

A Letter from Our Capital Campaign Spokesdog

Hi Furriends,

Since I started writing to you, my buddies at the Cleveland APL have gone through lots of changes. After we broke ground on the Unleash the Dream expansion and renovation project—I was there because I am the campaign spokesdog—construction was shut down for a bit because of the pandemic and then there were a few delays because of supply chain issues. But now the “new” APL is open to the public, and it’s hard to remember what the shelter looked like before all of this hard work.

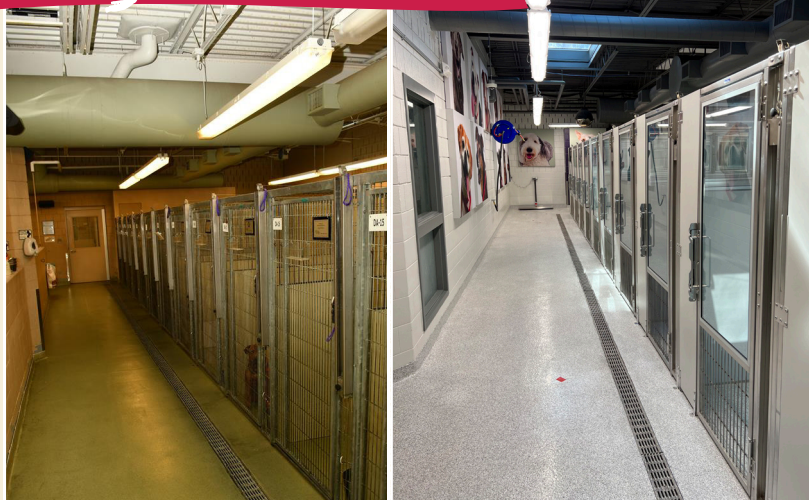
As I write this letter—well dictate this letter because of the opposable thumb thing—the finishing touches, including beautiful signage, are going up around the shelter. I can keep telling you about it, but it’s not the same as seeing the differences. My paw-rents recently taught me a new saying—“a picture is worth 1,000 words.” So, here are lots of fun words for you.

The first big change was to the clinic (pictured to the right). The old clinic (top right) had no natural light and was so small that the team had to walk between recovering animals who were waking up from surgery. But now, there’s two spacious surgery suites, a medical treatment area, an ICU, exam rooms for the public clinic, an X-ray suite, a dental suite, recovery cages, a lab area, and so much more.



The old Intake Lobby (pictured to the left) was dark, dated, and did not provide the proper spaces to admit animals. The supervisor and foster coordinator sat in the lobby and there was no privacy for families who came to us for help during some of their most difficult times. Meanwhile, the project CARE and TNR teams were working in a sally port that had been converted into an office and reception area where clients entered through a “secret” door in the garage. Now, there’s plenty of space to accommodate everyone in our new Animal Resource Center, including species-specific waiting areas and consultation “cubbies” where clients can be given privacy when having tough conversations with our team members.

Making a Difference



Even the kennels got a face lift! Now, the areas where animals are housed have as much light as possible. The narrow metal dog kennels have been replaced with new, updated kennels. Now, only the bottom has open metal bars, which means that visitors can still give everyone treats, but my friends must keep all their paws on the floor to get them. There's nothing like good manners to impress potential adopters! The cat holding cages are bigger and have quiet latch closures to help with scary noises and a separate area for the bathroom—er, litter box.



Even the Adoptions Lobby got an update! Before, the Adoptions desk was small, and it was a barrier between our staff and adopters. There was no privacy, and it was hard to hear when speaking to a staff member. Now adopters can meet with our Adoptions team in private cubbies, where they can sit and learn more about their new family members. Plus, there are even Adoptions Associates in the cat adoption room so adopters can choose a cat and process the adoption right in that same room.

I could keep going on and on about the changes. Or you could stop by and see the difference yourself! Everyone who's visited has said how nice and welcoming the Cleveland APL's improved facility is, and I'm sure you'll agree.

Thank you for helping make such a big difference in the lives of animals in Northeast Ohio! We couldn't have done this without your support!

Indiana Bones and his sister, Lorna, at Fur Ball in 2017.



Volunteer at the APL

Share your love of animals and become a Cleveland Animal Protective League volunteer.

Interested in helping the animals at the Cleveland APL from your own home? Email our foster team at Foster@ClevelandAPL.org to join our amazing foster team today!

Interested in helping the animals of the Cleveland APL in our shelter or at events? Check out our website at www.ClevelandAPL.org for more information and to submit an online volunteer application.