

Dog recovering after being shot with arrow

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By [Courtney Gousman](#)

Godfrey, IL (KSDK) -- A dog is in intensive care after being shot in the stomach with an arrow. The family that owned the dog has since surrendered her to animal rescuers.

This all took place in Godfrey on Thursday, when a female dog was picked-up with an arrow through her body. An arrow pierced the body of four year-old Shelby, a Sheltie mix found that morning in the streets of Godfrey, covered in blood.

"She was standing because she couldn't sit down because the arrow was coming-- it was sticking out this side and it was sticking out that side so the arrow was sticking out about that much on both sides of the dog. There was lots of blood. She was losing a lot of blood," said Jackie Spiker, co-founder of Hope Animal Rescues in Alton, Illinois.

Spiker was called-in after animal control officers picked-up Shelby. She rushed the dog to the nearest vet, where she underwent three-and-a half hours of surgery.

"She had to remove her spleen and there was quite a bit of damage to the small intestine," said Spiker.

NewsChannel 5 caught up to Shelby Friday afternoon--exhausted from the whole ordeal. She's now recovering at Hawthorne Animal Hospital in Glen Carbon. Although she's getting around and looks good, doctors said she's not yet out of the woods. For the next 10 days she will be closely monitored for infection.

Doctors said if Shelby had not been found she would have died.

"She would have probably got an infection in her body and it would have spread out and she would have gotten much more sick," said Dr. Nathan Jurgena of Hawthorne Animal Hospital.

Leaders of Hope Animal Rescues said Shelby belonged to a family in Godfrey that allowed her to roam the streets during the day. That family has since surrendered Shelby to the shelter. She's expected to stay in the hospital at least through the weekend, and once fully recovered, "then we'll start looking for a home," Spiker said.

Shelby's vet bills are estimated to reach as much as \$3,000. Local resident and White Sox pitcher Mark Buehrle and his wife, Jamie, have agreed to sponsor Shelby by paying all her medical bills. Rescuers said Madison County investigators are now looking into who may have shot this dog.