

## Our animals need YOU this holiday season.

Zoe and Sarah won't have much of a Christmas – or much of a life – without you.





Zoe is a 4 to 5 year old German Shepherd Dog who came to Harbor Humane Society about 30 pounds underweight and with a skin infection so bad that there are few places on her body that you can pet her without causing her pain. She is so sick because her owners decided to self-medicate her with horse dewormer to try and treat her heartworm disease instead of taking her to a vet.

Heartworm disease is a very serious, sometimes fatal, disease and trying to treat it on your own is never the right answer. Heartworm disease is easily preventable if pet owners simply give their pets a monthly pill to prevent the disease caused by the bite of an infected mosquito. But once a dog tests positive for heartworm disease, it is crucial that he or she sees a vet immediately for the appropriate treatment. Depending on how long the dog has had the disease, the treatment can be lengthy and costly. And all of it could have been avoided if the owners had just been proactive and given her the preventative.

Zoe's skin and teeth are also falling out because of poor nutrition; she desperately needs your help to get better. She is the sweetest, kindest girl, and it's going to be a long road and expensive journey to save her life!



And then there's Sarah, another German Shepherd Dog. She's only four months old, but also has a terrible skin condition and worse, her hip is so deformed that it comes right out of the socket. This is clearly the result of poor breeding. There are many reputable breeders out there, but others are only in business for the money and do not care about the animals. This little girl is also facing an uphill battle, and will need lots of costly surgery and care to develop into the wonderful companion she was meant to be.

This is the time of year when we all feel a little more generous, and Zoe and Sarah, really need your help. Making a holiday gift to help with their care and medical needs can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Zoe and Sarah aren't the only ones that need your help. We tend to think of spring as kitten season, but Harbor Humane Society gets in litters of kittens all year round.



We have several tiny babies now, who need to be bottle-fed around the clock every couple hours by volunteers because their mothers were killed or their owners kept the mother cat but had no use for a half dozen or more kittens. These people just wanted to "educate" their kids by having them witness an animal giving birth or were too irresponsible to have the cat spayed. What's irresponsible is adding to the pet overpopulation problem where shelters like HHS spend \$150 per kitten to bottle-feed these hungry felines from infancy to the time they can be weaned. And many times there are additional costs because the kittens are in poor health as well.

So, when you're making out your holiday gift list this year, please don't forget Harbor Humane Society! You probably give a little extra money to a family member who's struggled this year. Why not Zoe? She's struggling too. And you will likely buy a special gift for a friend who needs a little lift. Think of Sarah; she's special, too, and will make someone a wonderful friend once she gets the help she needs.

It's easy to think that someone else will help, and that you really don't need to. But what if everyone felt that way, and Zoe and Sarah and all the kittens were totally forgotten? The holiday spirit is everywhere, and everyone can give something. It just makes you feel good to know that you are helping others. And for these and other animals like them, you will truly be giving them the gift of life.

All donations are tax-deductible.

## Thank you for your continued support. Happy Holidays from all of us here at Harbor Humane Society!

