

Paw-Print PRESS

Winter 2024

Meet Taylor

This girl went from stray
to supermom because
of your compassion.
Story continued inside.



Potter League
Enriching Lives

A Mother's Love:

Taylor's Journey from Stray to Supermom

Some stories start with uncertainty and fear but end with love, resilience, and hope. Taylor's is one of those stories. Found as a stray and brought to a local municipal shelter, our animal care staff initially thought that she had recently given birth. However, it soon became clear that Taylor wasn't just a new mother — she was still pregnant, and she was terrified.

When Providence animal control reached out to us at the Potter League for Animals, we knew we had to help. The very next day, Taylor gave birth to 10 healthy, beautiful puppies. Our amazing foster family stepped in, providing her and her puppies with the safe, nurturing environment they needed. With a cozy setup, Taylor received constant care and attention, surrounded by warmth and love to watch the puppies grow.

Nursing 10 puppies is no easy task. Taylor was exhausted, but a truly attentive mother and we ensured her diet was enriched to support her through this demanding time. The puppies thrived under her care and the love of their foster family. The daily updates and photos from the foster home quickly became a highlight for our team.

Now, as winter approaches, these little bundles of fur are no longer tiny newborns — they are active, curious, and growing stronger by the day. With the support of our

dedicated community and foster program, we can say yes to helping dogs like Taylor and her 10 adorable bundles.

Taylor, too, has already begun to open her heart. Her once timid demeanor has softened, and she is learning to enjoy walks, pets, and the simple joys of being part of a family. As her puppies grow, Taylor is also discovering what it means to trust again and embrace love.

It's moments like these that remind us why fostering is so important. It transforms lives — not only for animals like Taylor and her puppies but for the families who open their homes to give them a second chance. Thanks to your support and that of our community, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of pets in need.



B-MOD Graduates: Transforming Lives Through Behavior & Training



Our Behavior Team is dedicated to enriching the lives of shelter animals and those in foster care. Thanks to generous donors, many dogs and cats have "graduated" from our B-Mod program, gaining the skills they need for successful adoptions.



Bam Bam

Bam Bam, a 7-month-old cat, began his journey with us in uncertainty. When he first arrived, he was extremely reserved and scared, often hiding and avoiding human interaction. However, our Behavior Team quickly noticed that he found comfort and confidence in the presence of other cats.

Using innovative techniques, they introduced him to Churu treats, which piqued his interest. Gradually, he began to emerge from his hiding spot, slowly stretching and allowing gentle pets. With patience, he explored his surroundings, played with a string wand, and displayed relaxed body language. Bam Bam's transformation was a testament to the power of understanding and compassion.

With time, patience, and the support of our community, Bam Bam flourished, eventually finding an amazing home where he could continue to thrive. This journey reminds us of the importance of meeting animals where they are, and providing them with the comfort and safety they need to reveal their true selves.

Keeping Families Together:

How the Potter League's Pet Food Pantry Helps Pets Stay Home

At the Potter League for Animals, we believe that pets belong with the people who love them. It's a simple yet powerful truth, and it drives our programs and services aimed at supporting families and their pets, no matter the circumstances. One of the most vital ways we help make this a reality is through our Potter Pet Food Pantry.

Last year, we distributed an incredible 55,634 pounds of pet food to families in need — that's the equivalent of more than 178,029 meals for pets in our community. That's more than just food — it's peace of mind. For many, rising costs have made providing basic necessities challenging, with the price of pet food having increased significantly over the past few years. Pet food inflation alone has surged by over 12% in just the last two years, making it even harder for families to meet the needs of both their pets and themselves.

Pet food insecurity is real, and it forces many to make heartbreaking choices — like whether to use their own food supplies to feed their pets. This is where the Potter Pet Food Pantry steps in. By supplying pet food not only directly through our pantry but also to local human food pantries, we are helping ensure that no one has to make that kind of decision. This partnership makes access to pet food easier, less stressful, and more discreet, fostering an environment of dignity for families in need.

Our goal is to ensure that no family has to feel isolated or embarrassed when asking for help. We strive to create a welcoming and supportive space where pet guardians can receive the assistance they need, knowing they're part of a community that understands and cares.

The Potter Pet Food Pantry isn't just about keeping pets fed — it's about keeping them with their families, where they belong. By meeting people where they are, we provide essential support



that alleviates the burden of worry from pet owners who may be struggling. Our commitment extends beyond our pantry walls; we actively engage with the community through mobile food pantries, reaching out to nearly a dozen human food pantries statewide. This outreach ensures that pets continue to receive the love and care they deserve, no matter what challenges their families face.

By providing accessible pet food resources, we help create a safety net that allows families to keep their beloved companions close, fostering a bond that enriches both human and animal lives.

We rely on donations to keep this program going, and we gladly accept food donations, including open bags, as long as they're in the original packaging. We couldn't do this without the unbelievable support of local pet supply retailer Rumford Pet and the generous contributions from our community. Thanks to all who support this vital program, we're able to keep pets and their families together.

Fern

When Fern arrived at the Potter League as a stray, she was fearful and conflicted. With her body curled and stiff, she initially approached staff hesitantly, barking defensively in the exam room. With no one to claim her, our Behavior Team began working with her, giving her the time and space she needed to feel safe.

Over the course of seven weeks, Fern showed remarkable progress. She started taking treats and approaching staff, becoming more playful as we introduced her to other friendly, exuberant dogs. These interactions helped her gain confidence, and she learned to enjoy chasing toys and engaging in zoomies. By the end of her stay, Fern was seeking out affection and leaning into petting, a far cry from the shy dog who first arrived.

Fern is now a happy, playful pup who loves interacting with others. This transformation wouldn't be possible without the support of our generous donors. Your contributions allow us to provide the necessary resources for behavior rehabilitation, helping dogs like Fern find their way to loving homes.



2024 Gift Guide

Looking for meaningful ways to make a difference this holiday season? Explore these heartwarming gift ideas that allow you to give back in honor or memory of a loved one:

1 Donate to Help Animals

Give hope to animals in need this holiday season by donating to the Potter League. Your contribution provides vital resources to help pets find loving homes during the holidays and beyond. You can also donate in honor or memory of someone special, and we will send an acknowledgment on your behalf.



Donate Now

2 Gift Awesome Potter League Merch!

Surprise your loved ones with stylish Potter League merchandise! Choose from a range of apparel and accessories while supporting our furry friends.



Shop Here

3 2025 Potter League for Animals Calendar

Spread joy all year with our 2025 wall calendar featuring adorable pet photos. Available at our Animal Care & Adoption Center or on our website.

4 Give a Gift Certificate

Send a gift certificate that can be used for adoption fees, training classes, or our in-shelter retail items. Available at our Animal Care & Adoption Center!

5 Give a Gift to a Pet in Need

Homeless animals arrive scared and alone. Your gift brings them hope, care, and love. Donate items from our Amazon or Chewy Wishlist to enrich their lives. Most Needed Items:

- Canned Spray Cheese
- Dog Treats: Training Treats, Pupperoni, Bully Sticks, Tracheas (No Milk Bones Please)
- Dog Beds/Blankets
- Cat Food (Wet and Dry)
- Cat Hidey Beds/Blankets
- Cat Churu/Treats
- Non-Plush Dog Toys
- Cat Toys
- Lick Mats
- Hot Dogs/String Cheese
- Clorox Wipes
- Rabbit/Small Animal Toys and Treats
- Laundry Detergent

For more information, please contact us at development@PotterLeague.org or call the Development Team at 401-846-0592.

On behalf of the countless animals whose lives will be touched by your generosity, we extend our heartfelt thanks. Your support makes a world of difference.

Save the Dates

Potter League Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 30, 2025

LoveBash for Animals
Saturday, April 5, 2025

P.S. I Love You Pet Photo Contest
Saturday, February 1 - Tuesday, March 4, 2025
www.gogophotocontest.com/potterleague

Heart & Sole Walk for Animals
Sunday, October 19, 2025



Potter League
Enriching Lives

Animal Care & Adoption Center

87 Oliphant Lane
Middletown, RI 02842
401.846.8276 (p)
401.846.0681 (f)

Spay & Neuter Clinic

235 Elm Street
Warwick, RI 02888
401.369.7297 (p)
401.369.7295 (f)

Pets In Need Veterinary Clinic

50 Amaral Street
Riverside, RI 02915
401.270.3832 (p)
401.270.3487 (f)

www.PotterLeague.org

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