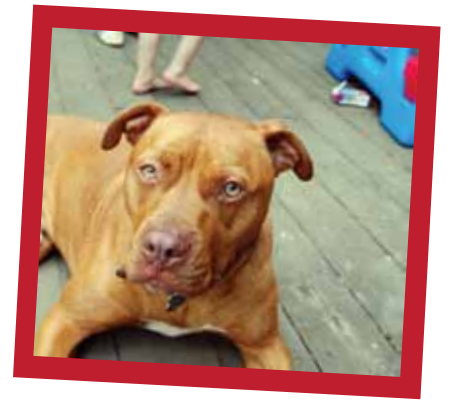


Success STORY



Teddy

"He is just the most loving dog," says Carolynn and Kristian Desch, owners of a red American Pit Bull Terrier named Theodore Wiggleton (Teddy) from Chicago, Illinois.

Teddy's personality is all the more amazing when you hear about his past. Teddy was brought into Chicago's Animal Care and Control (CACC) in February of 2010 when Teddy was only 3 or 4 months old. His owner was being charged with neglect and now he was "evidence" in the trial.

Teddy was found in a basement wire kennel with no flat bottom and was severely underweight. His pads were torn and had sores all over them. Teddy had to stay at CACC until July of 2010 when his owner was finally convicted and he relinquished ownership. Teddy (then Pumpkin) was taken into the Safe Humane Court Case Dog program and was able to finally start being taken out of his kennel and get some fresh air and exercise, socialization and training.

The Desch's decided to foster him in early November of 2010 and just a month later decided he wasn't going anywhere and would make him a permanent member of their household. They named him Teddy because he is such a Teddy Bear.

Despite his rough start in life, it didn't take long for Teddy to become the perfect family dog and friend to the Desch's 3 girls. "If he sees one of the girls walk by, he will roll over on his back so they will rub his belly," says Carolynn. "He just lights-up when any of us walk in the room and his tail starts thumping the ground".

Teddy has also changed perceptions about the pit-bull-terrier-type dogs. "We've had many people think that we were crazy for bringing a pit bull into the house with three children, but then they meet him and realize what a gentle soul he really is," says Kristian. "Teddy's been the pit bull ambassador on our block".

