



## Sensory Garden Project

Since 2005 Hope Rescue has been saving the lives of stray, abandoned and unwanted dogs that, through no fault of their own, need a second chance. We commit to take all the stray dogs from six Local Authorities in South Wales - Merthyr Tydfil, Torfaen, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend, Blaenau Gwent and the western half of the Vale of Glamorgan - irrespective of their age, breed or medical condition. We also help owners in crisis who need to surrender their dogs, giving them peace of mind that their dogs will be rehomed responsibly.

After operating from commercial boarding kennels and foster homes for 12 years we finally purchased and moved into our own rescue centre in Llanharan, South Wales in April 2017. Our centre has 51 rescue kennels, two exercise paddocks, an indoor training centre, grooming room and 18 acres of private woodland.

We also have the stray dog kennelling contracts for Rhondda Cynon Taf, Bridgend and part of the Vale of Glamorgan.

We currently help around 900 dogs a year and as well as rehoming from our rescue centre, we also work with other rescues, including Blue Cross, Dogs Trust and Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, to take our dogs. This enables us to significantly increase the number of dogs we can help.

We feel passionately that our role is not simply to deal with the consequences of irresponsible ownership, but to also tackle the root causes and reduce the number of dogs needing to access the animal welfare system. We also believe in the valuable pastoral and therapeutic role that dogs can play in our local community.

Our Hope in the Community programme focuses on helping both pets and people. We offer supported volunteering and employment placements at both our rescue centre and charity shop, working with several third sector organisations



representing disadvantaged groups. Our respite service supports pet owners in crisis, for example facing domestic abuse, homelessness or hospitalisation.

### Enrichment and socialisation activities

We would like to spend the SEIB grant funds to purchase fencing to complete our sensory garden project for the Hope Rescue dogs and also purchasing agility equipment for our exercise paddocks.

This would help us to provide valuable time outside of the kennel environment and allow the rescue dogs to play and interact with our staff and volunteer team. These enrichment and socialisation activities will support their development and increase their chances of finding a forever home.

Call 01708 850000

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