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I have always had a love for animals, and when I see them being abandoned by their owners or left on the side of the road makes me heartbroken. I want to help all of those animals that are in need of a home and give them the love they deserve. I knew that I could not adopt every single animal, but wanted to do something else to help them. When I visited the Clark County humane society and noticed that the dogs only had a thin blanket on the concrete floor in their kennels which can cause them to start getting sores on the back of their legs from inadequate bedding. This is when I came up with the idea of making dog beds for the Clark County Humane Society. In 2021, I started doing research on making beds from what materials to use, to the best design. At first, I started making circular beds with edges on them, as you would see in a store. When I took them to the humane society, I asked them if these would work for the dogs and they said that they would work better for the cats since there was an edge that the cat can curl in to feel secure, I went back to the drawing board again and came across beds that were flat with no edges for the dogs. I took this idea and started to figuring out everything that I needed. For the padding I chose 2-inch foam so it would be thick enough that it would eliminate the possibility of the dogs getting sores on the back of their legs from laying on the concrete floor. Next was finding the right fabric to cover the foam to prevent the dogs from eating the foam and getting sick. The fabric needs to be soft and not stiff, itchy, or uncomfortable, since some dogs might have pre-existing skin issues. The fabric is made into a pillowcase for the foam and is sewed closed. I make these beds in multiple sizes for the variety of different sized dogs at the humane society. I focused more on the dog beds due to the high volume of dogs that reside at the humane society, since the cats have cat city which has lots of places for the cats like to sleep, such as cat trees, chairs, and couches. In 2022, I made more cat beds but still focused on dogs as my top priority. In 2022, I have made 57 beds for cats and dogs and planning on making more than that in 2023. I noticed when I visited the humane

society that the dogs are just sitting in their kennels board most of the day, so I organized an event with my FFA chapter at my school called dog toy making. People brought in their old t-shirts that they did not want anymore and we used these for homemade dog toys. Everything that we used to make these dog toys were donated by students. We had a good turnout the two times we held this event, we made 3 grocery bags full of dog toys.

With the holidays ending and the new puppy effect sadly wearing off I am organizing a drive for the humane society to help with all of the animals that they are getting in from families and all over the state since Clark County humane society is a no-kill shelter we get dogs from all different states from puppy mills that are being caught so I thought it was a good idea to help them out with some donations since they are a non-profit organization. I enjoy helping out the animals since I have a dog that I adopted from the humane society and want to help other animals find happiness and their forever home. While they are waiting for their forever home making them as comfortable as possible since going to a new place is scary for an animal and can be very stressful and providing them with something comforting may help them relax to relieve their stress. With these activities that I am doing, I want to bring awareness to people about the animals in a humane society, that you don't have to adopt animals to help make a difference in their lives just donating something and visiting them and showing them love is a great way to help relieve some of that stress they have from being in a new environment.

