



Pets for Vets Launches Kansas City Chapter Seeking Positive Reinforcement Trainers

*Avery Shahandeh Presents at March **HEART** Meeting*

Kansas City, MO – March 17, 2015

At their March meeting, members of **HEART**land Positive Dog Training Alliance (**HEART**) learned about the new Kansas City chapter of Pets for Vets from Chapter Co-Director and organizer Avery Shahandeh. Pets for Vets helps heal the emotional wounds of military veterans by pairing that veteran with a rescued shelter animal specifically selected for compatibility and then trained as a companion animal for the vet. The goal is to save a shelter animal who might be facing euthanasia and to train them to help returning vets having difficulties transitioning back to civilian life.

Shahandeh summarized how the program works. Candidate veterans are screened by Pets for Vets and are then paired with a shelter pet that matches the vets personality and lifestyle. Once the pet is selected and adopted, the pet spends time in the home of a foster/trainer and is taught basic obedience skills and other behaviors required to live with the new vet/owner.

Pets for Vets requires that its trainers must use only positive reinforcement training methods. That **HEART** is an alliance of dog trainers committed to positive, force-free training makes **HEART** trainers excellent candidates as Pets for Vets trainers. There is a natural synchronicity between the organizations.

About Pets for Vets. Pets for Vets is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing a second chance for shelter pets by rescuing, training and pairing them with America's veterans who could benefit from having a companion animal. There are currently 34 chapters across the United States. For more information, visit www.petsforvets.com.

About Avery Shahandeh. Avery Shahandeh is Chapter Co-Director and organizer of the Kansas City chapter of Pets for Vets.

HEARTland Positive Dog Training Alliance is a group of like-minded individuals comprised of dog trainers, pet professionals and dog enthusiasts aligning themselves to create an awareness of the importance and benefits of positive reinforcement, force free dog training. For more information, visit www.trainerswithheart.com.

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