

Cruelty Case Dog Makes Remarkable Recovery!

Fort Myers, Florida, 2/18/10—October 7, 2009 was the first day of Lilly's new life. That is the day her owner was arrested and charged with felony animal cruelty. Eugene Hoppe admitted that in the five years he owned Lilly she had not received any veterinary care. When Lee County Domestic Animal Services (LCDAS) found the seven year old American Bull Dog she was extremely emaciated, infested with fleas, and could barely walk without stumbling.

After examination by the LCDAS veterinarian, who planned a course of treatment for Lilly, she was quickly placed into the agency's foster care program. Lilly spent the next four months in the Sanibel home of Belen Brisco. As a foster volunteer for LCDAS and a representative of *Dogs Deserve Better*, Belen also gave her the love and attention she rightly deserved.

As Lilly gained weight and also received treatment for heartworm disease, Belen diligently took her to veterinary appointments, supplied Lilly with a proper diet, and helped her gradually gain strength. During her recuperation the Brisco family also fell in love with Lilly. Their affection was returned ten-fold and they knew she was meant to be a permanent member of their family.

Lilly was very lucky her story had a fairy tale ending. You can make a difference in a pet's life too by volunteering to be a foster parent for a homeless pet. LCDAS supplies all food and veterinary care. Foster volunteers supply a temporary home until the pet is ready for adoption. Although Belen decided she was meant to adopt Lilly, she has fostered many pets that found new homes both through the LCDAS Foster Program and *Dogs Deserve Better*.

To help other homeless pets and victims of animal cruelty send your tax-deductible donation to the Animal Care Trust Fund, 5600 Banner Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33912. Information about the Animal Care Trust Fund, LCDAS Foster Program, and pets for adoption is available at www.LeeLostPets.com. To view before and after photos of Lilly's remarkable recovery click on *Pet Updates!*