

Front Street Animal Shelter

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Words from Phillip

Dear Front Street Community,

At the beginning of each year as I reflect on our previous year's work, I am filled with pride to work for and serve an incredible community of animals and people at the Front Street Animal Shelter and the City of Sacramento. Our staff, volunteers, donors, grantors, elected officials, City leadership and our community members all play a part. In animal wellbeing, there will never be enough time and resources, but that doesn't stop all of us from trying to do the best we can.

We continue to help serve more pets and people in our community than ever before. Holding our monthly vaccine, microchip, and pet supply clinics for animal owners, not only

from the City of Sacramento, but the greater Sacramento region, is one of my proudest accomplishments. I'm fortunate to have a dedicated team of staff, volunteers, donors, and grantors that believe in this program as much as I do. Without all of you, we would not be able to provide this service.

Our city, like many others, has many community members experiencing homelessness, or on the verge of being homeless. Our Homeless Outreach Assistance Program has allowed us to make an impact and help those most vulnerable pets and people. While I wish we could do more, I remind myself that we only have so much time and resources and should be proud of what we have done and will continue to do.

The Front Street Animal Shelter, like many other shelters across the country, is struggling to recruit veterinarians and other key staff members. We are also seeing a sharp increase in animal intake, almost to pre-pandemic levels, coupled with lower owner redemptions and decreased adoptions. In addition, we are seeing fewer transfers to our partners, who are also seeing an increase in animal intake and reduced adoptions.

The City of Sacramento is expecting a \$66 million budget shortfall in the upcoming fiscal year. Every City department will have to adjust their budgets and Front Street is no exception. We don't know exactly what this will look like, but I know that I can count on our incredible team of staff, volunteers, donors, grantors, and community members to help us do the best we can with the resources we are given.

I would like to end this note with one of my favorite quotes: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do something that I can do." – Hellen Keller. I hope that you are as inspired by this quote as I am. I know that collectively we will accomplish a lot, both together and individually. I look forward to serving the pets and people of Sacramento in 2024, and I know together we will do great things.

Sincerely,
Phillip Zimmerman
Animal Care Services Manager

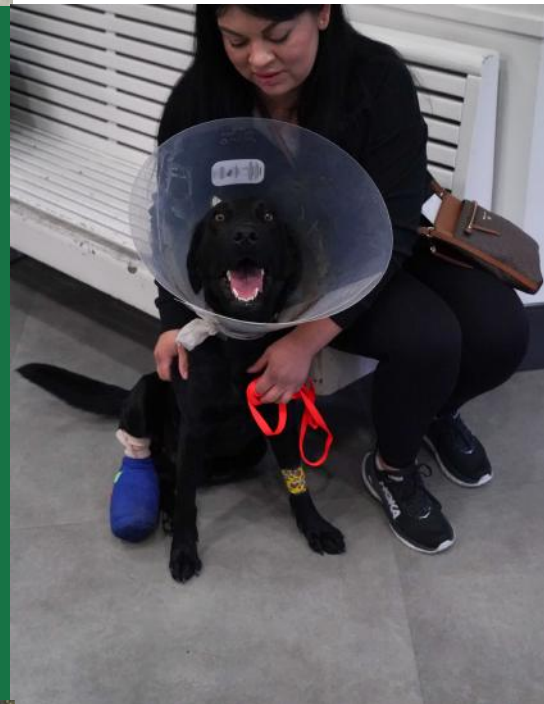
Key Numbers



9,406 animals taken in 

(includes dogs, cats, and other domestic animals)

1,481 returned to home 

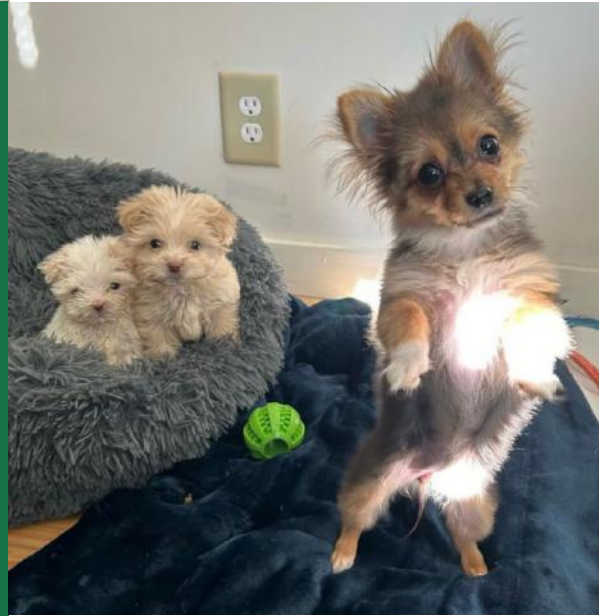


5,252 adoptions 



608 sent to rescue or transfer partners 🚐

2,871 sent to foster homes ❤️



*Live release rate refers to the number of animals entering the shelter that leave with a positive outcome. Live release rate is lowered primarily by neonatal kittens or puppies who fail to survive, animals who are too sick or injured to treat, or animals who have a behavioral problem that make them unsafe for adoption, in addition to other factors such as shelter space and resources.

 **88% Live Release Rate for dogs**

 **79% Live Release Rate for cats**

84% overall Live Release Rate*

Volunteers - the foundation of our shelter



Breanne fostered 160 animals in 2023, served on the Kitten Connection team, treats kittens in our ringworm program, and mentors other kitten foster volunteers.

Andy & Mark are the dynamic duo that keep our shelter up and running! From repainting our entire reception building, fixing just about anything broken, picking up thousands of pounds of donated food, and more, they're always there to save the day!



Vicki has logged over 1,500 hours in the past five years. She gives out food at our food pantry, assists in the medical building, fosters animals, and vaccinates at our free community clinics.



**In 2023, over 1,000 active volunteers donated 95,000 hours of their time to the animals and community!
We ♥ our volunteers!**



Beyond our walls

5,052 dogs and cats protected by receiving free vaccines and/or microchips at our clinics held in underserved communities.



78,000 pounds of pet food given to families struggling to feed their pets, keeping bellies full and preventing surrender to shelters.



Homeless Outreach and Assistance Program (HOAP)

- Provided care to 1,363 pets of unhoused owners.
- 208 animals received spay/neuter surgeries.
- Average of 133 new client relationships formed each month.
- 3,528 treatments administered (vaccines, flea prevention, deworming, lab work, etc.).





Left: Jenna Topper, HOAP Coordinator, Right: Bree, HOAP client and animal advocate

"I inherited my mom's animals and have been trying to take care of them. I've been very adamant about getting them fixed and microchipped. HOAP has helped me immensely to feed and provide medical care for the animals – they saved my cat Daisy's life. I'm truly indebted to these people.

I've also helped coordinate spay and neuter for over 20 dogs from my camp. If it wasn't for this program, the homeless community would lose their animals that provide emotional support. A lot of times they save our lives – They're our light and our reason for getting up.

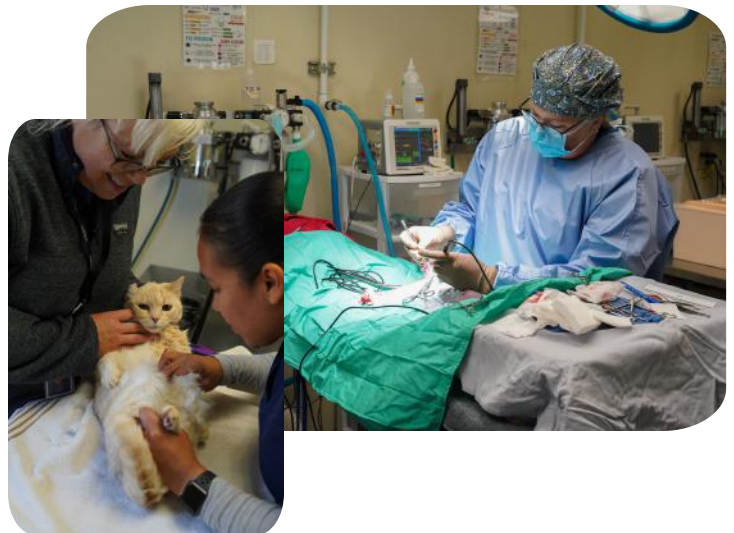
I encourage anyone I meet who wants an animal to adopt instead of buying from a breeder – I say, 'Why are you going to pick a dog who doesn't need a home?,' because I know what it feels like to not have a home."

-Bree, HOAP client

Medical miracles

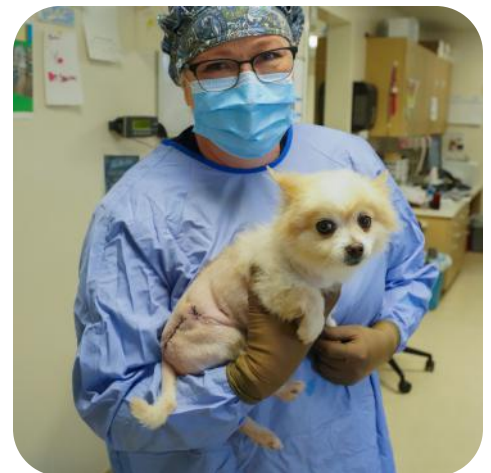
Our small but mighty medical team...

- Performed 3,038 spay/neuter surgeries
- Gave 6,564 exams
- Administered thousands of treatments and hundreds of other surgeries



Fiona needed her leg amputated, but that didn't stop her from finding the purrfect home.

Bitsy was attacked by another animal. It took three separate surgeries to heal her broken bones and lacerations, but she was finally adopted!



Serving our community

Our field services team received 26,564 requests for services and had 16,909 physical responses.



Our customer service team responded to 10,327 inquiries and helped 1,388 animals return home.



Our animal care technicians performed thousands of meet and greets to pair great animals with great people.



Our volunteer-run Kitten Connection team responded to 278 calls for kittens in need.

A huge thank you to these generous organizations



Petco Love gave \$93,000 in grants and stipends to support vaccinations and programs that help lost pets get home, and provided over 5,000 free vaccines for owned pets.

Petsmart Charities gave \$50,000 to increase offsite pet adoptions at local stores, and \$7,500 to allow us to waive adoption fees during the Clear the Shelters adoption event.



UC Davis California for All Animals gave \$165,215 to support our kitten foster program, and \$10,000 to support outreach efforts with our field services team.



Aspca and Subaru donated \$4,000 in vaccines, and Subaru and **Maita Subaru** donated 3,400 for 34 adoptions in October.



And thanks also to you - our incredible community of animal lovers - for making it all possible. Your adoptions, donations, volunteerism, and moral support mean the world to us and the animals!



City of
SACRAMENTO
Front Street Animal Shelter