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www.yakimahumane.org

Hold a Supply Drive

Step 1: Find out what's needed at the Yakima Humane Society. Visit www.yakimahumane.org to see our Wish List or call the shelter to speak with the Outreach & Education Manager at (509) 467-6854 ext. 106 to find out what items are needed most. Yakima Humane Society always is in need of high quality pet food, non-clumping cat litter, treats, office supplies and cleaning supplies.

Step 2: Decide on the details.

- **Set a date.** Anytime is a good time for a shelter collection drive, but many people choose to coordinate their collection drives with a holiday or event. Once the date has been set, give your project a title or catch phrase. For example, a Valentine's Day collection could be called "Have a Heart – Help a Pet", for Christmas "Presents for Pets".
- **Designate a drop-off location for collection of the supplies.** At school, good drop-off sites include the cafeteria, library, and other common areas. In your community, consider setting up drop-off sites at grocery stores, pet supply stores, veterinary hospitals, elementary schools, churches and community centers. Be sure to ask permission from the store manager or principal in advance.
- **Gather large boxes for the supplies.** You can get cardboard boxes from nearly any retail store; just call ahead, explain what you're up to, and ask if employees would set aside boxes for you to pick up. Decorate them according to your theme.

Step 3: Spread the news. Your collection's success depends on how well you promote it. Here are several ways to get the word out:

- **Posters for Pets.** Make posters and flyers announcing your collection drive. In all your promotional materials, be sure to include the drop-off locations, deadline, and the list of needed items. It's a nice touch to include information about the Yakima Humane Society; like our phone number, address, webpage and Facebook page. Hang these posters/flyers in school hallways, homerooms, the cafeteria, the library, and other high traffic areas. If your collection is community-wide, ask permission to hang posters and put collection boxes in prominent areas around town.
- **Get on the air.** Make an announcement over your school's public address system. Contact local radio stations to ask if they'll air information about your collection or conduct an interview with you. If you get one set up, be sure to let us know at Yakima Humane Society.
- **The write stuff.** Run an article about your collection in the school newspaper. Write letters to the editors of local newspapers about your collection drive and how people can help. Be sure to personalize the letter with specific details about your drive.

Step 4: Deliver the Goods. When your collection drive is over, arrange to bring the supplies to the shelter. You can call the Outreach & Education Manager ahead of time to schedule the delivery. We want to get pictures of all the hard work you and your group has done.

For additional information please contact our Outreach & Education Manager, Nicole Papageorgiou, at (509) 457-6854 ext. 106 or, by email, outreach@yakimahumane.org.