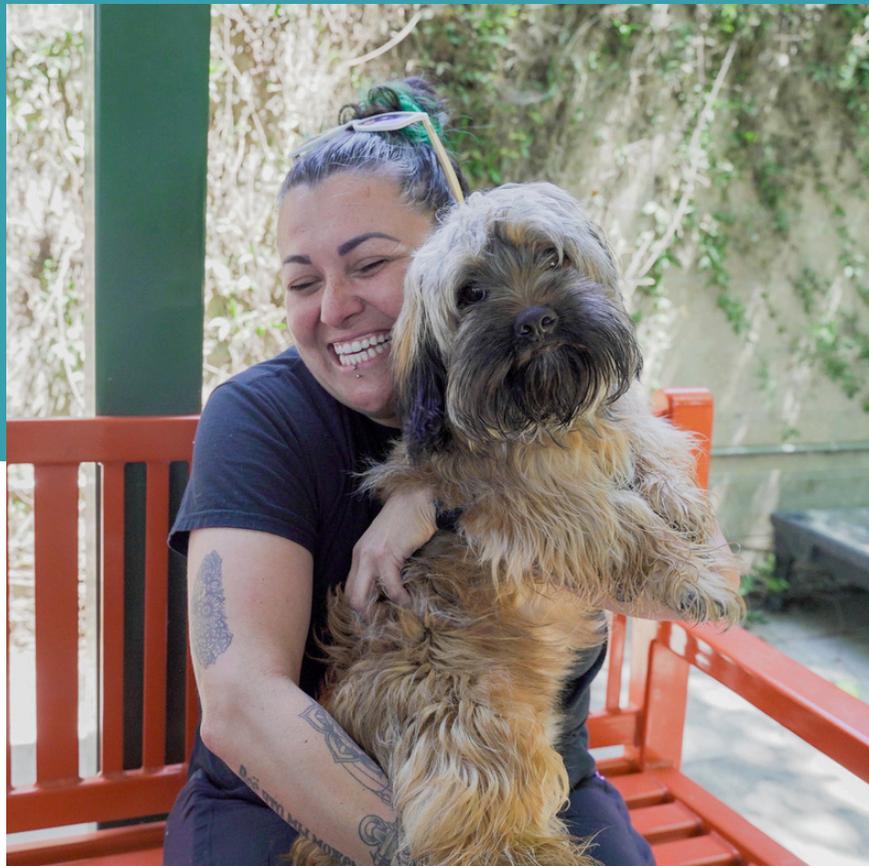


# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**  
Front Street Animal Shelter



# A WORD FROM OUR MANAGER

Dear Friends and supporters,

I want to share a heartfelt thank you for being part of our shelter family. This past year has been filled with meaningful moments – from the tiny kitten that found strength in a foster home to the shy dog who blossomed after a day out in the park. Those are the stories that remind me why we do this work.

Our Animal Control Officers continue to respond with compassion when animals and people need help.

Inside the shelter, our animal care and medical teams work tirelessly to keep animals comfortable, healthy, and ready for the next step in their journeys. I'm continually inspired by the patience and skill they bring to every exam,



treatment, and recovery.

Volunteers and foster families are the backbone of what we do. I'm grateful for the countless hours they give – walking dogs, socializing cats, bottle-feeding kittens, taking photos, staffing events, and opening their homes when animals need a safe place to heal. Their dedication turns uncertainty into hope.

Programs like Doggie Day Out, our foster network, Homeless Outreach and Assistance Program, and the Pet Food Pantry deepen our connection to the whole community. These efforts keep pets with their families, give animals vital social and medical support, and create pathways to permanent, loving homes. Seeing neighbors come together to

help pets stay healthy and safe is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.

On a personal note, after 29 1/2 years in public service, I will be retiring on May 29, 2026. It has been the honor of my career to serve alongside so many dedicated colleagues and community partners. I leave confident in the compassion and skill of the teams who will continue this important work.

Every success – every adoption, every reunion, every life saved – is made possible by people like you. Whether you adopt, foster, volunteer, donate, or simply spread the word, you are changing lives. I'm deeply grateful for your trust and partnership.

Thank you for standing with us as we care for Sacramento's animals. I look forward to what this community will accomplish next.

With gratitude,

**PHILLIP ZIMMERMAN**  
MANAGER

# KEY STATISTICS

## INTAKE

6030 dogs  
4,148 cats  
238 other domestic animals

## ADOPTIONS

3,380 dogs  
2,472 cats  
40 other domestic animals

## RETURN TO HOME

1,611 dogs  
88 cats  
25 other domestic animals

## LIVE RELEASE RATE\*

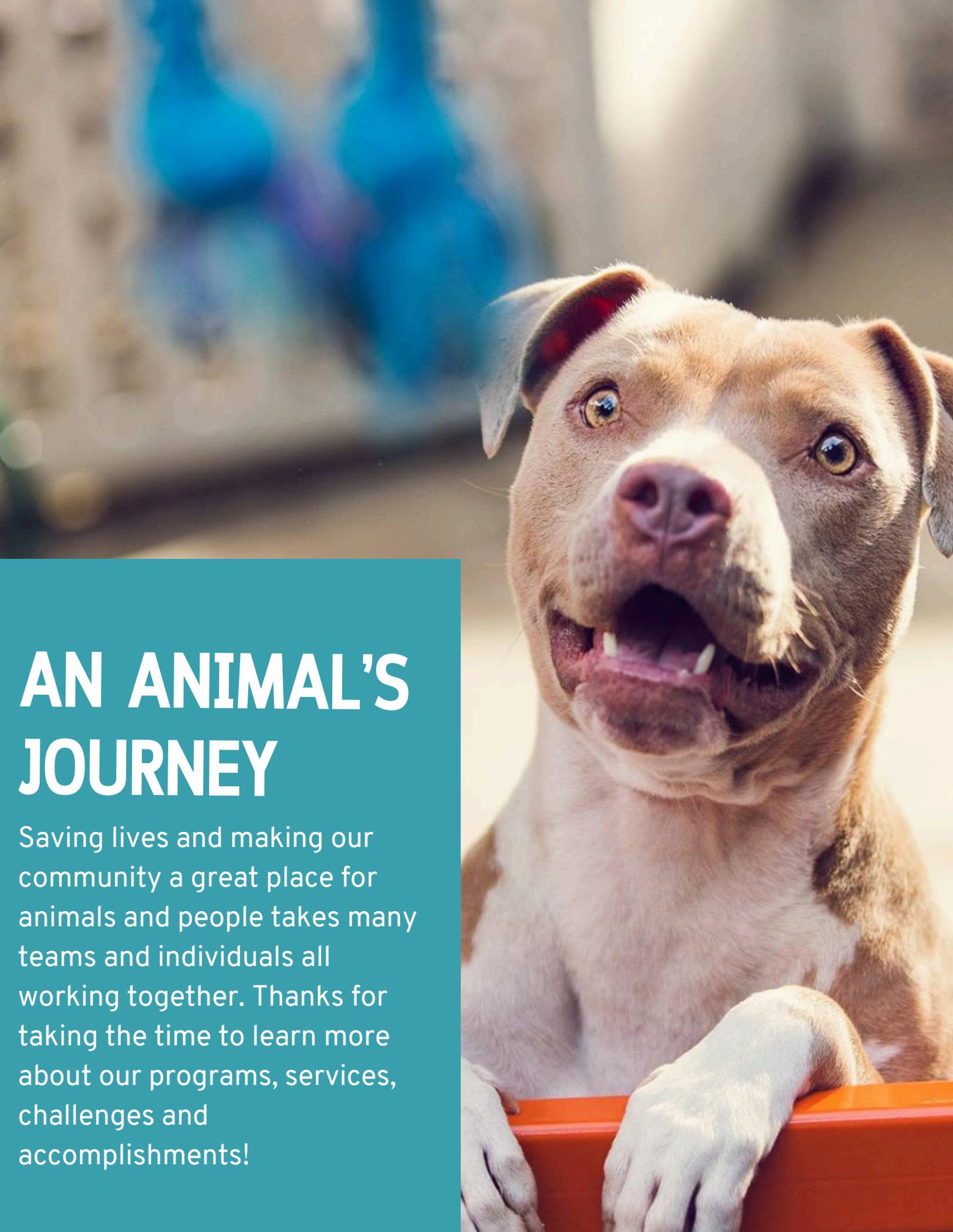
86%

Dog live release rate

64%

Cat live release rate

*\*Live release rate compares non-live outcomes during a time period to total intake during that period, then subtracts that percentage from 100. Formula:  $100 - (\text{Non-Live Outcomes} \div \text{Total Intake} \times 100)$ . Reasons for a non-live outcome include died in care (common for very young kittens that fail to thrive), or euthanasia (primarily due to irremediable illness or injury or behavior concerns that make an animal unsafe for adoption).*



# AN ANIMAL'S JOURNEY

Saving lives and making our community a great place for animals and people takes many teams and individuals all working together. Thanks for taking the time to learn more about our programs, services, challenges and accomplishments!



*Officer Channell scans for a microchip to help a lost dog get back home.*

## IN THE FIELD

### ANIMAL CARE OFFICERS

For many animals, their journey starts after a concerned citizen calls 311 for assistance. Our Animal Care Officers respond to everything from sick and injured animals, cruelty and neglect reports, aggressive animals, and much more. In

2025 they received 21,232 service requests (including 1,944 calls related to homelessness), made 11,989 physical responses, conducted 3,310 welfare checks, processed 1,133 bite reports, and picked up 3,625 animals.



*A happy couple adds a new four-legged member to their family.*

## THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR

### CUSTOMER SERVICE TEAM

Most animals are brought to us directly by those who find them. The vast majority of our animals are brought in as strays, and our customer service staff work hard to get them back home. When this isn't possible, they help them on their

journey to a new home by processing their adoptions. In 2025, the team responded to 13,263 customer service requests, took in 6,849 animals via our public counter, and helped 1,597 lost pets get back to their families.



*Animal Care Technician Mars gives a dog love and attention to ease his stress at the shelter.*

## THEIR STAY AT THE SHELTER

### ANIMAL CARE TEAM

Shelters are not an ideal place for animals - they are typically loud, crowded, and stressful. But our Animal Care Team does everything they can to make their time with us as safe and pleasant as possible. They keep the shelter clean while it houses hundreds of

animals, ensure they are fed and receive medications, and provide enrichment. They also protect animals against disease - in 2025 they administered over 12,000 protective vaccines and 9,189 flea/tick/dewormer treatments.



*Volunteers collaborate to wash a huge pile of laundry - a daily task to keep animals clean and comfortable.*

## VOLUNTEERS TO THE RESCUE

### VOLUNTEER TEAM

We couldn't do this alone, and thanks to our amazing volunteers, we don't have to. In 2025, 803 volunteers logged over 80,000 hours of service. They help the animals in countless ways, including kennel cleaning, dog walking and enrichment, cat socialization, adoption counseling, rescue

networking, photography, assisting at offsite adoption events, helping at community clinics and outreach events, and so much more. Our two volunteer coordinators work tirelessly to recruit and retain volunteers while keeping the program running at high efficiency.



*During the warm months, several hundred kittens at a time are housed offsite in volunteers' homes.*

## THE UNSEEN HEROES

### FOSTER TEAM

With limited space and staffing, we couldn't possibly care for every animal brought to us, especially those who need overnight or intensive care, like kittens needing bottle feeding every 3 hours. Our foster team helps fill that gap by coordinating with our

dedicated foster volunteers to place animals in temporary homes. Fostering creates space, allows baby animals to grow, and allows sick and injured animals a chance to recover. In 2025, 1,083 dogs and 1,800 cats were sent to foster.



*Registered  
Veterinary  
Technician  
Emma  
comforts a  
puppy during  
a medical  
exam.*

## TLC FOR THE UNDERDOGS

### MEDICAL TEAM

Sadly, many animals come to our shelter sick and injured, or we discover an illness while they are with us. Additionally, every adopted animal must be spayed or neutered prior to going home. Thanks to our incredible medical team, along with support from our life-saving donors, we are able to

go above and beyond for animals with medical conditions to give them a second chance at life. Our medical team completed 4,319 spay/neuter surgeries, conducted 6,535 exams, and performed hundreds of other surgeries.



*A high-energy dog gets essential exercise through our new Jog-A-Dog program*

## A MUCH-NEEDED BREAK

### DOGGIE DAY OUT

Our Doggie Day Out program gives community members the chance to take a shelter dog out for the day. Many of our dogs get to go to the park, on a hike, or to a relaxing home environment. It provides a break from the stress and hyper-stimulation of the shelter, and we've seen

many benefits for the dogs, including exposure to potential adopters and more calm behavior when back at the shelter. This year, we added two new versions of the program: Pups and PJs (which allows a dog to go on an overnight stay) and Jog A Dog (to take our highest-energy dogs on runs).



*Rufus and his owner are one of many unhoused families our HOAP team supports with ongoing vaccines, flea treatment, and resources.*

## HELPING THE UNHOUSED

HOMELESS OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HOAP)

Our Homeless Outreach and Assistance Program (HOAP), assists unhoused pet owners with preventative care, emergency treatment, food and other supplies, and spay/neuter, which often helps them access pet-friendly housing. In 2025 the HOAP team provided care to 1,888 pets (a 43% increase from 2024), assisted 1,028 owners ( a 38%

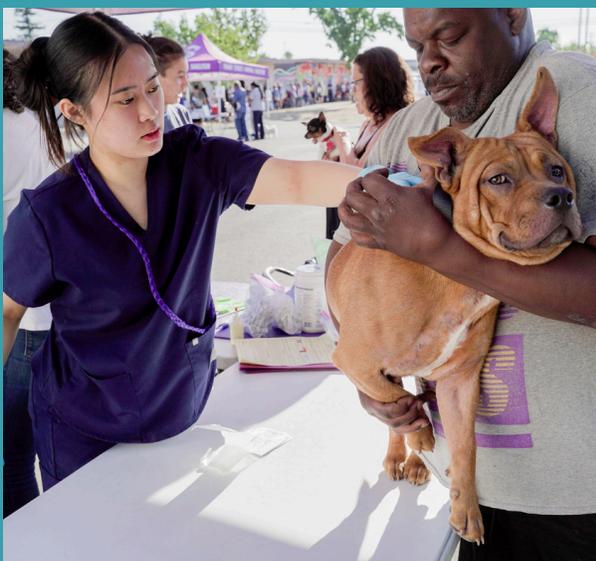
increase), arranged 505 spays and neuters (many requiring transport assistance), gave 1,162 flea prevention treatments, 1,957 vaccines, and provided 1,042 other medical procedures. This year, the team received a mobile veterinary van that improved their ability to bring care where it is needed most.

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## REACHING BEYOND OUR WALLS

Our community is home to hundreds of thousands of pets, and many of those animals (and their families) need extra support.

Oftentimes, animals enter the shelter due to larger social or economic issues, and we've created several programs to assist proactively. Our monthly **Free Vaccine and Microchip Clinics** are meant to prevent



*A dog receives a microchip to give him a much better chance of being reunited with his family if he ever gets lost.*

suffering by protecting animals against common diseases, while also helping them get home if they ever get lost or come to a shelter. We vaccinated and/or microchipped 5,113 animals at our 2025 clinics. Our **Spay and Neuter Voucher Program**, along with community clinics held



*Spay/neuter efforts help address animal overpopulation at the source.*

throughout the year, allowed us to provide spay/neuter surgeries to 1,122 community animals. Our **Kitten Connection** program, run mostly by volunteers, helps

the public manage community cat issues, sending volunteers right to their door for assistance. Donor dollars also allowed us to spay/neuter more than 2,000 community cats to reduce the cycle of reproduction.



*Our Kitten Connection volunteers assist hundreds of adult cats and kittens each year.*



*Volunteers distribute food and supplies to grateful families.*

Since a common reason for surrender to shelters is an inability to feed one's pet, our **Pet Food Pantry** program gives free dog and cat food to a long line of cars each week. Approximately 72,000 pounds of food was distributed in 2025.



**IT TAKES A WHOLE COMMUNITY TO CARE  
FOR ANIMALS - THANK YOU TO OUR  
ADOPTERS, VOLUNTEERS, DONORS,  
FOSTERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR MAKING IT  
ALL POSSIBLE!**