

Wanted: Homes for the Holidays

New York rescue group courts holiday shoppers with homeless pets.

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Balou, a 2-year-old Chihuahua, and Jim, a 5-year-old terrier mix, are available for adoption from the Mayor's Alliance for Animals in New York City. Mayor's Alliance for Animals volunteers hit New York City's 5th Avenue this week with homeless dogs in "Adopt Me" vests to promote holiday adoptions to lunchtime shoppers.

This year, Mayor's Alliance for Animals will offer pet adoption gift certificates, says Patrick Kwan, a spokesman for the Mayor's Alliance. The package includes a plush toy, and all animals are spayed or neutered.

For more information about the Mayor's Alliance for Animals in the New York area, visit www.animalallianceNYC.org. Many animal shelters across the country offer similar pet adoption gift certificates, so contact a shelter in your area for more information.