

Joplin's Welcomes **DANFORTH** to His New Home

At the sanctuary we continue to be amazed at the level of animal abuse we see and hear about. It seems like no animal or species is safe from potential abuse.

Such is the situation with Danforth, a young rooster who was brought to us recently.



As you can see by the pictures above Danforth's lower beak is badly damaged and due to a blunt force blow it now sticks out at a right angle. When he was brought to the sanctuary it was believed that Danforth potentially was not going to be able to eat and drink successfully. After a consulting vet was called in to examine Danforth her opinion was that Danforth had been hit directly in the lower beak with great force and intentionally. She made that statement after examining the rest of his body, neck and head and determined that the misalignment was not due to a birth defect but was instead the result of a direct blow to only the lower beak area. In the vet's opinion the blow had to have been targeted to cause the injury and damage that he suffered.

After working with Danforth for a couple of days we found that if we ground down cracked corn and crumble to an almost powdery consistency he could pick it up with his tongue and upper beak and swallow it successfully. We are now working with him to get him stronger and experimenting with other foods and

grains to see what would be best for him. We are happy to report that he is also able to drink successfully from various water supplies.

If he continues to do well we hope to integrate him in with our rescued hens. We are going to monitor his situation closely and are hopeful that he can simulate into the flock without further difficulties due to his disability.