Clark County animal lovers give dogs the freedom of mobility

Portland-based nonprofit Fences for Fido has reached out to pets and pet owners on this side of the river, and several Clark County volunteers are helping the group achieve its mission of improving the lives of outdoor dogs. Among them are Vancouver



Ted and Katy Washburne With their miniature schnauzer Silvi and Labrador retrieversaluki mix Morgan

couple Katy and Ted Washburne and Camas resident Linda Langdon.

The Washburnes recently helped deliver dog houses to families in Battle Ground and Newberg, Ore. These families had animals needing shelter from the cold, wet winter.

Both the Washburnes and Langdon helped dig holes and set posts for a

Vancouver family with dogs in need of a fenced yard.

"It's a whole new life," said Langdon, a 56-year-old licensed veterinary technician. "A dog that's constantly chained, that's just heartbreaking."

Katy Washburne, a 46-year-old GED instructor at

Clark College, concurred.

"I hate seeing animals chained up," she said. "And I like the fact that I can physically get involved."