

# Pawsabilities Rehabilitation Assistance Fund

## Winter 2009-2010 Newsletter



Scooter in his tiny cart, which helps him get to where he wants to go (which is everywhere!)

### Coming soon . . .

- Pawsabilities Website to be Unveiled –we'll email you when it's ready!
- More incredible Pawsabilities RAF success stories – **THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!!**
- How to get involved in our cause

*"To rehabilitate an animal is to give them new life, new hope, that they someday be themselves again"*

### Welcome to our First Issue!

We are SO excited to be here where we can assist those in need! Pawsabilities Rehabilitation Assistance Fund, also referred to as Pawsabilities RAF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

We are an all volunteer organization founded by individuals working in the field of veterinary rehabilitation. We are, and continue to be, struck by what a profound impact rehab has on increasing an animal's quality of life.

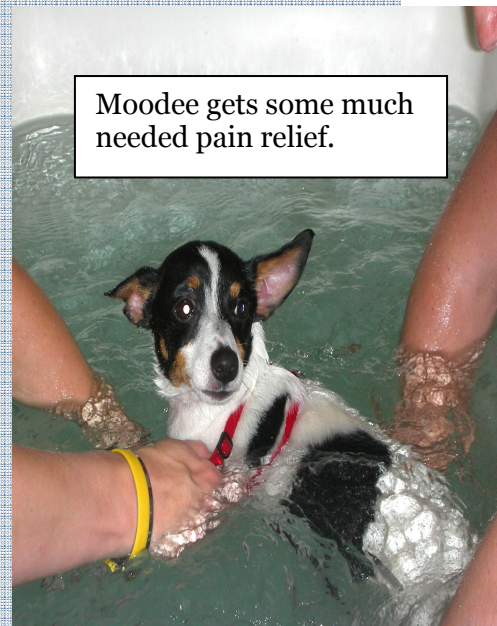
Pawsabilities RAF provides assistance to animals whose owners demonstrate financial need, so that they may receive rehab treatments and also help defray the costs of rehab related equipment. It is our mission that no animal should be denied rehab treatment due to financial constraints. We operate

independently from veterinary and veterinary rehabilitation clinics.

Here are some Pawsabilities RAF success stories:

### Deserving of a Chance

Moodee received acupuncture and Hako Pool pain relief treatments for her injured body. Under a year old, she and her crate were thrown from a moving vehicle. She was brought to a local kennel where she was adopted. She initially was afraid of the human touch, but tolerated months of weekly therapy, and she is now so much better. Moodee's adoptee guardian angel turned to Pawsabilities RAF for a little help when the rehab started, and was amazed at the results of Moodee's treatments. Rehab helped set a positive course in this little girl's new life!



Moodee gets some much needed pain relief.

## Jake thought he could fly!



Jake is a happy boy once again!

Jake is Shepherd mix pup that jumped out of the car window while his Dad was driving, and was struck by a passing vehicle. He had to have two surgeries before starting canine rehab. Initially Jake was unable to hold his head up and had to be hand fed. Jake's Dad required financial assistance after Jake's unplanned medical bills mounted. Jake boarded at the rehab facility for a month and had numerous daily treatments. Today, he walks a little "wiggly" but is happy and healthy. Dad was able to get

back on his feet financially, and is proud of his "son", who he admits is a little spoiled now (he blames all of the staff at the rehab clinic too). Jake continues to get chiropractic adjustments and hydrotherapy swims every other month to keep him on track. Dad is forever grateful for the financial assistance he received from Pawsabilities RAF.



## Meet Ace – he is amazing!



Three year old Golden Boy Ace had it all – a loving family, a new dog sister to play with, and the holidays around the corner. Suddenly, he was struck by a mystery illness that caused him to spend twenty days in intensive care. His devoted family stood by his side while vets performed a multitude of tests, including joint taps, while he was sustained only by IV fluids. They were told that he may not recover.

Ace was eventually diagnosed with autoimmune polyarthritis. While the family was relieved to know what was happening to their once happy boy, they were devastated to hear that he could not walk, eat or potty on his own. Would the next step – rehab - bring their Ace back? They were out of money due to his hospital bills, and asked Pawsabilities RAF to help.

Ace started his amazing road to recovery at the rehab clinic by getting chiropractic and acupuncture therapy, massages and passive range of motion. He relearned to walk by conditioning in the hydrotherapy pool. Once able to walk on his own, strengthening exercises were the key to his well-being.



Ace is back in action after rehab!

## Pawsabilities RAF Moving Forward

Pawsabilities RAF recently had an invaluable session with a group of Public Relations/Marketing professionals who are active in animal causes. They volunteered their time to give us some fundraising guidance. We are now looking for volunteers for our fundraising efforts as we set our sights on 2010. If you love animals and have an interest in planning fun events, please e-mail us at [pawsraf@gmail.com](mailto:pawsraf@gmail.com).

Our website, [www.pawsabilitiesrehab.org](http://www.pawsabilitiesrehab.org), is almost completed!! A big thank you goes to Mike Sullivan of Infinite Designs ([InfiniteD.com](http://InfiniteD.com)), who specializes in web design and internet marketing. He and his team have volunteered their time to create our site!

We have more animals that need our help. We are again looking to you, those who have donated over the last years. We are looking for help from those whose beloved pets have benefitted from rehab, as you know that it makes such a difference. We need you, and so do the owners of the animals in need. Your donation dollars become grants for rehabilitation treatments. Grants are applied to cases where rehabilitation is veterinarian referred, and treatments are carried out by medical professionals that have demonstrated advanced training in canine rehabilitation. Please consider making a difference today. Simply go to PayPal.com, select "Send Money" and type in our email address - [pawsraf@gmail.com](mailto:pawsraf@gmail.com) - then select the "Personal" tab, and then make your donation. Thank you for caring about those pets in need!



### There is Hope!

Pawsabilities RAF is committed to provide assistance to animals with special needs in shelters and foster care in order to further their adoption possibilities.

This is Hope, a foster dog with the Chicago French Bulldog Rescue. Hope was 6 months old when she became paralyzed in her rear legs. At 10 months, the Chicago French Bulldog Rescue stepped in to take care of her after her previous owners were no longer able to. She hadn't received any rehab intervention for four months, which was during a critical time of her bones growing, and for this reason, Hope will require extensive rehab.

Happily, Hope continues to amaze everyone as she makes great progress during her rehabilitation treatments. She is now able to sit on her own, and is receiving custom made orthotics to help achieve her goal of walking again. She is fast as lightning in her cart and loves to run and play with other dogs!

To meet Hope is to love her! She enjoys snuggling, and places her little head in your hands.

Thanks to the continued support of our generous donors, Pawsabilities RAF will be able to help Hope and other animals in need.



Can she get any cuter??  
Hope takes a rest while increasing her strength and motion by swimming!

**You may send your donation, comments or questions by mail to:**

**Pawsabilities RAF**

**PO Box 1516**

**Lake Villa, IL 60046**

**Or donate securely online via PayPal. Just go to [PayPal.com](https://www.paypal.com), select "send money" and type in our email address:**

**[pawsraf@gmail.com](mailto:pawsraf@gmail.com)**

**The animals thank you!!**

**Coming soon – our Website:**

**[pawsabilitiesrehab.org](http://pawsabilitiesrehab.org)**

## **re·ha·bili·tate**

(rē'hə bil'ə tāt', rē'ə-)

to bring or restore to a normal or optimal state of health, constructive activity, etc. by medical treatment and physical or psychological therapy

## **Our Mission**

To provide financial assistance to owners who demonstrate financial need, thereby allowing their animals to receive rehabilitative treatments that will improve their comfort and quality of life. To raise awareness and educate the community about the positive effects of rehab. We want to also provide financial assistance to animals in shelters or in foster care that have special needs in order to further their adoption possibilities.

## **Season's greetings!**

All of us involved with Pawsabilities RAF wish you and your family (two and four-legged) a very safe, healthy and happy holiday season!

Without donations from you and others who believe so strongly in rehabilitation, we could not have changed the lives of the dogs in our newsletter (and others soon to be on our website!)

**We welcome your generous tax deductible donation in order to continue assisting families and their animals in need!**

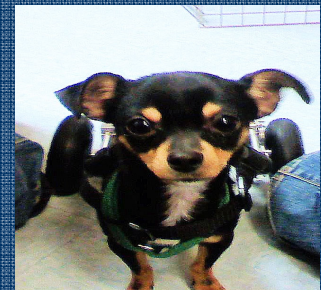
**We can't do it without you!**

*From our front cover:*

*Scooter is a young Chihuahua who was found in a garage dumpster with a broken back. An Indiana shelter decided he was worth rehab, and brought him to Illinois for treatment.*

*Pawsabilities purchased his cart. He has not regained the use of his rear legs, but does love the independence his cart provides.*

*He is an incredibly sweet boy who still needs a special forever home.*



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Lake Villa, IL 60046

If you'd like to be on our email list, please let us know by emailing us back at

**[pawsraf@gmail.com](mailto:pawsraf@gmail.com)**

We'll also email you when our website is ready!  
Thank you for your caring support and interest in our cause of animal rehabilitation!

