### Seattle 2021 Humane 2021 Saving Lives & Completing Families

#### News for the friends and supporters of Seattle Humane

Seattle Humane Community Medicine Veterinarian Dr. Hadar Friedman examines one of the 45 animals brought to our free vaccination clinic held in September at Steve Cox Memorial Park in White Center. Given the tremendous need in our community, we plan to do more clinics like this in 2022.

# Compassion. Care. Community

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For more than a century, Seattle Humane has served animals with the guiding principles of saving lives and completing families. From adoptions and rescue transfers to veterinary care in our Schuler Family Medical Center, Seattle Humane is here with compassionate care to support a thriving pet community.

The pandemic continues to present new and unprecedented challenges, and we've weathered the storm. We've learned a lot along the way, pivoted more times than we can count, and are grateful to our Seattle Humane family each and every day. Through it all, we never stopped caring for animals and connecting them with the people who love them. As we move into 2022, we are proud to share our Seattle Humane "Storyline," which outlines a vision of where we see ourselves in five years, just as we are about to celebrate our milestone 125th anniversary.

Our vision is built on our rich past and puts forth a fiveyear plan for an exciting future for Seattle Humane. It focuses on the greatest and best use of our Bellevue campus, so we can continue to serve the community's evolving needs by reaching more pets and their people. Our future is one where there is equitable access to pet companionship and the compassionate care required to keep them happy and healthy at home.

There is still work to be done creating a blueprint to realize this future vision, but it includes five core pillars:

- 1. Lead the region in providing accessible veterinary services
- 2. Address the supply and access to adoptable pets in the region
- 3. Transform the shelter into a pet-centric community center
- 4. Advocate for pets and their people
- 5. Invest in the people that power Seattle Humane

Seattle Humane is so grateful for the donors, volunteers, staff and supporters who will drive us forward for another 125 years. We hope you will join us on this journey into our next chapter.

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#### MISSION

We proudly promote the human-animal bond by saving and serving pets in need, regardless of age, ability, circumstance or geography.

## **Opening Your Home and Heart to a Foster**



Evelyn and one of her many foster cats.

### Evelyn Barron-Roemer can tell you the names of her very first fosters.

They were two mini Dachshund pups named Nina and Norma back in 2012. For her, it was a "safe first foster" because she knew she couldn't adopt them. She already had two dogs and two cats at home. Four family pets was, and still is, her limit.

Thankfully, when it comes to fosters, there are no limits for Evelyn. She's taken in close to 150 animals in her nine years volunteering as a foster parent with Seattle Humane. Cats and dogs of all ages and sizes, many of them with medical or behavioral challenges.

"I've received animals with all sorts of ailments. From minor things to a few attention-getting issues, but then to see them become big and healthy, with no sign of sickness — it's great!" says Evelyn.

#### Heartbreaks

One of the realities of fostering is not every animal battling a life-threatening condition will make it. This is especially true with young kittens. Two that Evelyn fostered this year, Chive and Coriander, suffered from Megaesophagus, a condition that prevents an animal from swallowing food normally. They spent weeks in her care, but had to be humanely euthanized when veterinarians at the shelter determined the feeding techniques and medications were not working and the kittens could not survive. It was a heartbreaking decision, but one Evelyn admits was necessary.

"Losing a foster is never easy," Evelyn

said. "I find solace in knowing that between the veterinarians, foster and me, we've given that animal the best care and the best chance at a healthy life. Without it, the animal had no chance. The best thing I can do is pick up the next foster. Having another to care for is healing for me."

#### Helping an Animal Overcome Fear

For some animals, the physical shelter is extremely stressful — full of strange noises, smells, and people and animals coming and going. Spending time in a foster home, where they can relax and get individualized attention, is critical.

Barry Scott, who's been fostering for 13 years, specializes in shy, fearful and behaviorally-challenged cats. With patience and compassion, he sees them transform before his eyes.



Barry Scott and his beloved 12-yearold resident cat Tucker, his partner in helping fosters overcome their fears.

"My favorite foster cats have been those that have been extremely shutdown. It's gratifying to watch a cat blossom from a state of fear to sitting in my lap," said Barry.

Both agree newcomers to fostering will have plenty of support — from the Foster Program staff and other foster parents. And once you start, it's hard to stop! But the payoff in providing a loving temporary home for a pet awaiting adoption is priceless.

"Fostering can be a lot of work. It can be emotional, but knowing you helped an animal find a forever home is its own reward," said Evelyn.

### Foster Parents Needed!

Interested in fostering a shelter pet? Seattle Humane's Foster Program is accepting applications now! Our biggest need is for families who can take dogs with behavioral challenges.

"Oftentimes, these are dogs who don't do well with other dogs, so they need to be the only dog in the home. Since so many of our animalloving foster parents have pets of their own, this can be a hard need to fill. Typically, we aren't doing behavior modification training with these dogs as that is a process that is best done over the course of many months with the dog's long-term owners. Instead, the foster parents work with the foster staff, vets and behavior team to create and maintain a lowstress environment that avoids the triggers for their behavior issues," says Foster Program Manager Anna Sernau.

The good news is you don't have to work from home to be a foster parent, and just taking an animal for a short-term foster can make a difference!

Interested or have questions? Email volunteers@ seattlehumane.org or call (425) 649-7557.

### Adoption Updates The Happy Families Made Possible with Your Support

#### Luhu and Huhu (now Luna and Zeus)

4-year-old brother and sister Toy Poodles surrendered due to a family emergency

"They're so loving and we couldn't be happier with them! They LOVE going on short hikes and exploring parks. They're so energetic and playful! We're already getting recognized around our neighborhood because



of them. Zeus is incredibly social. He's always going up to new people to say hi and people will stop us just to comment on how cute they are." — Leticia M.



#### Cucumber (now Cu)

"It seems like Cucumber has been with our family forever. She is so sweet, snuggly and a bit sassy! Our cat Star is noticeably happier to have a friend to play with!

Our 5-year-old continues to be an amazing cat mama and we are so happy to see how much they love each other!

Thank you for all you do. We are so happy to see Star and Cucumber have become the best of friends and feel incredibly lucky that we have been matched twice with pets that are a perfect fit for us!" — **Erika P.** 

#### Misti and Micki

"The sisters are well! Misti has become more and more social with each day and doesn't hesitate to ask for attention and cuddles when she needs it. Micki has been slower to come out of her shell, but she is — slowly. It brings my heart such joy when she tries to climb up into my lap because I know



that's not love and trust she gives to just anyone.

We appreciate you all and the work that you do. All of our pets over the last dozen or so years have been Seattle Humane rescues. Seattle Humane holds such a special place in our hearts." — **Erik and Laura** 

#### **Chill and Hazel** Bonded 10-year-old brother and sister

"Chill and Hazel are such gems. Chill made himself at home immediately, and while Hazel took a few days to warm up, they are now both the sweetest, most affectionate cats with such unique and beautiful personalities. They're both my little shadows and have made my house a home!



P.S. I LOVE your Instagram page. I had been looking for a pair of bonded seniors for the last six months or so. The videos that you put on your Instagram page and website really helped inform me as to which pairs to come visit!" — **Paige C.** 





#### Arabica (now Jasper)

"It's been an absolute pleasure working with Seattle Humane! Everyone we worked with was friendly, knowledgeable, and made the process so easy to adopt!

Jasper is doing well! He already went to his first puppy training class, vet appointments are scheduled, and most importantly,

everyone in the household is gushing with love! We absolutely love his puppy energy! Thanks again for making the adoption process so easy and bringing this bundle of joy into our lives!" — Jeff R.

#### Macy (now Biscuit)

"She's settling in well with our other two pups (one of whom also came from Seattle Humane!) and hogging the

bed with the best of them. The cats are getting used to an additional dog in the house, as well. She's loving riding in the car, long walks where she can meet all of the neighbors, and generally being a sweet, beautiful new addition to the home. Our kids are so excited about her, too! Thank you!" — Fred S.



All of these pets are living happily with loving families, thanks to the support of friends like you. Help us save even more pets and visit seattlehumane.org.

### Donors With a Soft Spot for Strays Pete and Carol Stewart Feel 'Blessed' to Help Pets in Need



Pete and Carol Stewart with their rescue dogs Bindi and Becky, both adopted from Seattle Humane.

Pete and Carol Stewart have given generously to Seattle Humane for decades and have adopted a total of seven dogs from the shelter. Most recently, the "B-Girls" — Becky, a stray found by a river in Stanwood, and Bindi, a stray from Louisiana. We asked Carol to share why giving orphaned animals a second chance means so much to her and husband Pete.

Have animals always been important to you? I have loved animals since I was a very small child and bonded with our family beagle mix, Spotty. The joy, laughter and companionship he added to our family made me a lifelong dog lover. Also, seeing other families who didn't treat their pets well made a deep impression on me and I vowed to always be kind to animals and help them. My husband always loved dogs and other animals, but his mother wouldn't allow family pets, so when we first met, he bonded with my dog — another beagle mix, Ginger.

#### Why is animal welfare important to you?

We are involved in supporting many animal welfare charities, as we feel strongly that every species has its rightful place on this planet and we are all interwoven with each other. Seeing so many species disappearing so fast and all the climate and economic changes affecting so many animals, we want to be part of the change for the better and try to save as many animals and species as we can before it's too late.

#### What motivates you to give?

The saying, "To those who have been given much, much is expected" or, more simply, "We are blessed to be a blessing," reflects how we feel. It is our joy to share our financial gifts and see the many changes we have been honored to be a part of. We know how much pets and people can help each other through very challenging times like these and we want as many people as possible to adopt animals so they, too, can enjoy the physical and emotional benefits of companion animals.

To learn more about our work and how you can support pets in need, visit seattlehumane.org.

### Tuxes & Tails Virtual Gala a Success!



#### SAVE THE DATE: MAY 7, 2022

Tuxes & Tails is our most important fundraiser of the year, and thanks to our generous community, our virtual gala on September 18 was a resounding success! We raised just shy of \$1.3 million for the animals in our care – critical funding for all of our programs throughout the year supporting pets and the people who love them. A huge thank you to everyone who donated, bid on an auction item and cheered for the animals from home. Your support makes all the difference for the thousands of animals who rely on Seattle Humane.

We hope you will join us for our very special 125th Anniversary Tuxes & Tails gala on May 7, 2022! Throughout 2022 there will be community events, partnerships and special moments to mark this milestone. Stay on top of all things happening in the shelter and beyond by signing up for our monthly eNews at **seattlehumane.org**.

Humane Teen Club member Zac holds Teddy the puppy during the Pet Runway Show at Tuxes & Tails on Sept. 18, 2021. Behind him, Acting Director of Animal Care and Runway Show emcee, Manders Vandel.



To learn more about how you can help local pets in need, please visit seattlehumane.org.

