

Oregon teen and Ellen Degeneres responsible for Safe Haven food donations

I was rushing through the store one day and was drawn to a article in People Magazine. The article was about a little girl who had a big dream to feed homeless shelter dogs. Actually she was really doing something about it.

Mimi launched freekibble.com on April 1, 2008. Freekibble's mission is to provide good, healthy food to dogs and cats to those shelters who are working so hard to see that none of them go hungry. Freekibble now has 13 shelters across the country on a monthly program and has made many large one-time donations to other shelters thanks to generous donations from Canidae and HALO pets, co-owned by tv personality, Ellen Degeneres.

I was so excited. I had to share the article with my good friend

Cheryl Bauman who is the proud owner of Miss Licorice, one of our rescue dogs. They live in Los Angles, Calif. Cheryl started right away trying to make contact with the little girl, Mimi Ausland.

She wanted Mimi to learn about Safe Haven and how they were helping save the lives innocent pets. About 4 months had passed and Cheryl caught Mimi on the Oprah show. Cheryl was now on a mission to reach Mimi some how some way. Soon Cheryl made contact with Kelly, Mimi's father. Cheryl was very persistent. Cheryl forwarded all contact information to me and I emailed them also.

Safe Haven has been in business since 2006 and we have rescued over 2000 homeless animals from every situation; strays on the streets, kill shelters

and owner surrenders. We have placed these pets in loving homes. It's a real joy to me

when you see where these pets were and to see them now, healthy, happy and having a

great life. Some are famous, some are working dogs in search and rescue, and some are just happy family pets.

We had vet expense of \$4,000 since the beginning of the year. We would like to be able to get it paid down. Then we could take in pets that need special care; like treating heartworms, mange ect. It's a never ending process.

Safe Haven just received \$2,500 from the Legislative Delegation Office. This helped a lot but we still have a few outstanding bills.

We finally heard from Kelly Ausland, Mimi's father. Safe Haven had been chosen to receive food from freekibble. We were chosen as one out of six shelters in the south.

The timing was just right. We had just run out of food and were very low on funds. I

was told to be in Labanon, Tenn. Friday July 31 at 3:30 to pick up 2800 lbs of food. We are beyond grateful! It's the best feeling in the world.

There are so many times we have been at the end of our rope. It is very stressful for me.

I along with a few of my fosters rescue the pets and it takes everything out of you. You just pray a lot for guidance and help, and we have always been taken care of.

We were told we are on the list now and will be able to receive food from time to time. I can't thank Cheryl, Mr. Kelly Ausland and Mimi enough for everything they have done to help Safe Haven.

For a little girl to have such a passionate heart and to run with a dream to make reality, is phenomenal.



Mimi Ausland of Freekibble.com pictured with Ellen Degeneres, co-owner of HALO pet products.

Mimi's life and good work should be an inspiration to all of us! If a 13 year old girl from Oregon can make such a huge difference by helping feed homeless animals all over the United States, and in the South with Safe Haven, just think what we could accomplish in our own state of Alabama with the homeless animals at Safe Haven. By donating our time as a volunteer, becoming a foster parent, or through making financial donations we can make a difference. Everyone has it within their power to help, contribute, and to make a difference in the world!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Donations may be mailed to:

Safe Haven, P.O. Box 962, Scottsboro, AL 35768
or call Melissa at 259-2390.

Safe Haven now accepts donations through PayPal.
Log on to www.safehavenadoption.com and click on the donate tab at the top of the page.

Help Wanted

We are currently looking for someone to help with marketing, fundraisers and to work as a personal assistant for Safe Haven. Call 259-2390.

Thank you Jackson County Legislative Delegation for your generous donation to Safe Haven.



High Country Automotive is a proud sponsor of Safe Haven No Kill Animal Shelter