

'Dog Whisperer' Establishes Canine Foundation

Cesar Milan, the Dog Whisperer, and his wife are also relocating their dog psychology center.

TV's "Dog Whisperer" and his wife, Ilusion, have created a national, nonprofit foundation designed to aid and support the rescue, rehabilitation and placement of abused and abandoned dogs throughout the United States.

Ilusion and Cesar Millan have started the Cesar and Ilusion Millan Foundation, and say they will provide initial funding.

Simultaneously, the couple says they're relocating their dog psychology center, where they maintain round-the-clock care and rehabilitation of up to 50 or more animals at a time.

The center is moving from its current inner-city Los Angeles location to a 40-acre rural ranch near Santa Clarita, California. The Millans say they will live on the property, which will include dog trails, exercise runs, an obstacle course, a lake and a host of kennels.

Specifically, the Cesar and Ilusion Millan Foundation will offer financial support and rehabilitation expertise to:

- Assist select nonprofit dog rescue shelters and organizations engaged in the rescuing, rehabilitation, and placement of abused and abandoned dogs with funding and expertise.
- Support no-kill shelters and other organizations committed to saving dogs from euthanasia, as well relocating misplaced, and/or misunderstood animals.
- Create and support regional and national projects targeting education and awareness of proper dog behavior and care; separate outreach will be conducted to both adults and children.
- Produce and create national public service announcements to create and foster awareness of important animal-related issues including spay and neuter programs.

In a joint statement, the Millans said establishing the foundation is the culmination of a longtime goal.

"The foundation, which has long been a dream of ours, is intended to benefit needy dog shelters and rescue centers throughout the United States. Our many years of experience have taught us that most animals can make excellent companions, and that all many of them need is proper care and a second chance," the statement read in part.

For more information on the Cesar and Ilusion Millan Foundation, visit www.millanfoundation.org

Posted: February 16, 2007, 5 a.m. EST