

## **Albert's Miracle**

June 2006

In March, Forte Animal Rescue (FAR) received a call to rescue a young feral shepherd mix that had been running in Hollywood for several weeks. The whole neighborhood had been leaving food for him. The caller clearly stated that all they needed was our help to catch the dog since they had a home lined up for him. Our trainer, Andrea, who works with the rescued dogs responded and caught the dog.



As soon as Andrea caught him, the neighborhood's entire story changed. Nobody wanted this poor stray and no one would donate any money to take care of him. But of course, they didn't want him to go to the pound. So Forte was forced to pick up the slack and the young dog is now their responsibility. We named him Albert.

Albert was completely feral, and had never been touched by a human. Needless to say he was fear aggressive and miserable. FAR boarded him at a vet until he could be handled well enough to be sedated and vaccinated. He was eventually transferred to a boarding facility, where the staff and Andrea worked with him. Within a few weeks, he was doing so well that he was taking food from a worker's hand.

A few weeks later, a vet determined Albert was very sick with PARVO. In addition to PARVO, the vets believed Albert might also have Distemper. Miraculously, with Forte's help, Albert managed to pull through.



Everyone is ecstatic about Albert's survival. He is now the sweetest boy who puts his face on your lap and looks into your eyes with deepest love. He wiggles happily all over when petted. Compared to the way he was when caught, he is a completely different dog!

Albert is only about 10 months old, but at the onset of Albert's illnesses, some people advised us to kill him and spend the money on other adoptable dogs. We are not a government-operated shelter, but consider ourselves as these dogs' "orphanage." We are the only family the dogs we've rescued have. FAR takes pride in caring for the dogs they consider as their orphaned kids and would not consider this type of suggestion.

We usually encounter a serious medical case only once every 8 to 10 months, but we had five of such all at once. We are careful not to bite more than we can chew, but this responsibility was completely dumped on us in a most unexpected way. Albert's bills totaled to about \$9,000.

Another one in addition to Albert's case was a Dobie/Rottie mix we pulled from the city, who had distemper, which was diagnosed at the very end because there is no definitive test to determine the disease. Since her test kept coming back as negative, we thought she had a bad case of Bordetella. She did not make it, yet her bill was over \$8,000, which we still owe the vet as well as the rest of them, all of which added up to over \$25,000.

FAR is a small group of 100% volunteers, and each one of us is just like you, who wants to do a little share of our part to make the difference for the animals. We strive not to let these recent setbacks to stall our efforts to continue saving more lives. But we can continue only with your support.

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*Albert was rehabilitated and is now happily adopted. Once thought as a dangerous feral dog, turned out to be the gentlest soul who is good with children, other dogs and even cats!*

*In honor of Albert's miracle story, please help us with your kindest contribution, so that you can help create more happy-endings like Albert's story. If this is not a good time to help us financially, then please ask your friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers to send their kind donations. We very much appreciate your ongoing support that allows us to continue our rescue efforts of quality.*



### **How to donate:**

[By mail](#)

Forte Animal Rescue  
13428 Maxella Ave., PMB-332  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

[PayPal](#)

[http://www.farescue.org/help\\_us\\_donation.html](http://www.farescue.org/help_us_donation.html)

*Forte Animal Rescue is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and your donations are tax-deductible. Please visit us at [www.FARescue.org](http://www.FARescue.org) to see our beautiful animals available for adoption and other ways you can help!*