



Animal rescuer – saving lives

Kirk Geiger ist eigentlich Schauspieler – kümmert sich zusammen mit seiner Frau aber seit 15 Jahren um vernachlässigte und ausgesetzte Tiere. Von TALITHA LINEHAN

MEDIUM **US** **AUDIO** **ÜBUNG SHEFT**

My name is Kirk Geiger, and I cofounded the Animal Rescue Center of California with my wife, Noelle. We began rescuing animals about 15 years ago, after moving from L.A. to the Coachella Valley, just under 200 kilometers east of there.

There aren't a lot of resources here to rescue animals. We were surprised at the number of dogs and cats on the streets. We started picking them up, taking them home, and finding them homes. We paid for everything out of our own pockets and went through a chunk of our savings. Then, in 2020, we got our nonprofit status so that people could donate their time and money to help us.

I've done a thousand different jobs. Before doing this, I made my money as an actor. My wife and I moved out here to buy a house that we were possibly going to rent out before returning to L.A. so that I could continue my career. But when we saw what was going on with the animals, we knew we were needed here.

We've rescued all kinds of animals: dogs, cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, reptiles, birds – even a llama. But now, we mostly rescue dogs. We work out of our



Kirk Geiger used to be an actor but now he rescues dogs and finds them happy homes



“Turning a situation from a negative one into a positive one is rewarding”

home and it's tough to have cats and dogs on the same property, so we work with another organization that takes care of the cats. We've rescued about 1,200 dogs and up to 1,700 animals overall.

There's not a day that goes by when there aren't at least six to ten dogs coming through us, whether that's a dog we pick up or transport, or pull from

chunk (ifml.)

• eine ganze Menge

nonprofit status

• Gemeinnützigkeit

donate ['doʊneɪt]

• spenden

guinea pig ['ɡɪni piɡ]

• Meerschweinchen



The Coachella Valley is in Southern California, about 200 kilometers east of L.A.



Kirk's wife, Noelle, is a cofounder of the rescue center

a euthanasia list. People will call us if they see a dog that's been hit by a car, for example, or a basket of puppies in a field. We'll go get them and either take them to an emergency clinic or bring them home and put them through a process of vaccinating, deworming, grooming, and socializing them with other dogs. And then we find someone to foster them until we can secure them a permanent home. That's always the end goal.

~

Turning a situation from a negative one into a positive one is rewarding. It's a phenomenal addiction. But it's extremely



They found 16 small dogs, dumped in an abandoned home by the Salton Sea

emotional work. You cry a lot. It just happens. Yesterday, I had to euthanize two dogs – one because it had been biting people, and one because its owner had run over it.

I'm studying the Stoics, which is helping me realize that information is just information. Your reaction to the information is your choice. So, that's what I'm trying to focus on – staying calm and doing what I can to help.

Our plan is to open a permanent facility because it's not sustainable to keep working out of our home. We need to raise \$1 million for land. Our main sources of income are private donations and the ads on our YouTube channel, The Animal Rescue Center of California. So, the more people that subscribe to that, the better for us!

euthanasia

[ˌjuːθəˈneɪzə]

- Tötung, Einschläferung

puppy

- Welpen

vaccinate [ˈvæksɪneɪt]

- impfen

deworm

- entwurmen

groom

- pflegen, kämmen

socialize

- sozialisieren

foster

- in Pflege nehmen

addiction

- Süchtigsein

run over

- überfahren

Stoics

- Stoizismus, Stoiker

facility [fəˈsɪlɪti]

- Einrichtung

sustainable

- nachhaltig

ad(vertisement)

- Werbung, Werbefilm

subscribe to sth.

- etw. abonnieren