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Animals look for their loved ones before they die.

Dear Animal Companion,

Animal euthanasia is a daily fact of life at municipal animal shelters all over the western world. When an animal is found wandering, municipal animal control officers pick them up. If the animal is microchipped, he might be reunited with his family. If he isn't microchipped and he's sick in any way, generally he'll be sent to death row, for immediate euthanizing. There are few resources to rehabilitate strays.

We're sending this letter in the hope that you'll find it in your heart to help us to help some of our most vulnerable, with a donation to our annual fundraising campaign.

Why Help?

A heartbreaking Twitter post went viral this summer. An anonymous veterinarian, known only as "Tired Vet" posted the sad truth about animal euthanasia. "The animal's last moments are usually them frantically looking around for their owners."

In response to the viral Twitter post, thousands of vets, shelter workers and pet owners have testified to the sad reality of what they've seen, over and over again: **animals look for their loved ones before they die.**

Most Shelters Turn Away Old and Sick Animals

Did you know many animal shelters only accept healthy, readily adoptable family pets? That's right, many animal shelters here in the UK don't accept animals found wandering, sick and alone. The sick, sad, lonely lost cat or dog will be turned away to municipal animal service to be put to immediate death.

Our team recently accepted 59 emaciated, dirty dogs of all sizes and breeds from a dog meat farm in Asia. Every last one of them was in dire need of medical attention. Just as sad was how desperate these dogs were for affection of any kind. Few of these dogs will ever be adopted, but here at Oldingham we can give them a safe forever home.

Here at Oldingham Animal Sanctuary, we take every animal in need of care. You can surely imagine, it costs a lot of money, because every animal that comes to the shelter needs some level of medical care, from the most basic vaccinations to those that are very ill and need acute care.

Won't you find it in your heart to help these innocents?

Here at Oldingham Animal Shelter we are a non-kill shelter, and our shelter is always full. We care for an average of 800 cats, dogs, rabbits and other small animals at a time.

We can't do it alone. We need your help. Our annual operating budget of \$250,000 comes purely from donations and our fundraising efforts, such as the popular annual Oldingham Winter Bake Sale, and sales of our Cute Critters Calendar.

It's sad to know that animals are put to death simply because so many are unwanted. But an even more cruel form of euthanasia is what homeless animals face on the streets. Starving to death. Dying of untreated injury or disease, traffic accidents and even meeting painful deaths when they trust the wrong human.

"I think many people look at stray animals and see them as a nuisance. But these are actual living feeling beings that lead incredibly brutal and painful lives. And it's largely because of things that we humans have done. No-kill shelters are their only hope."

—Cesar Romero, "The Dog Whisperer"

Help Us Prevent a Crisis in Oldingham

By taking care of the old and infirm animals that no other shelter will accept, we also keep our communities safe. Desperate, hungry animals can quickly become problem animals. And one unsterilized stray dog or cat quickly becomes dozens and even hundreds of homeless, feral cats and dogs.

In the U.S., the problem of stray dogs is becoming a crisis. Bloomberg News reported that up to 50,000 dogs roam in packs around the city of Detroit. There are an estimated 50,000 street stray dogs in Los Angeles, and in New Orleans, estimates are placed at 120,000.

Stray animals are heartbreaking, but it's important to know, these roaming, sometimes sickly animals have many negative impacts on city environment and human health.

Stray animals can transfer and spread Rabies. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there are more than 200 million stray dogs worldwide and that every year, incredibly, 55,000 people die from Rabies. Detroit ranked sixth last year for dog attacks in the U.S. In Los Angeles County and City alone, about 200,000 residents were bitten by abandoned dogs in one year.

It's imperative that we work together to manage the stray animal population in Oldingham. By spaying and neutering the animals that come to Oldingham, we prevent thousands of unwanted, homeless animal offspring.

Your donation will go to food, long-term shelter, and medical care. Your donation will keep animals off the streets, and from reproducing and become feral packs and colonies.

Please donate today so that we can continue providing a warm, safe, forever home in our sanctuary.

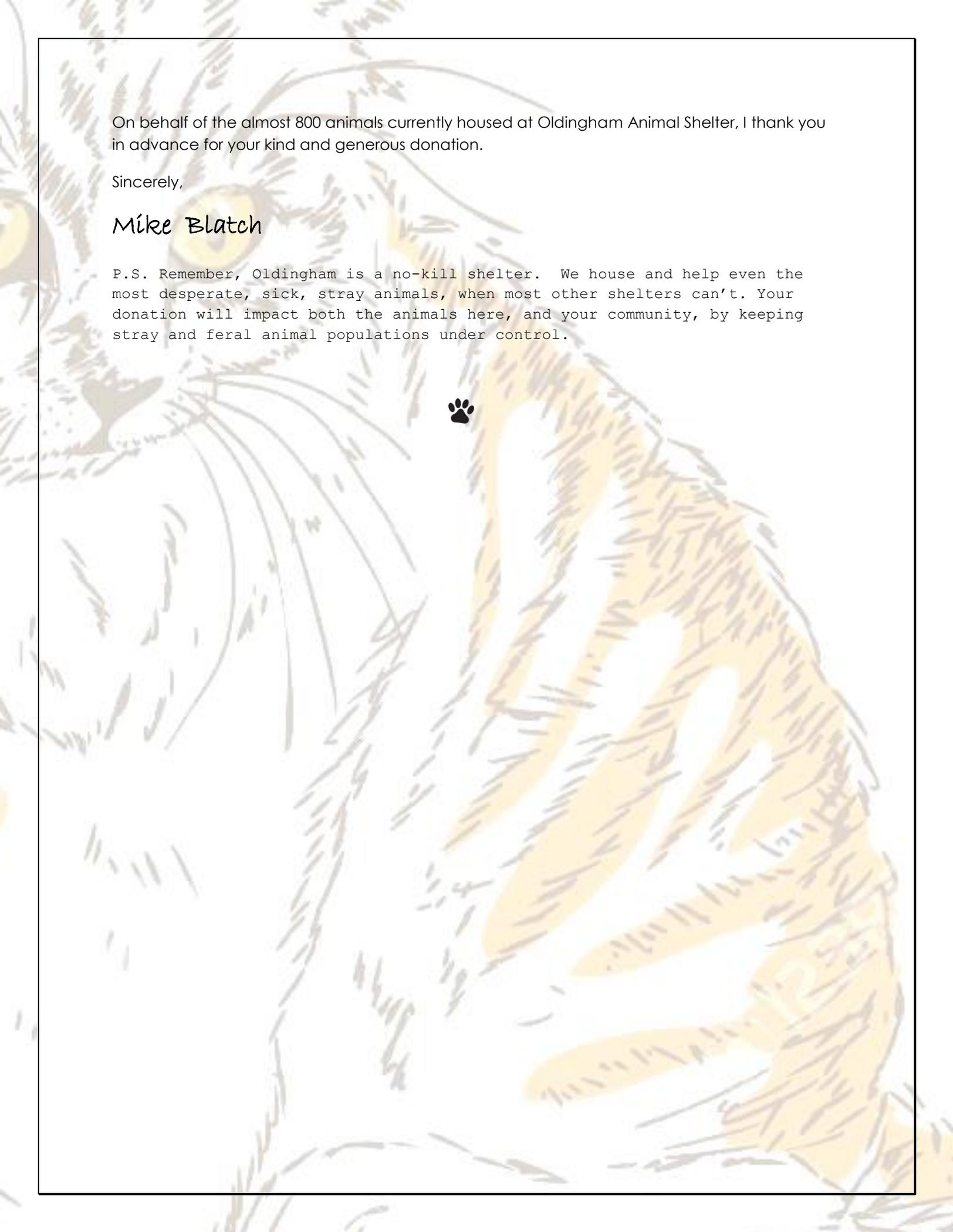
We are a registered charity, which means your donation is tax deductible.

What level donation can you make to Oldingham Animal Shelter? Please check off one of the boxes below. A postage paid envelope has been included for your convenience. Or call us at 1-800-SAD-PAWS and we'll happily take a donation over the phone.



Yes, I would like to help! Please bill my credit card for:

- A monthly gift of \$ _____
- \$500: Animal Angel: A donation of \$500 will feed 5 animals for six months
- \$250: Pet Patron: A donation of \$250 will allow us to spay or neuter two animals
- \$100: Animal Friend: A donation of \$100 will allow us to vaccinate three animals
- \$50: Animal Helper: A donation of \$50 helps pay for important food and medicine
- Other: Any donation will benefit the animals here at Oldingham Animal Shelter.



On behalf of the almost 800 animals currently housed at Oldingham Animal Shelter, I thank you in advance for your kind and generous donation.

Sincerely,

Mike Blatch

P.S. Remember, Oldingham is a no-kill shelter. We house and help even the most desperate, sick, stray animals, when most other shelters can't. Your donation will impact both the animals here, and your community, by keeping stray and feral animal populations under control.

