

LEAGUE LINKS 2.0

Summer 2021

**LEAGUE FOR
ANIMAL WELFARE**



Choose No-Kill. Choose the League.



The Fight to Keep Family Together **The story of Keke, Roxxy, and Will**

Will was just a young teenager when his parents adopted their dog, Keke, in 2013; and then when Keke gave birth to Roxxy (and 9 other puppies!) two years later. But every boy needs a dog, and Keke and Roxxy were Will's. Will calls Roxxy "Thumper," because she thumps the floor with her foot when she's sitting. Keke - the chubbier of the two girls - looks (and sounds!) more like a bear than her Disney-character-inspired daughter, and the family always teased her about the resemblance. Will loved his dogs as much as they loved him. And that love never stopped - not even when Will recently left for college.

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But while Will was at college, Will's parents found themselves dealing with financial hardship and housing instability. They quickly realized they could no longer provide a stable home for Keke and Roxxy and turned to the Clermont County Animal Shelter for help. They didn't see another way out – they decided to surrender the girls to the shelter.

At the League, all we knew was that Clermont County Animal Shelter asked us for help placing two dogs, who had been surrendered by their owner. The owners could not afford to keep and house them, we were told – an all-too common occurrence, unfortunately. So common, in fact, we didn't think twice about it. Keke and Roxxy were transferred to the League, and we gave little thought to what had come before. To us, they were just new "intakes." We didn't know how very loved those "intakes" were.

Until, that is, we heard from Will.

Will hadn't known that his parents were having to give Keke and Roxxy up. When he found out, he didn't really know what he could do about it. He didn't have a plan. But Keke and Roxxy – those were Will's dogs. So when he found out they were at the League, his first call was just to beg us to give him time to find a way to get his dogs back. He would figure out a way, he assured us.

But figuring out a way was not easy. Will lives in a college dorm – they don't accept pets at all, let alone two solid, rambunctious dogs like Keke and Roxxy! Will is a student, a young man, not at all established financially or logistically in his life. At the League, our hearts were broken – we honestly didn't see a way forward for him, either. But we agreed to hold onto Keke and Roxxy until he had some time.

And Will proved us wrong – because after all, Keke and Roxxy are Will's dogs. After several weeks of petitioning and filling out paperwork, the college gave Will permission to get his girls back. And he showed up on our doorstep – transported from the west side of town by an Uber driver, because he doesn't have a car – to bring Keke and Roxxy home.

Both girls thumped their tails in excitement when they saw him. Keke – who had gotten depressed at the shelter, and from whom we hadn't gotten a single tail wag or expression of joy – growled like a happy bear when she saw Will. And Will – who has himself struggled with anxiety and depression – was just as happy to see them.

Because after all, Keke and Roxxy are Will's dogs. 🐾



Donor profile

Q&A WITH STEVE AND KATHY BIEDENBACH

As Hope 365 donors, Steve and Kathy Biedenbach's monthly commitment gives hope to all the homeless animals who find their way to the League. Their longtime support and immeasurable generosity has helped countless animals thrive and make their way into their forever homes!

What role have pets played in your life?

Pets have played a major role in our lives since we have no children. Our pets are family members, and we give them lots of love and the best care we possibly can. We have an excellent vet, and we are also very pleased that MedVet is now a local resource for us. In the last 10+ years, all of our dogs have been senior rescues, which we highly recommend; age is just a number. Senior dogs deserve the same treatment as the younger ones do, and they often are even more appreciative to have a forever home.

How did you first hear about the League?

A friend told us about LFAW 30 plus years ago, and we became members right away. We were very attracted by the no-kill policy.

Why did you choose to support the League?

The League has a strong history in the area, is very well run, and has great support from the community...deservedly so. Many times we have seen the League mobilize it's resources to save the life of a badly injured stray animal...that is a group we want to be associated with. We are more than happy to contribute to such a worthwhile cause.

If your pets could talk, what do you think they would tell you?

We're very happy, but how about some more treats, belly rubs, and an extra meal at noon? 🐾🐾



Pictured: Jake (T) and Lacey (B), the Biedenbach's rescue pups!

Make a difference!



Learn more about becoming a monthly donor at lfaw.org/monthly

Spay Everything!

TNR AT THE LEAGUE

It's that time of year, when you hear us whining about "kitten season" - but this year, we're ready to do something about it!

The League has joined the Clermont County TNR (trap/neuter/return) team, and spay/neuter clinics OAR and UCAN, to help humanely reduce the number of free-roaming cats in Clermont County.

League staff has been humanely trapping kitties at known colony locations to have them neutered before returning to the site; and helping the CCTNR team transport cats to their spay/neuter appointments in Cincinnati. The partnership between these groups has been wildly (un!)productive - in just a single month, more than 60 kitties have been trapped and fixed and are no longer producing unwanted litters of kittens in our neighborhoods.



The League also loans humane live traps to the public. If you are feeding a colony of cats, please, help us by fixing them! The medical care for the cats is free. If you know about a colony of cats that have not yet been TNRed, please call the League to report where they are so we can help. 🐾

To learn more about our TNR efforts, contact Shannon at shannon@lfaw.org

ADOPT ME



Beaufort - 5 years old, male

This handsome, cheeky hunk traveled our way from a North Carolina shelter with a 90% euthanasia rate for cats - so he's already burned one of his nine lives! We intend to make sure his other eight are full of love, soft beds, and treats. Beaufort likely spent most of his life outdoors, so can be a bit shy at first. But this big guy absolutely loves people once he feels safe and settled and can't get enough head scratches and chin rubs.



Dexter - 8 years old, male

First, Dexter lost his family when his owner got too sick to care for him. Then, he was diagnosed with cancer. THEN, his surgery to remove the tumor went south and Dexter had to be rushed to the emergency hospital. This sweet boy has been through a lot this year. He just needs one good thing to happen to him. One big, good thing - like finding his new family!

View all the cats and dogs available for adoption at [LFAW.org/adopt](https://www.lfaw.org/adopt)