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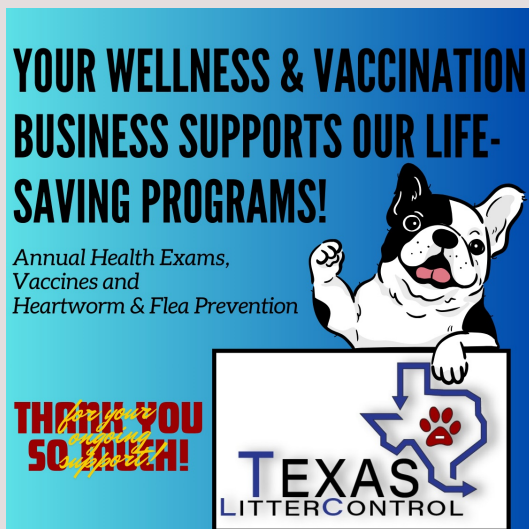


Texas Litter Control

The Litter Scoop

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- A Fresh Start for Valerie & Chloe (Another happy ending story)
- Update on TLC's bid on the Conroe Animal Shelter - Bid DENIED!
- Now Hiring Vets & Vet Techs



Did you know?

When you use Texas Litter Control for your annual vaccines and preventatives, you are helping fund our life-saving programs.

Help other animals while you are caring for your own!

Thanks so much for your support!

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Another Happy Ending! A Fresh Start: Valerie and Chloe's Journey

Introduction:

Valerie, a young woman with a hopeful heart, embarked on a journey to Texas with her beloved cat, Chloe, seeking a fresh start and new opportunities. She found a job and settled into a new apartment, believing this was the beginning of a brighter chapter. However, the stability Valerie had hoped



Texas Litter Control's Bid to Assume Operations of the Conroe Animal Shelter was Rejected by the City

The City of Conroe terminated the agreement with the company contracted to run the shelter (Care Corp) due to some problems with the care of the animals. Unfortunately, they terminated the contract without a real plan in place to operate the shelter properly and the Police Department had to absorb all of the job duties of the shelter employees.

TLC submitted a proposal to take over operations of the shelter. The proposal included low cost services to the public and striving for a 90%+ live release rate for the shelter. We wanted to create a training ground for new veterinarians wanting to enter into shelter medicine and high quality, high volume spay/neuter. You can read the full proposal here:

<https://texaslittercontrol.org/life-saving-projects>

The proposal was rejected.

The following 5 reasons were cited:

1. They do not want the addition of a building on site for a small wellness clinic for the public.

**This is not a big deal for TLC, and we would omit this from our proposal.*

2. The City does not want TLC to operate a low-cost clinic for the public at the shelter. They say that it would be unfair competition for local veterinarians.

**This does not make any sense for several reasons. The main reason is that we already operate 3 low-cost clinics for the public that Conroe residents already use. It would also allow us to generate revenue to bank against shelter*

for was short-lived, and life took a dramatic turn leading to financial instability that soon spiraled into homelessness.

The Challenge:

The turning point came when Valerie's work hours were unexpectedly reduced. As weeks turned into months, she struggled to obtain additional employment. With her financial situation deteriorating, Valerie and Chloe eventually found themselves unhoused, moving from one hotel to another. And as one would expect, the cost of temporary lodging soon became untenable, forcing Valerie to seek help from friends and co-workers.

Sadly, despite Valerie's pleas, none of her acquaintances were able to accommodate both her and Chloe. Desperate, she agreed to pay for temporary care for Chloe, but this arrangement was also unsustainable. By early July, Valerie was at a breaking point, unable to provide a stable home for herself or her cherished pet.

The Intervention:

On the morning of July 4th, Valerie reached out to Texas Litter Control's Help Me Keep My Pet (HMKMP) program, her last hope in an increasingly dire situation. The HMKMP team, understanding the urgency of Valerie's situation, mobilized immediately. They collaborated with Texas Litter Control (TLC) clinic staff to ensure Chloe received the essential veterinary care required for boarding.

Within hours, HMKMP arranged for Chloe to be placed with their trusted boarding partner. This immediate intervention not only provided Chloe with a safe and caring environment but also gave Valerie a crucial respite to regain her footing.

The Transformation:

Thanks to the intervention of the HMKMP program, Valerie found a glimmer of hope. The program's support was not just about providing a temporary shelter for Chloe but also about helping Valerie rebuild her life. Within just seven weeks, Valerie managed to secure a new apartment and stabilize her finances.

On a sunny morning in late August, Valerie and Chloe were reunited, their bond stronger than ever. Valerie's gratitude was immense, not just for the

expenses saving the taxpayers money. This item is not a deal breaker for TLC, and we would be willing to omit this from the proposal. Alternatively, we would just lease a space near the shelter to provide much needed low-cost services to the public.

3. The city does not want to be responsible for after-hours veterinary care.

**This is something that is an animal cruelty issue. If they want TLC to staff a veterinarian 24/7, it will add at least another half a million dollars to the proposal. Fiscally it just doesn't make sense. There's nothing we can do about this one. The city would have to provide emergency care to an animal coming in injured. An ACO can't just dump an injured animal in a cage on Saturday night and have it wait for care until Monday morning. It puts TLC and the City in a liability situation. The ACO could be prosecuted for animal cruelty. We don't want anyone put in a bad situation...Also, keep in mind that is why the shelter is in the situation it's in now.*

Now for the 2 deal breakers...

4. The City will not commit to TNR for cats.

**There is no way the shelter will ever get to a 90% save rate without it. When I spoke with the City yesterday, they told me that they weren't having problems adopting cats. Unfortunately, they are basing their assessments on the fact that they are not taking owner surrenders and the ACOs are not picking up strays. In addition, this is not kitten season. Talk to me next April about this one. Catch and kill does not work. The City of Conroe is living proof of this. If it worked, the City should not be seeing any stray cats entering into the shelter.*

5. TLC has no say in ACO policy. We were informed that ACOs should not be spending time trying to find pet owners in the field. They are supposed to just pick the pet up and dump it at the shelter for the shelter to sort out.

**This is a huge deal breaker for TLC. The pet always has a better chance of getting returned to its owner with a little work in the field when the pet is found. We have researched several business models in getting shelters to a 90% save rate and every one of them explained that the ACOs will either make or break you. An attitude of getting the pets back to their owners and a partnership must be formed to be successful. So this one is*

physical support, but for the guidance and encouragement that had kept her going through the hardest times.

Conclusion:

Valerie's story is a testament to the critical role that the Help Me Keep My Pet program plays in the lives of pet owners facing hardship. By addressing both the immediate needs of pets and the underlying challenges their owners face, the HMKMP program not only prevents the separation of beloved pets from their owners but also fosters recovery and resilience in times of crisis.

With your help, Texas Litter Control can continue to make a profound impact, providing not just assistance for pets, but hope and a pathway to stability for individuals like Valerie who are striving to overcome adversity.

Your support will ensure that more stories like Valerie and Chloe's end in reunions, giving families the chance to rebuild and start anew, together.

I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE!

You can also donate new and gently used items to our resale shop in Tomball 7 days a week to support our shelter intervention program!



Now Hiring!

definitely a deal breaker and it shows TLC that the City of Conroe is not ready for change.

We put the proposal together as a guide to a 90% save rate. We advised the City to hire a WELL QUALIFIED Shelter Director and then LISTEN TO THEM! We also feel they need take a good, hard look at existing staff and realize that it does not matter how long someone has been in a position. If people are not willing to change with the times, it means they have outlived their usefulness. You can't hold back what is best for the animals and the citizens of the City of Conroe because a couple of people can't manage much needed and wanted change.

We are here to help in whatever capacity we can, and we welcome the City to ask for whatever help they need. We hope at some point the City reconsiders their decision. If you are a resident of the City of Conroe, feel free to reach out to the Mayor and City Council. Your opinion matters. Here is the contact information for Residents of the City of Conroe:

<https://www.cityofconroe.org/government/index.php>

Right now, the Police Department needs help walking dogs and cleaning kennels at the shelter. Contact the shelter directly to find out how to volunteer. They have also waived adoption fees for many of the animals. Help them out and go get a new family member!



TEXAS LITTER CONTROL IS NOW HIRING
EXPERIENCED VETERINARIANS AND VET
TECHNICIANS! EMAIL RESUMES TO
CAREERS@TEXASLITTERCONTROL.ORG.

Thank you for your continued support!

**Sincerely,
The Texas Litter Control Team**

**Texas Litter Control | (281) 528-1238 | www.TexasLitterControl.org |
Reggie@TexasLitterControl.org**

**Spring Clinic: 586 Sawdust Rd, Spring, TX 77380
Tomball Clinic: 28439 Tomball Pkwy Suites A & B, Tomball, TX 77377
Humble Clinic: 19333 US Hwy 59 N Suite 230, Humble, TX 77380
TLC RESALE: 28437 Tomball Pkwy, Tomball, TX 77377**

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