



Collier County Government



Public Services Division
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAS EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION THANKS TO TWO LOCAL ADVOCATES

Domestic Animal Services • 7610 Davis Blvd., Naples, FL 34104

(Naples, FL) - Thanks to the efforts of local pet lovers and national organizations responding to the local call to action, 100 new dog beds have been donated to Collier County Domestic Animal Services (DAS).

Kelly Fox and Bibi Barrett, Naples animal advocates and residents, wanted to help Collier County's homeless pets after a recent visit to the shelter. Fox and Barrett noticed not every dog had a bed for resting and sleeping. Following the example of Dr. Marty Becker, Good Morning America's contributing veterinarian, the two women followed his national campaign to give every shelter animal a bed. Dr. Becker is also the resident veterinarian on the Dr. Oz Show.

On Dr. Becker's website he showcases a story about an Orlando, Florida shelter that he has assisted in gaining donations for hundreds of pet beds. On Jan. 22, the Good Morning America contributor asked for donations for the Orlando shelter, and the donations began immediately.

Kuranda beds are the top choice of shelters because they are comfortable, virtually indestructible, and easy to clean.

On Feb. 7, Kelly and Bibi followed suit and sent massive emails out with flyers to begin their bed drive for DAS. Just four days later, 100 dog beds and several cat bed towers have been donated to the Collier County animal shelter, a wonderful story of people stepping up to help from all over the country.

“Anything that we can do to make shelter dogs more comfortable and adoptable is worth every single effort ,” Kelly said.

Dr. Becker himself heard about Kelly and Bibi's efforts and matched their dog bed drive with 14 beds through an online Dog Bed Challenge. DAS had 58 beds by the morning of Thursday, Feb. 11 and by the afternoon the national Onyx and Breezy Foundation had donated 42 additional beds meeting the drive's 100 dog bed goal.

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“We’re thrilled at the response,” said DAS director Amanda Townsend. “This small local effort spread nationally just to help the dogs here, and it goes a long way toward making the animals’ stay more comfortable while here at DAS. This will have a direct effect on the positive outcomes of the dogs at our shelter, because a calm, happy animal is a better adoption candidate.”

Bibi said, “We want to make sure that when the shelter dogs go to bed at night they have a soft comfortable place to lay down their heads. This is the least we can do for them.”

Many of the donated beds have already arrived at DAS’s 7610 Davis Blvd. shelter, and more of the donated beds will be arriving soon.

DAS has a bed for every dog kennel. Now, the shelter is asking for people to donate cat towers for our favorite feline friends. To donate a cat tower, go to www.collierpets.com and take the link in the upper right to the Kuranda donate-a-bed program and choose a cat tower.

For more information, contact Camden Smith at (239) 252-5326 or on cell (239) 285-7935. Kelly Fox may be contacted by calling (239) 438-6997. Bibi Barrett may be contacted by calling (239) 860-4023.