Megan Flowers, *Sanctuary One Executive Director*

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Anna May Family Foundation, Arthur Dubs Foundation, Carpenter Foundation, Carrico Family Foundation, Coastal, Eugene Veg Education Network, Evergreen Federal Bank, First Interstate Bank, Four Way Community Foundation, The Gardner Grout Foundation, Gordon Elwood Foundation, Grange Co-op, Haines Philanthropic Foundation, Medford Co-op, Natural Grocers, Petfinder Foundation, Protectors Insurance in partnership with Mutual of Enumclaw Insurance, Raymond Family Foundation, Reed and Carolee Walker Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Robert and Frances Chaney Family Foundation, Ruch Country Store, Southern Oregon Subaru, Skyman Techno Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Thalden Foundation

♥ In Memoriam ♥



My dear friend Jake,

Do you know how many hearts you touched and even opened while at the farm?

We would talk about you with joy, compassion, and love up in the farm house; the smiles you created will never be forgotten. I still think about you when I drive by a field of horses...

They dumped you in a field of horses; they didn't have the heart to properly re-home you, or at least take those damn shoes off. But you kept going. You developed Wobbler Syndrome as you tried to hang with the wild horses, still with shoes on. You must have been so uncomfortable, but you kept going.

The Sanctuary took you in, helped you heal and I am sure it was hard, but you started to feel at home and felt comfortable on your feet. You made new horse friends, you were fed each day, and you were safe and you could enjoy being a healthy horse again. Not only were you improving but also you began thriving.

Jake, did you know when I started at the sanctuary, I too was trying to get myself back on my feet? I felt lost and without purpose, some called it a quarter life crisis, but deep inside I knew it was the beginning of a new chapter of life where I would be brave enough to heal the hardship I had endured. What I didn't know is that it would be you, who relearned how to pick himself back up, who would teach me to do the same. Not only were you thriving, but you were also teaching me lessons on life. It was as if you knew how to gently approach me like a faint whisper of "I am here for you in any way you need." You showed me that you could still be happy, playful, and full of life despite the challenges one endures. You wouldn't stop fighting because you believed in yourself.

You truly amazed us as you carried on throughout last year. You had your medicine, chiropractic sessions, acupuncture, energy medicine, Chinese herbs, supplements; you had the full deal. You wouldn't kick or try to escape or fight the veterinarian or the healers, it's as if you knew they were there to help you feel better. And you kept going.

When the life left you, my heart stopped with yours, but I remembered the message you brought into my life. Don't stop fighting, and never stop loving life. So I breathed in life and I went into my heart to keep you there forever. You showed me how to pick myself up again and now I can walk with purpose, which is to use my love for medicine and help the creatures who roam this planet to live a full life of love and healing.

Thank you for your presence Jake,

Megan Vizzini,

Former Sanctuary One animal care staff, and current volunteer