

Vol. 05

Fundacion Familia Amor Animales

# FAAN

The Search is On!

Kicken It at Kolo's

In Case of Emergency

Creativity + Community = Match

# April 3, 2023

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"Everyone thinks they have the best dog.

And none of them are wrong"

— W.R. Purche

In every dog lover's life there is that one dog. Which often leads to that next dog, and then the next.

Every once in a while we may go through a period of I just can't have another one, it hurts too much when they go over the Rainbow Bridge....

And then there's that next one that finds it's way to us. Each brings us a lesson, or three that we are meant to learn. And each brings us new and different ways to feel happy, joy and surprise.

My Tally-Ho was that dog. And she led to Daisy and Remington the two I have now.

Working with a dog rescue has it's ups and downs as does working with any organization. What keeps us all going no matter the challenges is these furry little beasts and all their exuberant love, energy and affection.

If you have not been up to our shelters, you really should go. The dogs are happy, joyful and just a constantly moving bundle of joy wiggling all around you.

We currently have 140 dogs at shelter and another 30 odd in foster homes.

So when asked what's next for FAAN now that the Match is over? That's the answer. The dogs.

We continue on with our plans to uplevel care, to increase awareness, to introduce new education, to get more vets in our network to spay and neuter. And we create the rest of the plan to earn enough money to buy the land, to build the shelter, so we can uplevel care and...

That's what's next for FAAN.

V.

# What's Happening

"Dogs are like potato chips.  
You can't have just one!"  
Anonymous



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# **How Creativity and Community Made Cuenca a Match**



## **We're a Match!**

It all started with a cup of coffee...

Since my name is on most of the postings FAAN puts out on social media and all the media outlets, it wasn't a big surprise when a stranger reached out and asked for a meeting to discuss FAAN and the shelter project. We had been advertising everywhere.

Barry and I went to Kolo's to meet the community member who requested a meeting. Over a cup of coffee and breakfast we met a generous soul who believed in the FAAN mission to improve the quality of care for dogs at our shelter and throughout the community with a multi-prong approach of education, spay/neuter, adoptions and improved care overall and in the process combine all of that with a N. American quality permanent shelter facility.

This unknown man offered to donate \$20,000 if we could raise \$20,000 which would kick start our financial campaign to make this a reality.

Wow, now THAT was a surprise.

As an organization we had just started to really get the word out, and we were in the process of planning a fundraising campaign.



We did, it was just a different campaign. FAAN went full throttle to make the match in a six week time frame.

Just a short time before this FAAN had learned that the lease on the land our current shelter is on was ending. We were given one year to vacate. The dogs have to be moved by end of year 2023. That's THIS year!

Our organization was already in discussions of wanting to move (the land we are on is in a landslide danger zone), it's too far away for easy access, and a host of other reasons. We wanted to build a permanent home that we would own and be able to expand with. We needed land, we needed a bigger plan.

We had a dream, we hadn't yet flushed out all the details to make that a reality. The process had been started.

Losing our lease was a pain point and a kick in the backside to get our dream MOVING.

This anonymous and generous donor was the impetus to get going. Ready or not it was time to make things happen.

And happen they did.

With help from the community, from volunteers and a combined Board, we made it happen. FAAN raised more than the \$20,000 to match. By the end of the six weeks we had raised \$56,000.

So of course we had to have a party!

While we were busy getting ready for our community celebration, this amazing donor said - here's an additional \$7500 - go raise \$2500 at your party and make it an even 10.

Hey we did that too!

In just under two months FAAN raised almost \$70,000 to kick start this project.

We still have a ways to go. With the continued help of community and business partnerships we know we will get there.

Along the way we all learned a few things.

So, in this article, the Dogs of FAAN and their human friends wanted to share with you their *thanks for raising close to \$70,000 toward their new home* and a few reflections on FAAN's first "Matching Campaign"

**Dog-Gone It! it's ruff.....**

Inspiration comes in many forms. Receiving an eviction notice is painful: Where does an organization with 140+ dogs go? A year flies by in nothing flat and properties that are suitable do not grow on trees.

We had a choice. We chose to get moving and make something happen.

*Make it a Paw-ty*

At FAAN, we believe animal lovers are some of the best people you'll meet! During this campaign our Advisory Board worked with volunteers, community business partners, and a host of helpers in all shapes and sizes. We worked and we created fun along the way.

## *Keep Paws-i-tive*

At FAAN we're solution-oriented thinkers. When challenges, complications and all that stuff that creates those head banging moments happened we stayed grounded in our love for the dogs and the vision of creating the most modern shelter to house FAAN's dogs and community programs.

While animal rescue is not for the weak of heart, it is for big hearts, so we are pawsitive that we will meet this enormous challenge of finding and funding a new home for our dogs. The Match was our incredible kick-start in achieving our mission and helping Cuenca become known as the City that Cares.

## *Don't Stop Retrievin'*

During our campaign we had a few people say "another post about the FAAN-atic match?"

We could have tucked our tail between our legs and hung our heads in reprimand or do as we did - hey, our messaging is being seen and recognized! Carry on!

Our financial need for daily operations and the new shelter is a big nut to crack and that requires getting the word out. The word is now out - we are building the most modern shelter, we are going to be the spark that creates better care for these dogs, and we are going to stay visible.

You can be part of the solution - join us, be a FAAN-atic, join the PAWS Circle, share our story with your friends and volunteer with us.



## *Un-leash Your Creativity*

At FAAN we are volunteer-blessed and having many people contribute time, talents and ideas is what made this work so well. This was and continues to be a team event. The ideas, solutions, and the doing that gets things done comes from putting many heads together in creative pursuit of achievement. *Building a shelter to benefit the community takes a community.*

## *Embrace the Pupp-arazzi*

We loved photographing both pets and their human counterparts in our "I'm a Match" photo series. That idea was carried into our celebration party where photographer Janet Engelhard with FAAN-atic volunteers Bob & Kathy Keel sponsored the FAAN-attic photo booth to record the fun.

A lot can happen in a short window of time. Together with the community, FAAN met the Match!

Stay tuned for the next round of FAAN-atic posts, announcements and invitations.

We've made a good start and we have a ways to go.

When you see our posts - share them - help us get the word out ;)

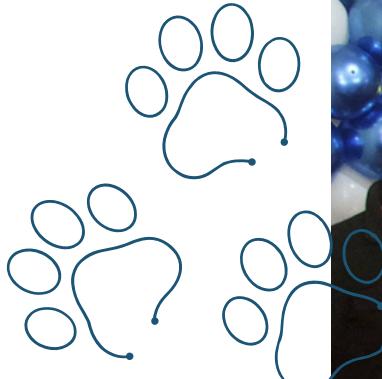
Thank you Cuenca!

Rosemary Rein  
Advisory Board Member

# FAAN-atic Fun!

A week after our first Matching-Campaign ended we gathered as a group to PAW-ty! Board of Directors, Advisory Board, FAAN-atic volunteers, community members, business partners, even a couple visiting Cuenca for the first time came to join together and celebrate.

FAAN met the match and we were a happy group!



“ —

*Well, we're doing it FAAN-atics! We said Let's Do It or Go Home and we're determined to get these pups to their new home.*

Advisory Board Member, Rosemary Rein started off our celebration with this statement and a surprise announcement: *Our Anonymous Mystery Donor said Let's do it again!*

This evening's challenge should we choose to accept it: Raise \$2500 and our Mystery Donor would quadruple that to make it \$10,000!



Our PAW-ty was sponsored by Kolo's Restaurant. Frank and his staff took excellent care of us. We all had a blast: Dancing, good food and good people! Music was provided by Duo NoAn, and we had a photo booth sponsored by FAAN-atic volunteers Bob & Kathy Keel and photographer Janet Engelhard.

The second FAAN-tastic bit of news we learned, is that an animal-loving resident needs to return to the states in September due to unforeseen circumstances and FAAN has agreed to oversee finding her five dogs wonderful new parents.

In appreciation for FAAN's help in securing her fur-family new homes, and in support of the bigger project of building Cuenca's first and most modern shelter, she will donate more than \$12,000 to the shelter!

Keep an eye out for posts featuring her furr kids - all loveable and in need of new family....



The evening was a huge success for all who attended; there was food, music, dancing and community fellowship. And we raised \$575, which becomes \$2,300!

Excellent job Cuenca Faan-atics! Well done!

Ken Lucero  
FAAN-atic Volunteer

P.S. - over the next week we made the Match and added \$10,000 to the Shelter Fund!!

# Thank You Shout Outs!



Janet Engelhard



Duo NoAn



Milton Eventos



Frank & Staff at Kolo's



Leonardo Duran

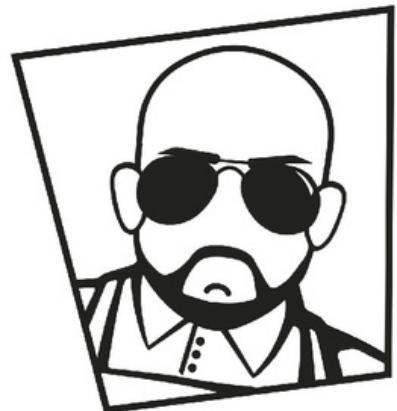


Kathy & Bob Keel



Roz Reymers & Ken Lucero

# Where we hung out collecting donations for Match.....



**Calvo & Co.**



# Location, Location, Location



## On the Road with the FAAN Volunteer Land Search Team

The search is on!

FAAN is committed to not only finding and building a new shelter but additionally being an agent of change toward animal welfare beliefs and behaviors in Ecuador.

For eight+ years FAAN (Fundacion Familia Amor Animal) has served as a sanctuary for abused, abandoned, neglected, and senior dogs in the Cuenca, Ecuador metropolitan area with a shelter located in Tarqui.

However, FAAN's lease for this property expires at the end of the year.

Due to this, a FAAN volunteer committee has been developing specifications for FAAN's permanent animal shelter while a land search is now underway.



Volunteers with experience in project management, land development, engineering, research, and knowledge of N. American animal shelter designs are incorporating evidenced based strategies for animal welfare, increased adoptions, and the development of sustainable funding sources.

**The focus is to find the best location and property for sheltering FAAN's 150 + dogs before the current lease expires.**

Ideally, the new shelter will be more accessible than the current shelter in Tarqui. FAAN Advisory Board Member, Barry Rein notes:

*"accessibility via a main road and public transportation is a key consideration in the land search to make it easier for our staff and volunteers to work at the shelter and to increase animal adoptions."*

As the search continues, FAAN is asking community members to reach out to their personal networks which may include real estate agents and property owners. Use the following basic requirements of a new shelter as a guide for what is needed:

- 2+ Hectares within 45 minutes of Cuenca
- Electricity and water accessible to property
- Location is pin-able - for GPS location and cell phone service
- Land is mostly flat with maximum areas for building
- Preferably on a main road - MUST have easy access to a main road
- Preferably on Public Transportation routes
- Price range \$85,000-\$150,000 w flexible financing



FAAN's goal is to have the first N. American standard animal shelter in Cuenca that will also serve as a hub for animal welfare services.

FAAN currently focuses on street dogs from severe abusive situations, which need medical care, as well as hard to place vulnerable dogs including seniors and handicapped dogs. Building this new shelter facility will enable FAAN to expand services to include cats and other types of surrendered dogs.

So far just under \$70,000 has been raised toward the land purchase.

*Our goals are looking toward the future.*

The FAAN shelter project is being envisioned in stages and allows room for expansion.

Although we dream of a day where no animal needs a place like a shelter, it will take a good deal of time to create that type of change community wide. Until then, we need to be able to expand with the needs of the community.

It is FAAN's aim that the new shelter, hand in hand with community education, promotion of spaying and neutering, along with animal adoption, and a greater quality of care including nutrition, training, and owner education will facilitate the transformation of animal welfare and help Cuenca become known as the City that Cares.

*The Dogs are Counting on Us!*

Do you know a good, experienced land or commercial realtor? Have you seen a 'For Sale' sign on a good piece of property? Do you know someone with a suitable property?

Would you like to be part of the Land Search Committee?

Would you or do you know someone who would be interesting in sponsoring the shelter or providing financing for the project?

Reach out to Advisory Board Member, Barry Rein who is heading the Land search Committee

[info@FAANcuador.org](mailto:info@FAANcuador.org)

Ryan James, Ed.D.  
FAAN-atic



# Prepare Before You Need It



## Are You Ready?

Natural disasters, things out of our control, accidents and all the other crap that happens when we are least expecting and often unprepared for...

The things that happen and THEN we think to ourselves or bang ourselves on the forehead and ask why didn't I get that emergency kit, why didn't I have that go bag packed?

*Why am I not prepared?*

In the last few weeks here in the Cuenca area we've had a 6.8 magnitude earthquake, and not far from us in Aluasi there was a landslide that here several days later they are still trying to get a handle on.

People have lost their homes, people have been injured, people have died, and animals have suffered as well.

We think these are things that happen somewhere else, to other people, and that we have time to deal with that in the elusive space called later.

But. what. if?

What if it happened here? What if it happened to you?

Things happen.

Are you prepared? How will you take care of your furry family members when they do?

Yes it's a scary place to go to and I hope it never happens and you never need the supplies.

However having the supplies on hand, ready to go and easily accessible will mean when and if it does you will be better prepared.

So let's look at two sets of items every furr parent should have:

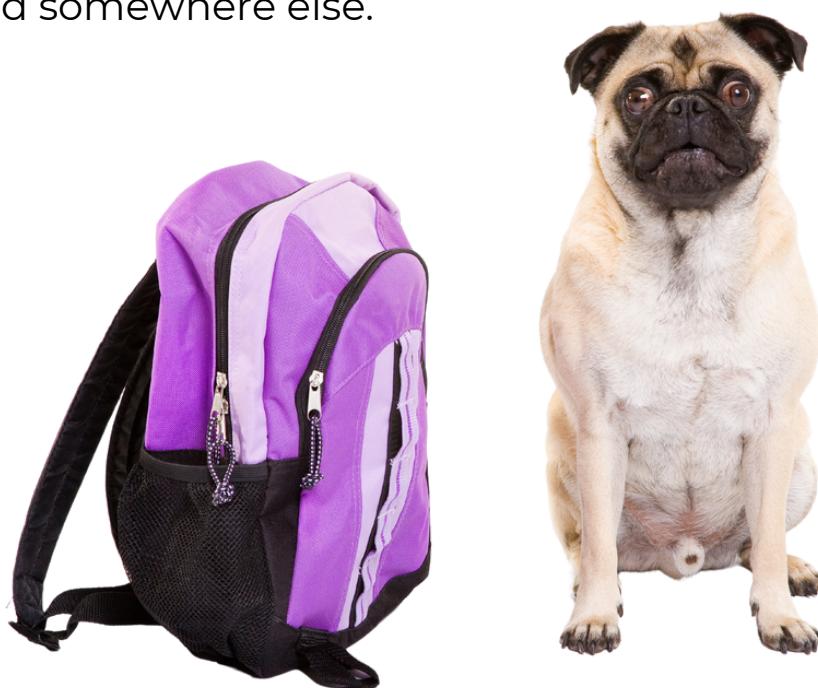
- 1.A First Aid Kit specific to your pet(s)
- 2.A go-bag specific to your pet, and or included in your own

The things that are needed in your first aid kit are things you should always have on hand at home. If you have a car and take your dog on car rides it's a good idea to have one there as well. And if you hike, or do other outdoor adventures, yup have one with you.



A go-bag is for when a natural or other sudden something happens that will cause you the need to immediately evacuate your home. Earthquake, flood, crazy landlord, fire or other sudden occurrence. My go-bag includes my first aid kit. I just keep mine together so I can grab and go if ever the need arises.

We are not talking about a bag big enough for Imelda Marcos to bring her favorite shoe collections, we are talking about a backpack with a few essentials just so you can care for your dog until things normalize and or you can get settled and replace all the 'stuff' you left behind somewhere else.



Paper documentation should be in both your First Aid and Go Bags unless you combine these two in one.

Copies of medical records, all medications/dosages, Vet contact, Emergency Contacts, copy of your Will and Care Instructions, make sure YOUR information is kept here as well in case you get separated from your dog, include photos of you/dogs>ID tags/medication labels/all contacts, License info, chip company info, Visa's/travel documentation.

note: have physical copies of ALL documents etc do not rely on digital copies on your phone

## **First Aid Kit**

A First Aid Manual (Canine) - an actual book type not online because if there is an emergency there is a good chance there will be no electricity and Internet

Gauze - in rolls

Adhesive Wrap Tape - in rolls, breathable material

Non Stick Bandages - in rolls in various widths - size appropriate for your dog, and best to have a few different widths

Ace Bandages

Paint stir sticks/popsicle sticks - for splints if needed

Cotton balls or pads (I prefer pads because the fiber stuff doesn't get stuck in the fur and they take up less room in the bag)

Hydrogen Peroxide

Saline, wound cleaner, antiseptic rinse - for cleaning the wound

Antibiotic Spray - often called BlueSpray or similar - spray is MUCH easier to administer than gels or goop

Styptic Powder or collagen hydrolysate - to help get the blood to clot/stop bleeding

Instant Ice Packs - the type you bang on something or squeeze to activate

Instant Hot Packs - same as cold packs

Wet wipes

Activated Charcoal - powdered - in case of poisoning

Baking Soda

Milk of magnesia - like the charcoal, in case of poisoning (check dosage and know what it is for your dog BEFORE you need to use it) include an appropriately sized spoon or eye dropper/syrings etc so you can use it

Syringes or large eyedroppers - great for flushing out open wounds, or for the charcoal/milk of magnesia etc

Digital Thermometer - those with a bendable tip are best and easiest to use

Scissors - both a regular pair and a blunt tip bandage pair

Tweezers - both an angled edge and a flat edge in stainless not plastic

Needle Nose Pliers

Magnifying Glass

Flash Light

Extra Batteries

Towels/wash cloths - microfiber is best

Blanket - thermal (rescue, emergency, space blanket) these are water proof and take up very little space in your bag/kit

Soft Muzzle - smaller than a cone or noodle collar in the event you need to keep your dog from licking etc - and or if in a stressful situation you require one for safety/biting

Leash and collar or harness

Travel bowls for food and water

Zip lock bags

Couple of garbage bags

Bottled water

Disposable gloves

### *Go Bag / Evacuation Bag*

your complete first aid kit

all the documentation

1-2 weeks of food - the best option for this is freeze dried or dehydrated food made from actual meat, veggies etc

Water - as much as is feasible to carry.

All medications and supplements

Depending on where you live/conditions you may face: Life preserver jacket, booties, coat, Doggles/sunglasses, rain coat

toy, ball, stuffy - something to help your dog feel safe and comforted that is normal to her, best if it has your smell on it

Another blanket if you have room

Folding umbrella



Reflectors or flares - great if you have reflectors on your dog's collar/leash/harness/and the Go-bag itself

Small mirror

wind up emergency radio

solar battery charger

You will need to use your own best judgement to determine how much/many of each item you might need to have. I have 2 large sized dogs so the amount I feel comfortable having is probably not the same as what you may feel comfortable having if you have more or less dogs, or dogs of different sizes etc.

What I can suggest is when you need these things you NEED them. For me I err on the side of more than I will likely need. In my opinion emergency first aid supplies is NOT where I want to practice minimalism. You will need to decide for yourself.

Depending on your dog, you may choose to get a doggie back pack/saddle bags and have those packed then strap it onto your dog so she carries her own stuff, or pack a backpack.

Being prepared is one of those things we think we will never need to do UNTIL we did and didn't have it.

Hopefully you will never need any of this.

The question to ask yourself is not will you ever need it, it's what will you do when you need it and don't have it?

V. Lynne  
Advisory Board Member

Have a question you want answered?  
Ask V at [info@faancuador.org](mailto:info@faancuador.org)

# Animal Wellbeing Education Series



## Dog Food Made Simple

Nutrition Workshop w V.

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023

Time: 11:30am - 1pm

Where: Calvo & Co  
Los Cipreses 1-133,  
between Tres de Noviembre y  
Ordonez Lasso

No Cost



Hey everyone! As a multi-species success coach, I'm passionate about helping dogs and humans thrive together. One important aspect of that is proper nutrition for our furry friends.

We are going to have a fun and interactive workshop all about dog food. Because happy healthy doggies starts with what we feed them.

I know you have questions because every time I am in a group of dog people the questions start. So here's your chance to come and chat with me and ask me all that you want to know.

The format of this workshop is intended to be interactive. Yes I will have information to share with you as well - the intent is for this to be a conversational information exchange vs me just imparting blah blah blah TO you.

We will be chatting about the basics of dog nutrition, why each dog's needs may be specific and individual, what's actually in that food that you buy, and much more plus answers to the questions you bring!

Did you know that an average dog lives almost 30% of their life in a state of dis-ease? But here's the thing....they do NOT need to. What you feed your dog matters!

Each person who signs up for this workshop will get one of my eBooks emailed to them before hand. This is the first part of what I give my clients when we do custom food plans.

The information in the eBook will give you a good understanding of quite a lot and is likely going to spur some questions too. That's the intent.

Our workshop will be at Calvo's on Tuesday, May 9th.

We will start at 11:30am and go til 1pm or so

Jose is providing us with a meeting room in the upstairs of his restaurant.

After the workshop we encourage you to stay and have lunch - Jose's hamburgers are ah-ma-zing! My favorite is the Classic because french fries AND onion rings? yup!

I will be staying for sure :)

**Calvo & Co**

You can check out Jose's menu on his FaceBook Page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Calvoyco>

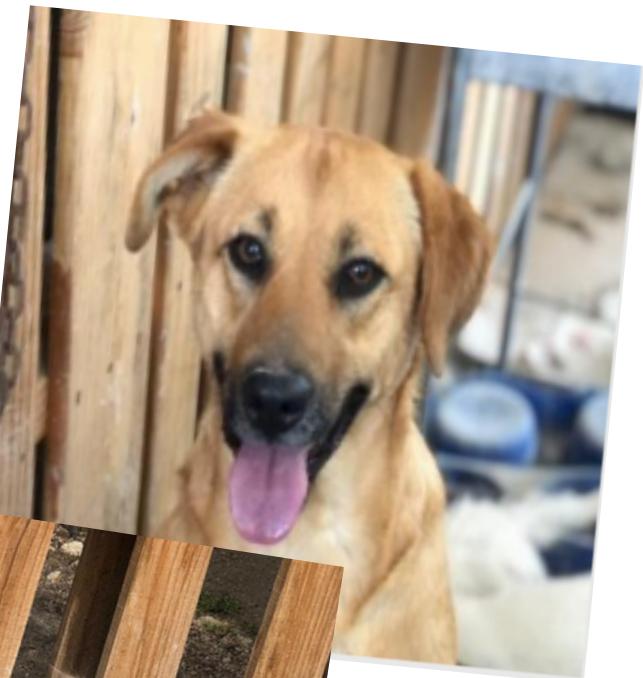


Please RSVP to  
[info@FAANcuador.org](mailto:info@FAANcuador.org)

We need your email  
address so we can send  
you your eBook!

# Your Super Powers at Work

## Help Wanted: Adoption Volunteers



FAAN needs to expand our adoption capabilities. We are looking for a few big hearted people to join our team and help make this a reality.

Whether you want to work hands on with dogs, are good at making spreadsheets sing, take pictures, or write compelling copy - we need your SuperPowers!



Having a lot of dogs is just par for the course - FAAN is a shelter and refuge.

That being said ALL of the dogs in our care are adoptable and would do better with a person or family of their own.

To make that happen we need more help. Its more work than one or three people can do by themselves.

It's also not something we expect or want to have only one person be responsible for - because it is a lot to wrap your hands around.

To get these lovable dogs forever homes it requires someone to do an intake evaluation, transport the dog to the vet, possibly do a home stay/foster for care or training, take photos of the dog, write up a description and post an ad, send an update to our webmaster so the dog may be featured on the website, answer calls and emails for potential adopters, do a home visit and meet and greet (maybe a few), do a little research/confirmation of information to ensure the dog may be going to a suitable home, update a spreadsheet so the dog is tracked from day one through adoption, do a follow up (or a few) with the new family and....

We need both English and Spanish language help

That isn't a one person job.

If you have a little time and would like to be part of this Team please reach out - do you know anyone who might be able to help?

All of our doggies deserve loving homes - can you help us make that happen?

Contact Rosemary at  
[info@FAANcuador.org](mailto:info@FAANcuador.org)

# Volunteers

*are the heart of FAAN*

come join a fun filled group of FAAN-atics  
we have a need for all kinds of talents,  
interests and "Super Powers"!



Want to chat about Volunteer opportunities?  
Send Rosemary an email at [info@faanecuador.org](mailto:info@faanecuador.org)



# Be a FAAN-atic Dog Supporter!

*The dogs of Cuenca thank you!*

## FAAN Benefits the Community

*Education* - Reducing abuse and raising awareness

*Spay & Neuter* - Working with a Network of  
Community Veterinarians

*Adoption, Shelter, Refuge* - Getting at risk, senior and  
medically challenged dogs off the streets and into  
forever homes

*Care* - Through improving nutrition, medical  
treatment, training and a large dose of Love



Join Us and be a  
FAAN-atic  
Supporter Today!

- Volunteer
- Adopt
- Foster
- Donate
- Share Our Mission

We believe all animals including those of  
pet owners, community dogs, and street  
dogs deserve to be respected and cared for  
by the collective Community.

*We are helping Cuenca become known as  
the City That Cares.*



# Four Easy Ways to Donate

We have a variety of ways to donate to FAAN which you can find on our donations page.

<https://www.faanecuador.org/donations.html>

1. In Cuenca: Secure Cash Pick-up by a FAAN Volunteer

2. Deposit in Banco Pichincha.

Fundacion Familia Amor Animal

\*Cuenta: 2208541490

RUC 0190443035001

3. To receive a US Tax-Deduction,

make your check payable to our umbrella US 501-C-3 organization  
(Notate FAAN Shelter) located in the United States

Mail to:

Amici Cannis USA

1008 Centre Avenue

Ft. Collins, Colorado 80526

Indicate: Your donation to FAAN/Shelter

Account 1000-817-9654

FEIN# 46-5202586

4. PAYPAL Button on our Donations Page

Important: after clicking on the PayPal button...and even though you are on an English page, PayPal may be in Spanish.

Change the PayPal language on the bottom of the PayPal page after you agree to the cookie consent message which may appear.

For Help and Questions  
Contact Rosemary  
[info@FAANcuador.org](mailto:info@FAANcuador.org)

Fundacion Familia Amor Animales

# FAAN



We believe all animals including those of pet owners, community dogs, and street dogs deserve to be respected and cared for by the collective community.

We are helping Cuenca become known as the City That Cares.

# FAAN

Fundacion Familia Amor Animales

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[www.faanecuador.org](http://www.faanecuador.org)

