

FALL
2017

All Things Pawsible



HUMANE
SOCIETY
SILICON
VALLEY



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Veterinarian

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Hitch In Lexi's Giddy-Up



901 Ames Ave.
Milpitas, CA 95035-6326

hssv.org
408-262-2133

- Medical Services** 408-262-2133 x108
- Grooming** 408-262-2133 x124
- Dog Park** 408-262-2133 x164
- Pet Store** 408-262-2133 x164
- Adoptions** 408-262-2133 x150
- Behavior & Training** 408-262-2133 x352
- Lost & Found** 408-262-2133 x110
- Pet Surrender/Euthanasia** 408-262-2133 x110
- Donations** 408-262-2133 x132

From the President

We are surrounded by acts of heroism. A Good Samaritan derails their busy day to help a lost animal find safety . . . A staff member brings a mother cat and babies home to foster . . . An army of volunteers treats our animals with love and compassion . . . Adopters offer a lifetime of love to homeless animals . . . and kind friends like you provide the funding that makes it all possible.

These are all acts of heroism that embody and fulfill our mission: to save and enhance lives, both two- and four-legged.

And in this special issue of All Things Pawsible, you'll meet a host of animals who've had their lives transformed by this everyday heroism. There's Chili, a shy and matted homeless dog who was scared to be rescued; Cupcake the cat, who was on the verge of being euthanized when she was brought to Humane Society Silicon Valley; Lexi, who received the gift of a pain-free life; and Momma Cat, a feral cat trying to raise her babies on the streets.

Because of your compassionate generosity, these animals (and many others, too) have better lives today. That's why you really are a hero. And why we're forever grateful.

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- Joanne Jacobs, Chief of Operations

With gratitude,



Carol Novello
President

You are a hero to homeless animals. You're saving their lives and making our community a better place.

Humane Society Silicon Valley Animal Community Center

408-262-2133
901 Ames Avenue
Milpitas, CA 95035

Sunnyvale Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO

408-720-1419
160 East El Camino Real
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Mountain View Neighborhood Adoption Center in PetSmart

408-425-1569
2440 East Charleston Road
Mountain View, CA 94043

West San Jose Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO

408-370-2732
500 El Paseo de Saratoga
San Jose, CA 95130

Cupcake's Sweet Story

Cupcake's owners were heartbroken. Their sweet, portly white and orange cat had grown a large tumor on her side. Cancer seemed likely, but money was tight and they couldn't afford a biopsy — let alone treatment. At the time, Cupcake was barely eating. Unwilling to see her suffer, they brought her to us, fearing euthanasia was their only option.

However, Humane Society Silicon Valley's Animal Care staff noticed two things:

First, she was incredibly sweet and alert.

Second, when they tenderly touched her side, they noticed that the tumor moved: It wasn't rooted to her organs. This was a good sign.

So we explained the situation to Cupcake's family: Her tumor might not be life-threatening, but we couldn't guarantee it. If they surrendered Cupcake to us, we



Cupcake looked like a cat with a terminal illness, but she wasn't acting like one.

could try to save her.

The family eagerly agreed — they loved her so much, all they cared about was that her life would be saved.

Best Hopes Confirmed

The next day, Cupcake underwent surgery to remove the mass and have it tested. When the results came back, they were exactly as we had all hoped: not only was Cupcake not dying of cancer, but she would be so much more comfortable without the large tumor on her side.

After recovering from her surgery, Cupcake found her way back to the family that had loved her for so many years. One of the main pillars of our mission is keeping beloved pets with their families. Thanks to a pair of donors who are passionate about this aspect of our work, Cupcake has many more years of love to offer her family.



JOIN US

Tails & Ales

People, Pets & Pints

WHO: You & Your Pet

WHAT: Family & Pet Activities, Beer, Food Trucks, Music & More!

WHEN: Saturday, October 14

WHERE: Google in Mountain View

Get Social with HSSV     | hssv.org

A Winning Recipe for Chili

The small white dog was hungry, dirty, and skittish. But thanks to one dedicated employee and caring friends like you, his life and personality have changed in every way . . .

Amy Winkleblack, our Director of Development, Major Gifts, comes to work with an entourage. There's Duck, the black lab with half a tail; the two poodles, Alan and Maya; and peeking out from her elbow is Satchel, a three-pound chihuahua. All are shelter alumni and regulars at her office at our Milpitas Animal Community Center.

Your support helped transform Chili from skittish street dog to spoiled, adored and beloved family member.

That's why, when a badly matted, emaciated dog showed up roaming the streets by Amy's San Jose home, it was no surprise Amy was determined to bring him to safety. For two months she would feed him treats, leftovers . . . anything to win his trust. But the little dog would eat and run before she could get close.

Chili Breakthrough

One morning when Amy was walking out to her car, she spied the dog on a neighbor's front lawn — tantalizingly close. If she went back inside to get food, the pooch would probably leave. So she offered the only thing she had with her — her lunch, which was her husband's homemade chili. Gently tossing a few chunks his way, the dog ate gratefully. Amy offered a little more chili, moved a little closer . . . and slipped a leash over his head.

Your Support Transformed Chili's Life!

"Chili" had no microchip or ID, and no owner claimed him during his stray hold. Thanks to caring friends like you, Humane Society Silicon Valley was able to give him the best possible start with a full medical checkup and lots of love. We carefully sheared off the matted fur. As startling as this physical transformation was, his behavioral transformation was even more dramatic. Chili was affectionate, friendly, playful and silly.

And Amy, his guardian angel, wasn't done with him yet. She had the perfect family in mind for him. She



called Karen, a longtime friend of Humane Society Silicon Valley . . . and the rest is history.

Within weeks, Chili went from skittish street dog to spoiled, adored and beloved family member — thanks to Amy and kind friends like you who support our work.

“Going from not knowing if I would ever earn his trust to seeing him become a cherished family member has been the ultimate reminder of why I do this work,” Amy said. We hope you’re just as inspired, too. Thank you!



Amy, Karen and Chili at our Milpitas Animal Community Center's Dog Park



“Black Belt” Rescue

Our staff members aren’t the only ones who live our mission day by day. Even our Board of Directors gets in on the act! When HSSV’s Board Secretary, Clint Severson, saw a Good Samaritan trying to lure a stray poodle/dachshund mix with Thai food, he jumped in to lend a hand. Together, they caught the matted pup with a karate belt as a makeshift leash and brought her here. It didn’t take long for Miki, as she was named, to find her forever home with a loving family — all thanks to a kind stranger and a passionate Board Member.

Summer Camp Inspires Future Veterinarian

When Stephanie Han was younger, she wanted to be involved in international business. She liked talking to people, enjoyed traveling and was a gifted student. But in the summer of 2015, Stephanie got a job as a counselor at Humane Society Silicon Valley's Kind Kids Summer Camp, and it changed her goals.

"Some teens just stand out," says Elana Titus, Education and Volunteer Programs Administrator. "Stephanie was one of those exceptional teens. She went the extra mile to connect with the shy kids. And she had so much initiative and drive. We loved her and she loved us."

It was a love that would last. Stephanie would go on to participate in our Compassion In Action program, returning again as a counselor the following summer, and as Camp Lead the next. In between, she honed her animal handling and customer care skills — and when she turned 18, she became our youngest-ever volunteer. And she served everywhere. She showed dogs to potential adopters. Her family took in foster puppies. She helped administration with data projects and made media appearances on local news with adoptable animals. Everyone knew Stephanie and everyone, whether person or animal, was always happy to see her.

Today, instead of going into business, Stephanie has decided to become a veterinarian. She enters UC Davis



Your support is helping raise a new generation of animal lovers . . . like Stephanie!

this fall to begin work on her degree. While everyone at Humane Society Silicon Valley will miss her, we are so excited to see what the future holds for her.

We're not only grateful to Stephanie for all the work she's done for HSSV, our clients, our youth programs and our animals, we're also excited for the future that Stephanie represents: a kinder, more humane one.



We love animals. Every. Single. Day.

Faithful Friends are the heart of what we do at Humane Society Silicon Valley. By setting up an automatic gift each month, you ensure there are resources to help care for every homeless animal who comes through our doors.

Sign up to be a Faithful Friend today!

Visit hssv.org/faithfulfriends

The Streets Are No Place for Kittens

“Momma Cat” wasn’t comfortable with human attention, and she certainly wasn’t interested in being anyone’s pet. But the streets are no place for a cat — even a feral one — to raise a family. So when her caretaker, a kind woman named Anita, noticed that Momma Cat had kittens, she asked Humane Society Silicon Valley for help.

Thanks to your support, we were able to say “yes!” In fact, our P.U.P. (Prevent Unwanted Pregnancies) Program exists for this very reason. It provides adoptive homes and free spay/neuter services for families who find themselves with accidental litters.



Safe, Quiet Environment to Grow and Socialize

After trapping Momma Cat and rounding up her kittens, Anita brought the brood to Humane Society Silicon Valley. Because Momma Cat was still nursing, the family was placed in our Gilliland Mommy and Me Ward, a safe, quiet environment where Momma Cat could care for her kittens — and hide while they were being socialized.

When the kittens were six weeks old, the family moved in with foster mom Bridget Keenan, our Director of Development, Leadership Giving. Every day Bridget would bring the kittens with her to work and every day staff and volunteers would spend time with them until they blossomed into purring, friendly babies. After a few weeks, it was time for everyone to find a home.



And here, Anita — who had already done so much for Momma Cat and her kittens — stepped up to help again. In addition to committing to take responsibility for Momma Cat, she made sure the kittens were adopted by her friends and family.

Today, the kittens are thriving in their new homes. Momma Cat is spayed and doing wonderfully under Anita’s watchful eye. And we’re grateful to her, and to friends like you who made all of this possible.



Hitch In Lexi's Giddy-Up

Lexi may look a little grumpy, but she's actually lovely, playful and outgoing. And why shouldn't she be? She's living a joyful, pain-free life . . . thanks to your support for Humane Society Silicon Valley.

But her story almost turned out very differently. You see, Lexi was found in a local park by a homeless man. He was kind and tried to care for her. But he quickly realized she needed more care than he could provide, so he brought her here . . . just in the nick of time.

A barely perceptible limp and stiffness in her leg could have had big consequences for the brindle puppy later in life. But thanks to the eagle eyes of our medical staff and the skill of staff veterinarian Dr. Andrea Moore, a potentially life-shattering disaster was averted.

Big Dog Problems

At just three months, Lexi was already 17 pounds. Big dogs carry big weight, and their bones and joints are under considerable stress. When Dr. Moore noticed Lexi had a "hitch in her giddy-up," she took a longer, harder look at the sweet puppy's leg — and discovered a malformation of the knee. While not a big deal at that time, it could have caused severe pain and arthritis as she aged. To confirm Dr. Moore's suspicions, we sent Lexi's X-rays to an orthopedic



specialist who agreed with the diagnosis. The best way to ensure Lexi would have a normal life was to fix the knee. It wouldn't be easy or quick, but rescue and rehabilitation are an important pillar of our mission and Lexi's future depended on it.

In a complicated orthopedic surgery, Dr. Moore repaired and rebuilt Lexi's knee. While she came through the surgery with flying colors, she required four weeks of rest for the leg to heal — no easy task for a young pup used to running around. Luckily her foster parents were up for the task, and Lexi's recovery progressed without further complications.

Six weeks after coming through our door, Lexi's future brightened even further when she was adopted into a loving forever home.

Thank you for making this beautiful story possible!



Together, We Can Paint a Better Future

You help give animals in our community more than a home. You give them a second chance for a better life.

But it's bigger than that. By connecting an animal with someone who will love them forever, you create a relationship that will enrich both lives in countless ways. A single animal has the power to spread joy to endless people, and in turn, create a more loving community.

It is not easy, though. Behind every adoption, every new relationship forged, there is often a challenging journey. You can help build the path for this journey by supporting Humane Society Silicon Valley's mission and programs that save and enhance lives. With your support, no animal has to be left behind.



A Better Future for Homeless Animals

When an animal comes to Humane Society Silicon Valley, we don't know what their future will look like — but we know that they have one, with a person who will love them forever. The work we do at Humane Society Silicon Valley is so important to giving second chances to the animals in our community.

We help thousands of animals each year, but there are still many more that need our help.

In July 2011, Humane Society Silicon Valley began the *Paint a Better Future* campaign. It is a forward-thinking, comprehensive campaign to ensure that we can sustain our current lifesaving capabilities, and increase our impact to save more lives. We help thousands of animals each year, but there are still many more that need our help.

When we began our campaign, over 26,000 companion animals annually were entering the

six animal shelters in Silicon Valley. We've made significant progress and reduced that number to 23,000, but we still have work to do.

Most of these animals are homeless because they are abandoned, unwanted, or their owners are no longer able to care for them. Of these animals, nearly 5,000 lose their lives because they are not healthy when they enter a shelter. Saving these animals requires more resources than are currently available.

Humane Society Silicon Valley plays an invaluable role in finding solutions to end the homelessness of companion animals. We provide vital programs that pick up where the constraints of local government agencies leave off.

We need your support to ensure that Humane Society Silicon Valley will always be a safety net for homeless animals in our community.

Visit our campaign website at hssv.org/betterfuture

Our Impact Over Time



2011

2016

HSSV SAVE RATE*

81.3%

94.2%

COMMUNITY SAVE RATE*

71.6%

91%

EXTENDED CARE

34%

74%

ADOPTIONS*

2,883

4,682

INTAKE*

3,954

5,587

SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES

6,789

7,180



Animal Lives Impacted Annually

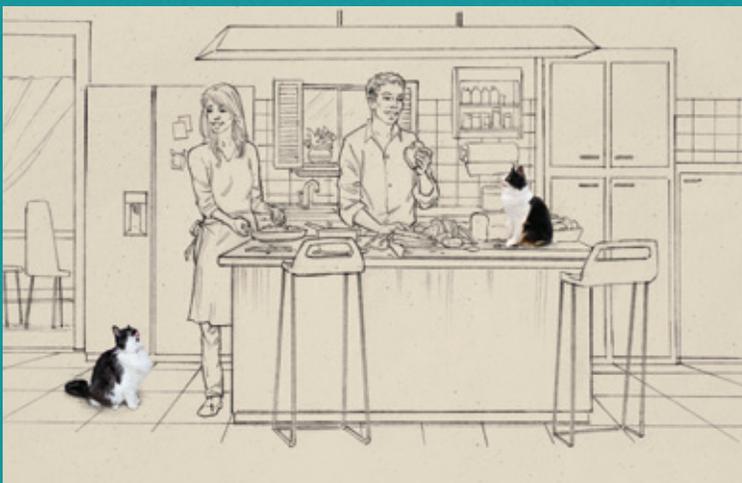
24,000+



Human Lives Impacted Annually

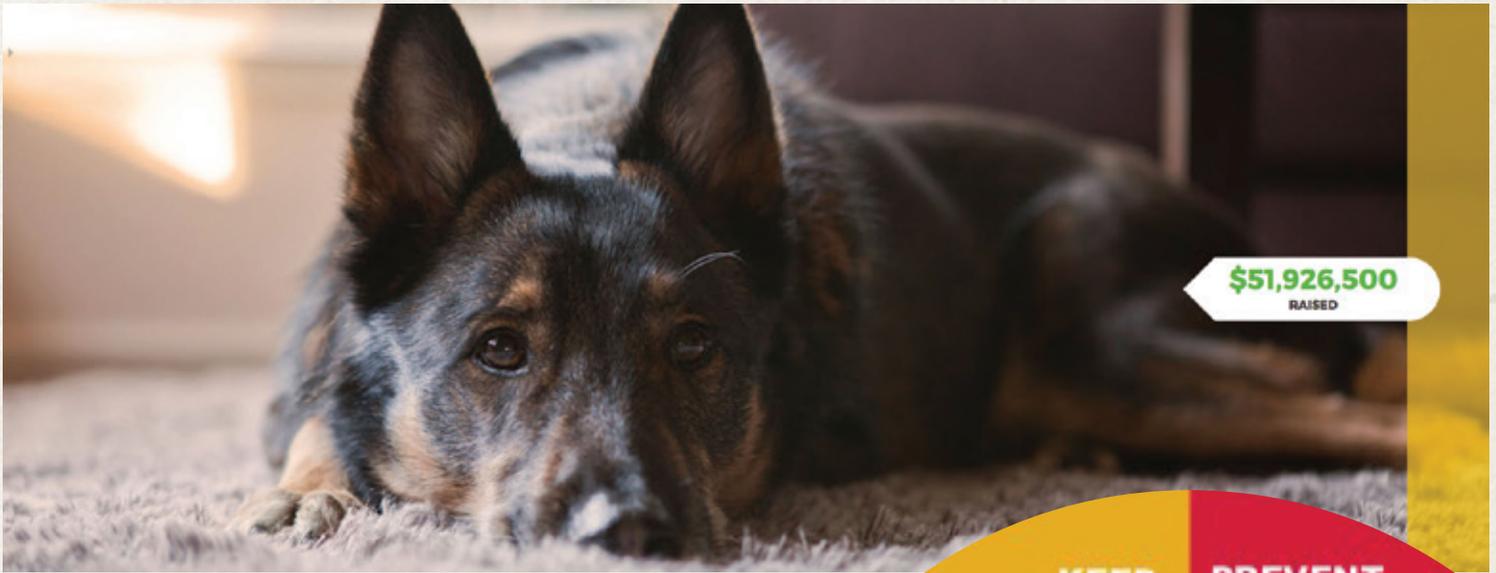
48,500+

*Cats & Dogs only. Information based on Calendar Year.



“What people should know about the *Paint a Better Future* campaign is that Humane Society Silicon Valley is a catalyst for change in the community.”

— Sue Diekman, Co-Chair,
Paint a Better Future Campaign



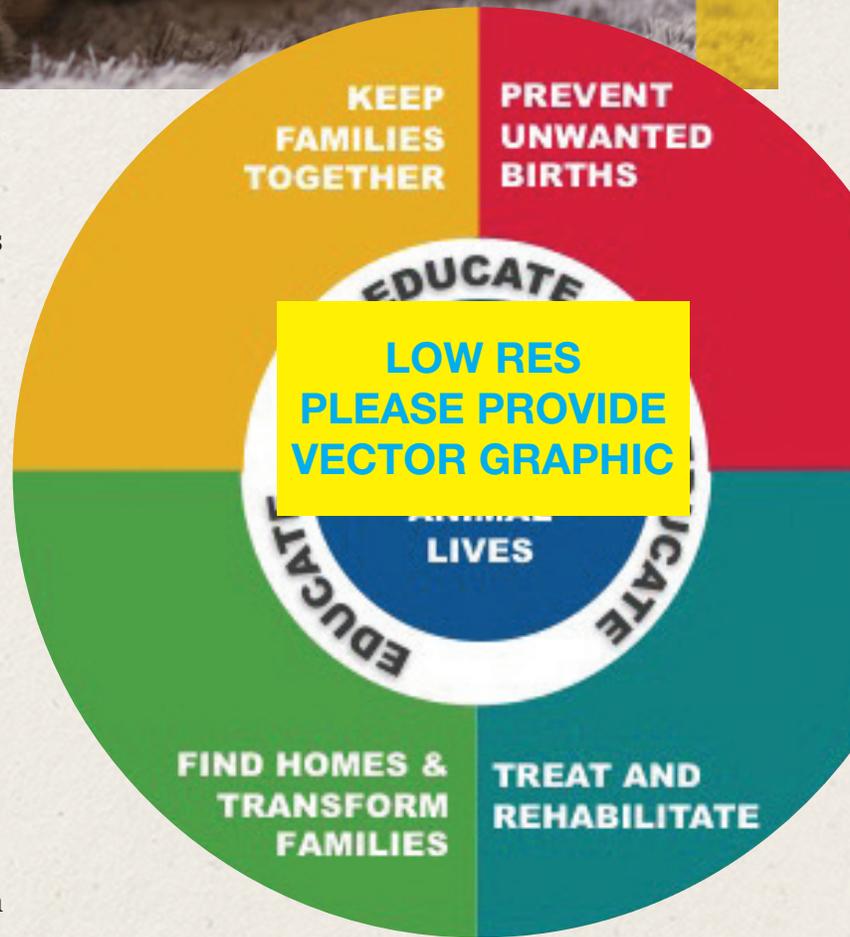
A Lifesaving Ecosystem

Saving lives and strengthening a community demands bold ideas. Our success relies on an ecosystem of innovative programs that work to address the root causes of animal homelessness and lost lives.

The foundation of our work is based on groundbreaking spay and neuter services. Thanks to the support of local donors, we expanded our free spay and neuter program to all animals coming from five zip codes in San Jose that are driving the largest number of animals into local shelters. Because of free services such as this, we are ultimately reducing the number of animals coming into Silicon Valley shelters today and going forward.

We expand on those prevention efforts with programs that provide the homeless animals that are entering shelters with the best opportunity to thrive. For example, young kittens are the most at-risk population in our area due to their high mortality rate. However, HSSV has become the safety net for kittens in the area, thanks to our rescue partnerships, many foster care volunteers, and medical and behavioral programs. Our ability to save, treat, and rehabilitate provides animals in need with a second chance that they may not otherwise have.

Our goal is to get these animals into loving, permanent homes. We operate three Neighborhood Adoption Centers inside local Petco and PetSmart stores, in addition to our main Animal Community Center. These centers expand our adoptions by an additional 40% per year, allowing us to place more animals



in homes faster. This reduces the average length of stay per animal, allowing us to save more lives and accommodate higher intake levels. We then provide owner counseling to keep animals happy and healthy in their new homes.

This ecosystem is setting a national example for innovation at the local level and shattering the notion of what's possible in animal rescue. It wouldn't be possible without the support of our generous community.

How You Can Help

Many compassion-driven supporters have invested in Humane Society Silicon Valley over the years because our strategic direction and lifesaving work have deeply resonated with them. The social return of such generosity has been transformational.

Individual donors are the cornerstones upon which our accomplishments rest. Our organization thrives and grows when individuals are inspired and committed by the impact they make in supporting our work.

We have become a leader in the field of animal care and rescue due largely to the role of private philanthropy. The most visible example of the game changing impact of private philanthropy is our Animal Community Center. It is a national model for animal care organizations everywhere and was funded almost entirely through contributions from individuals. The journey began with a \$1 million gift from a single individual who passionately believed in our idea to create an epicenter to learn about, engage with, and celebrate animals.

Investing in bold and compelling ideas has laid the foundation for Humane Society Silicon Valley as an enduring institution built on sustainable philanthropic results. Individuals who are passionate about our work and care deeply about our mission are the life-giving force of our history and our future.



For more information about the campaign or to make a gift, please visit hssv.org/betterfuture

Campaign Committee Members

John Diekman, Co-Chair
Sue Diekman, Co-Chair

Marilyn Anderson
Sarah Armes
Sally Hazard Bourgoin
Sumita Dutta
Stephanie Ladeira
Sue Levy

Kate Mulligan
Carol Novello
Geoff Powell
Amy Winkleblack



As animal lovers, adopters, and engaged members of the local community, Debbie Vander Zwaag and Bill Johanson decided they wanted to find a way to help stop animal homelessness while also supporting the existing shelter animal population with compassion and care.

“We did a lot of research on animal advocacy organizations around the Bay Area because we wanted to have an impact locally,” Debbie shares. “HSSV quickly rose to the top of the list of organizations we wanted to support.”

At the end of 2013, the couple pledged \$50,000 to HSSV’s P.U.P. (Prevent Unwanted Pregnancies) Program. The program arranges

to take in the puppies and kittens of unexpected litters in exchange for spaying the mom and neutering the dad (if he is known).

“We are so inspired by the vision for the future where every pet has a home,” says Debbie, “and we can only achieve that through a comprehensive approach that includes prevention along with compassionate care for existing homeless pets.” She joined the HSSV Board of Directors in August 2014.