

Phoenix Rising – Annette Murray

The story of Phoenix is a testament about hope. Phoenix's brave spirit is undeniable. This is a story of pain, suffering, love, and courage. Please enjoy "Phoenix Rising"!



Madison Animal Rescue Foundation (MARF) holds weekly adoption events at the Petco store in Madison, AL. August 3, 2013 was a normal Saturday for MARF volunteers until one lady came to the adoption event desperately seeking help. She explained to us that there was a dog lying in a ditch on a rural county road. She thought the dog was dead, but when she backed up to look, the dog raised its head just a bit. She could tell the dog was in very bad shape and desperately wanted someone to help. A MARF volunteer ("Ace") agreed to go with the lady and check out the situation. When Ace saw the dog lying in the ditch, he picked her up and wrapped his arms around her. The lady drove while Ace petted and tried to soothe the suffering animal. It was apparent to both of them that this animal was in grave condition. Ace later said the dog looked into his eyes the entire time they were in the car as if she was saying "thank you for helping me". Ace gave her the name "Phoenix" in hopes she would overcome the desolate condition and rise again. But if she did die, it was important to Ace for her to die with dignity and her to know love in her last breath.



Phoenix's medical journey had begun. An initial examination by the vet determined she was 9 months old and was most likely hit by a car 2 to 3 weeks earlier. She was dehydrated, starving, three broken legs (of which the bones had started fusing), dislocated hip, and skin issues. She was unable to walk and very weak. A decision was made between the doctor and MARF to

administer IV fluids to see if Phoenix's body would respond to hydration. No physical response to the IV fluids would indicate Phoenix would eventually succumb to the injuries. MARF wanted to give her every chance to survive. She responded to the medical treatment! She was going to live. On August 3, 2013 Phoenix became an official MARF dog.



The next few months involved a total of 4 Veterinarians, 2 foster homes, a professional dog trainer, and the community donating money to her care. She had special baths for her skin, twice a week physical therapy for 6 weeks, and was given shots and spay. Today, Phoenix is residing with a professional trainer and is officially up for adoption through MARF. She loves to play with other dogs and people, loves her caretakers, and is one of the happiest dogs in the world. Phoenix was not ready to die that day, and MARF was not ready to let her go.

This is why MARF makes a difference in the world. This is why MARF is dedicated to rescue.

Phoenix

