



DECEMBER
2020

All Things Pawsible



TOP STORIES:

Working Hand in Hand
Charlotte's Road
to Recovery

Fixing Ferals for Friends
Partnering to Save Lives
From Hermit to Home

HUMANE SOCIETY SILICON VALLEY

901 Ames Ave.
Milpitas, CA 95035-6326

hssv.org

408-262-2133

Medical Services

408-262-2133 x108

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

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Passion and Purpose

This holiday season, we have a lot to celebrate. There were challenges throughout the year, but with your support, we were able to face them head on. Not only were we able to overcome these difficulties, but friends like you empowered us to go above and beyond to help people and animals in need.

Whether it was providing lifesaving medical care to sick and injured animals or partnering with organizations like Stanford Blood Center to ensure our community was supported, you allowed us to be there for those who needed us most. You have proven once again that amazing things can happen when we come together to create a better future for Silicon Valley and beyond.

By supporting Humane Society Silicon Valley this holiday season, you can help us continue to provide compassionate, lifesaving care to our community — both two-legged and four-legged. We are so grateful to partner with you and make a difference by saving and changing lives for the better.

Gratefully,



Kurt Krukenberg
President



Humane Society Silicon Valley Animal Community Center
901 Ames Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035
408-262-2133

West San Jose Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO
500 El Paseo de Saratoga, San Jose, CA 95130
408-370-2732

Sunnyvale Neighborhood Adoption Center in PETCO
160 East El Camino Real, Sunnyvale, CA 94087
408-720-1419

To see what services are currently available, visit hssv.org/services

Working Hand in Hand

By Jennifer Flick

Laurel and Orion came to Humane Society Silicon Valley as part of a group of 14 kittens originally from a hoarding situation. All of the kittens were starving, sick, and had ringworm — a fungal infection that requires intensive treatment to cure. I got the call from the foster team at HSSV and came to pick up five of the kittens as my new fosters. The kittens were tiny — at five weeks old, they were the size of normal two-week-old kittens.

Almost immediately after bringing the five kittens home, I could tell that two were not doing well, and I was not able to get them to eat at all. I kept my house dark and quiet and ran a humidifier to try to help them with their colds that were making them so stuffy they couldn't eat. I did what I could to prepare myself for the possibility that Orion and Laurel wouldn't make it through the night.

But they did make it. The next morning, I let the foster team know that these two were in need of serious medical attention and brought them back to be monitored by the medical team. They stayed there for over two weeks receiving intense medical care, without which they certainly would not have made it.



Orion



The staff was wonderful about keeping me updated on their progress, and each time I got an update I was relieved to hear good news that the kittens were continuing to fight to stay with us. After two weeks, I finally got the great news that I could come and pick them up.

The kittens were much better, but not out of the woods yet. Orion especially was still very sick and needed to be syringe-fed every few hours.

I continued to provide them with round-the-clock care, and they have slowly clawed their way back to health.

Thanks to the excellent care provided by HSSV's medical team and the support and advice from the foster team and other experienced fosters, both are now beautiful kittens on their way to full health. I truly believe that these two kittens being alive today is a testament to the whole community that HSSV supports. HSSV's conscientious and caring staff provide excellent medical care, and they work hand in hand with their devoted volunteers and foster families. I am very proud to be a part of this team.

If you are interested in fostering kittens or other animals under our care, please visit hssv.org/foster

Charlotte's Road to Recovery



Charlotte wouldn't use her right front leg. It was clear why — the leg was broken, bruised, and painful. But Charlotte's life was about to take a turn for the better.

A rescue partner from the Central Valley reached out to us, asking if we could take the small terrier mix who appeared to have been hit by a car. We brought Charlotte in and immediately started her medical exam. She had a mammary mass, cuts and scrapes, and a severe fracture to her leg. We placed her leg in a splint and started her on pain medication to make her more comfortable. As you can imagine, poor Charlotte was terrified after going through this whole experience, so we placed her in a foster home with a staff member from our volunteer team, Sirena. Because of friends like you, Charlotte was finally in a safe and loving place to begin to heal.

After a week in her foster home, Charlotte was checked again by our medical team. She was still incredibly shy and made no attempt at bearing weight on her front

leg. Our veterinarians suspected she might have nerve damage. In an effort to save the leg, they decided to give her a little more time to see if she would begin to walk on it. In the meantime, the mammary mass was removed and determined not to be cancerous, which was a huge relief.

Because of friends like you,
Charlotte was finally in a safe
and loving place to begin to heal.



Weeks after arriving, Charlotte was once again examined. She continued to refuse to use her right front leg, confirming that it indeed had nerve damage. So, it was decided that for Charlotte to thrive, the leg would need to be amputated. Luckily for Charlotte, our veterinarians are skilled in surgeries like this, and her



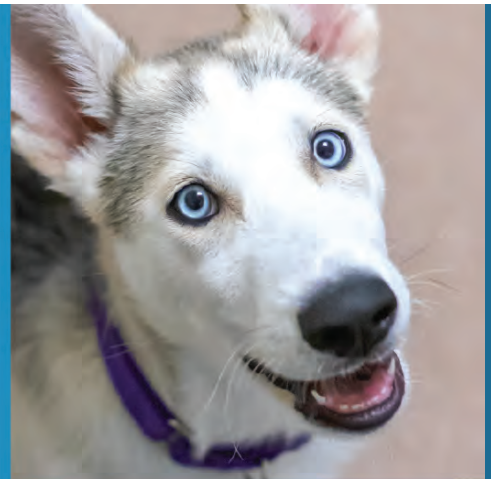
surgery was a great success. She bounced back in days, and now that her leg was no longer causing her discomfort, her personality started to bloom. Charlotte was moving around much quicker on three legs than she had previously on four, and she loved to use her newfound mobility to follow her foster mom around everywhere. This shy, sweet dog was starting to get her spark back.

Finally, nearly two months after first arriving bruised and in pain, Charlotte's life had turned a corner. She had recovered from two major surgeries in a short amount of time, overcoming so much for such a small dog. Despite everything she'd gone through, Charlotte continued to open up more and more. It was time for her to take her next step — finding her forever family. Charlotte was placed up for adoption through our virtual adoption process and found the perfect home to help her continue to blossom. We are so grateful that you helped us see Charlotte through such a difficult time. Thank you for giving Charlotte everything she needed and deserved.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

MEET YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND!

hssv.org/HomeForHolidays



Fixing Ferals for Friends



Helping other animal welfare organizations is one of the many values we hold dear at Humane Society Silicon Valley. Whenever possible, we partner with other shelters and rescues to transfer animals, provide services, and share knowledge that can help save and care for more animals in need. Thanks to your support, when All Animal Rescue and Friends (AARF) reached out needing assistance providing spay and neuter surgeries and vaccinations to a large community cat colony, we were able to help.

The community cat colony had been managed by an animal-lover who tragically passed away in a car accident, leaving the property's 50+ cats with no one to care for them. For the kittens in the colony, AARF provided medical services and introduced them into their adoption program. The 49 adult cats, however, were not socialized with humans and weren't suited to an indoor life. AARF wanted to make sure these cats were given the medical care they may need and ensure that all cats

were spayed and neutered before being released into community cat colonies.

Your support ensures we can be there when we're needed most.

With limited veterinary and spay and neuter services available for this kind of large-scale project, and no funds to pay for it, AARF turned to us — and we agreed to help all the cats on the property. AARF trapped the cats over the period of a few weeks, and brought them to our Medical Center, where they received vaccinations, spay and neuter surgeries, and treatment for minor medical issues.

Thanks to this collaboration — and your generous support — all 49 cats are now healthy and will not be contributing to overpopulation. They will be cared for in community cat colonies where they can truly thrive. We are so grateful that, because of compassionate people like you, we were able to partner with AARF to ensure these cats received the medical care they needed to live long, healthy lives.

Partnering to Save Lives

Stanford Blood Center's (SBC) vision is connecting our communities to provide hope for healing. As part of that vision, and thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, we have recently partnered with SBC to continue our shared goal of saving and enhancing lives.

In early May, SBC reached out to us to see if we would be willing to host a blood drive in our facility. We had partnered with SBC to host blood drives in the past, and knew this was an especially difficult time for blood donations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many blood drive events had been canceled because hosts did not have the space required to ensure social distancing and keep blood donors and staff safe.

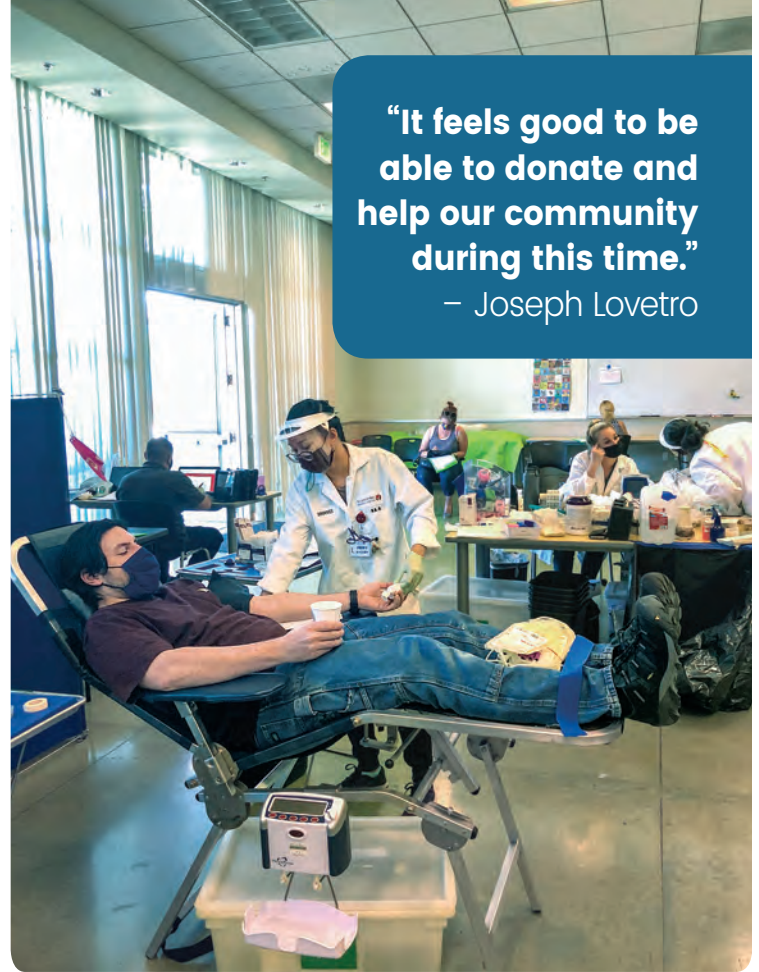
We were excited to host the blood drive, and worked hard to ensure it would be a safe event for all participants. We closely followed Santa Clara County guidelines in setting up the event, which took place in our spacious classrooms. All participants were required to wear masks, blood donation areas were spaced apart, and all surfaces were disinfected between each blood donor.

Your generosity is helping animals — and humans — in our community.

The event was a success — 34 productive units of blood were donated, which had the ability to impact the lives of approximately 102 patients in local hospitals. Because of the success and our ability to safely host the event, SBC asked to partner with us again in July. That event was successful once again, with 24 productive units of blood donated that would impact approximately 72 patients.

One HSSV staff member, Foster Care Associate Joseph Lovetro, donated blood at both the May and July events. "It's been easy for me to feel powerless during this pandemic," Joseph says. "You see so much bad going on and it has this tendency to drain you. So, when I found out about the blood drive, I thought it would be an easy way for me to help others. It feels good to be able to donate and help our community during this time."

You've been a part of making it possible to hold these events in a time they were needed most. We're thrilled to continue our partnership with SBC to make a positive impact on the community that has always been so supportive of HSSV.



We love animals. Every. Single. Day.



Faithful Friends are at the heart of what we do at Humane Society Silicon Valley. By setting up a recurring monthly donation, you ensure there are resources to care for every homeless animal who comes through our doors.

Sign up to be a **Faithful Friend** today!
Visit hssv.org/faithfulfriends

From Hermit to Home

Kona was terrified. Little did she know then that in a matter of months, her future was going to get a whole lot brighter — thanks to your support.

When one-year-old Kona was brought to us, she had experienced very little of the outside world. She had almost no exposure to new people, dogs, or the sights and sounds of normal daily life. Understandably, she was extremely fearful, especially of the outdoors. Anytime she approached doorways leading outside, she would flatten to the ground and attempt to pull away. Once outside, she would hyperventilate and pull frantically to get back in.

It was devastating to see how scared Kona was, but our behavior team was determined to help her. We started by getting her comfortable with several staff members to gradually work on expanding her world. At first, Kona was so scared and shut down that she wouldn't eat, drink, or play. We introduced Kona to some of our personal dogs, who are well-versed in helping shy dogs become more comfortable. With the help of those dogs, Kona gradually began to open up. One day, it was like a switch flipped: she began to excitedly ask for attention from us.

Thanks to you, animals can overcome their fears.

After that day, Kona's personality began to blossom. She became obsessed with stuffed toys, and carried them around in her mouth. She was young and had lots of energy to spare, so our staff creatively found ways to provide exercise to a dog who refused to go outside. We were ecstatic when a canine treadmill was donated to us, and we began teaching Kona to use the treadmill to help provide her the exercise she needed.



Kona's "circle of friends" began to expand as she met and grew to love more staff and volunteers. Eventually, she went on short outings outside, and very slowly, grew more comfortable. Kona was then placed in a foster home with our experienced behavior team volunteer, Karen. She worked with Kona every single day, helping her become more confident and accustomed to going out in the yard.

After two months, Kona found her forever people. Her new family wanted to continue what we started and were eager to learn how to manage Kona's fears long-term. Kona has officially settled in as part of the family. "She is the best thing about 2020," says Kona's new mom, Cindee. "I was drawn to her when she looked at me with a toy in her mouth and was wagging her tail. We call her the licking monster because she licks all the time and is so affectionate. She is the sweetest dog ever! I know that she was a project, but well worth all the time and energy."

"Kona is a butterfly," says Behavior Manager Michelle Suarez. "She kept herself in her cocoon for self-preservation until she was ready to spread her wings." Thanks to our incredible community of generous supporters like you, animals like Kona are given the individual care and specialized attention they need to spread their wings and find their families.

A colorful illustration featuring a white cat wearing sunglasses driving a blue pickup truck. A yellow dog is sitting in the passenger seat. In the background, a grey cat is sitting on a red fire truck. The scene is set against a backdrop of green hills and a blue sky.

Clunkers for Critters

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