



FEBRUARY
2023

All Things Pawsible

Thanks to friends like you, Nemo is one of many happy, healthy, and loved animals in forever homes this year.



TOP STORIES:

Teaching New Veterinary Talent

Nemo: Sweet & Spunky Special Needs Puppy

Renata Goes from Rowdy to Relaxed

Passionate About Pets & Their People

From “Regular” to Ringworm: a Foster Parent’s Journey

HUMANE SOCIETY SILICON VALLEY

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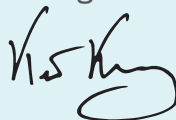
Celebrating Successes Together

At Humane Society Silicon Valley (HSSV), we know the incredible support and love that animals provide us. We're grateful to have a community that is willing to give so much back to the animals who need us the most. Together, we share a common goal: to create a better world for animals and the people who love them.

As we embark on the next steps of making our vision a reality, we're celebrating our successes. In this edition of *All Things Pawsible*, you'll read about our strategic initiatives and the ways we're already making strides toward accomplishing our ambitious goals. We're saving lives by rescuing vulnerable animals like kittens with ringworm and providing them with expert care. We are keeping families together by providing pets and their families with the behavioral support they need. And we are changing the game and shaping the future of care for homeless animals by educating the next generation of shelter veterinarians.

Aspiring to such innovative and lifesaving goals would not be possible without you. We're creating a better, more compassionate world — together.

With gratitude,



Kurt Krukenberg
President



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408-262-2133

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Teaching New Veterinary Talent



One of the biggest challenges facing the animal welfare sector, along with sheltering, is the national shortage of veterinary staff. According to a recent MARS Veterinary Health study, nearly 41,000 additional veterinarians and an additional 59,000 credentialed veterinary nurses/technicians will be necessary to meet the needs of companion animals by 2030. We are dedicated to increasing the pipeline of new talent into the field and promoting shelter medicine as an exciting and impactful discipline within the veterinary field.

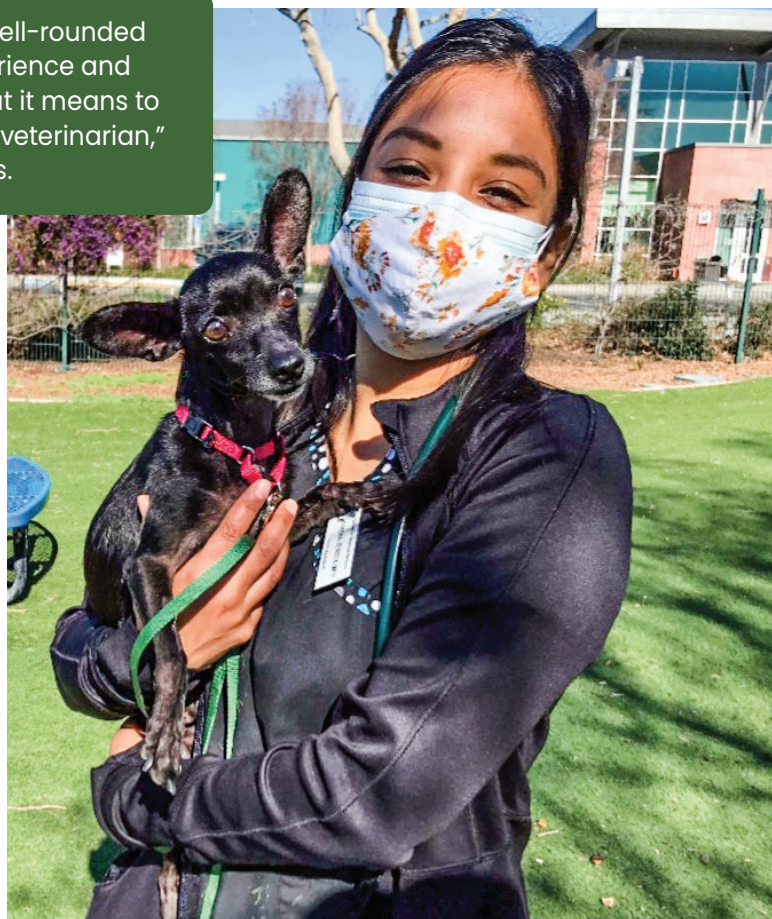
We are proud to invite veterinary students interested in shelter medicine to come learn from our Medical team, including a recent group of externs supported by Maddie's Fund. Externs gain experiences across all aspects of medical care, including performing spay/neuter surgeries under mentorship of our veterinarians, assisting with

more complex surgeries and procedures, and making treatment plans for ill or injured animals.

"During my two weeks at Humane Society Silicon Valley, I gained a well-rounded shelter experience and learned what it means to be a shelter veterinarian," says Cynthia Mata, an extern. "Every day is a new experience ranging from performing intake exams, medicating animals, assisting in dentals, performing spay and neuter surgeries, and observing soft tissue surgeries. I am amazed by the dedication of every member at the shelter. It is clear that every member strives for the best care of these animals. I am grateful that I have the opportunity to be part of HSSV."

Increasing the pipeline of talent in animal sheltering is a key component of our work in changing the game for shelters and rescues across the country. We are grateful to your partnership as we build the future of animal welfare.

"I gained a well-rounded shelter experience and learned what it means to be a shelter veterinarian," Cynthia says.



Nemo: Sweet & Spunky Special Needs



Nemo was limping when she arrived at a partner shelter in the Central Valley. A congenital abnormality made her front left leg be twisted and shorter than her other limbs. The three-month-old puppy didn't know she couldn't use it and would attempt to walk on it, leaving her with a pressure sore.

Our Rescue team picked Nemo up on a regular trip for our Sue and John Diekman Regional Rescue Program. We examined the sweet puppy shortly after she arrived. Our vets decided that amputating her abnormal leg was the best choice to give her a more comfortable life.

Before we could perform surgery on her, we noticed her rear legs were stiff and swollen. She yelped in pain when she tried to move. X-rays and tests revealed Nemo had discopondylitis, a spinal infection. Despite her pain, she was excited to make friends and wagged her tail at everyone who helped her.

Puppy

Surgery was delayed. It would have been too dangerous to operate on Nemo while she was so sick. She went to a foster home to finish a course of antibiotics and was the very definition of puppy love.

“She may be my favorite puppy ever,” says Keyona, Nemo’s foster mom. “She was glued to my hip, followed me around everywhere. She also did great with the other dogs. She was all about giving as many kisses as they would allow!”

In her foster home, Nemo kept up her cheerful attitude. She played with her foster siblings and eagerly learned tricks. The spunky puppy made friends with everyone, and was even caught licking the family cat!

Her foster family brought her in for regular checkups, and after a few weeks, our Medical team decided Nemo was healthy enough for surgery. Our vets amputated her impaired leg and she returned to her foster home to recover. Nemo healed quickly and was on her feet within days.

Our team determined her infection could take up to a year to treat. Rather than keep Nemo in foster for that long, our staff decided to see if someone could adopt her and continue her treatment.

It took no time at all for Nemo to find a family that was able to take on her ongoing care. We’re thankful to donors like you, who help us save the lives of animals with complex medical needs.



Nemo attended The Fur Ball gala, where she made friends with every guest she met.



**Can I Crash
on Your Couch?**

Help save even more
animals in our community!

Ready to get started?
Visit HSSV.ORG/FOSTER

Renata Goes from Rowdy to Relaxed

Within days of arriving in our care, Renata had earned a bit of a reputation. Soon after being brought to us as a stray, she started showing signs of stress and discomfort. She would jump up on people, grab her leash, and mouth at people's clothing and feet while out on walks. She was fast and very intense, which was a challenge that needed attention.

Our Behavior team believed these inappropriate behaviors were stress-related, so they looked for ways to reduce Renata's stress. She was given high-intensity exercise like playing fetch, and started going on regular walks with other dogs. The team worked on Renata's impulsivity through training sessions, during which Renata had to wait and remain calm before she was rewarded. When we felt she was calmer overall, Renata got lots of off-leash playtime with other dogs. Active play sessions gave her an outlet for all her energy and decreased her stress.

As her behaviors started to improve, our staff saw Renata's larger-than-life personality shine, and really fell for her. She was even lucky enough to join one staff member on a beach day, where



Renata enjoys a training session with Becca Woodruff, Manager of Behavior and Training Programs

she spent hours frolicking in the waves.

Not long after her first beach trip, a couple looking for an active dog to join their family happened upon Renata's beach day photos. They enjoyed spending time by the water and thought it was fitting that Renata seemed to love it, too. They took her home and stayed in close contact with our Behavior team. During the next few weeks, our team provided them with a one-on-one training session so they would feel confident handling some of Renata's behaviors, then kept in touch to ensure the transition went smoothly.

"Thanks so much for all the support you gave to make Renata's adoption go smoothly and help her settle in with us!" says her new family. "She is such a cool dog, so thanks again for helping us be able to keep her for good."

Providing Renata with the training and care she needed truly took a village. We appreciate having a village filled with people with big hearts and the expertise needed to make a difference for animals like Renata.



See more Happy Tails of adopted animals on Facebook and Instagram! @humanesocietysv

Passionate About Pets & Their People

Across the country, families struggle to afford veterinary care. Eighty percent of pet owners cite financial issues as a barrier to preventative care for their beloved pets.

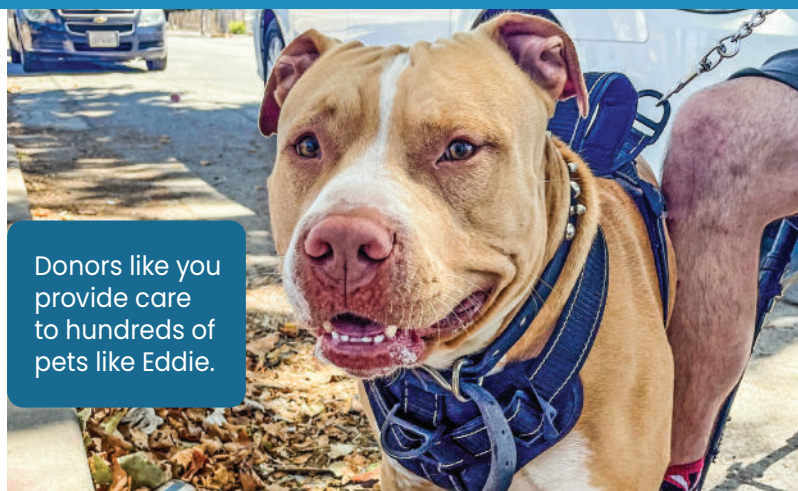
At Humane Society Silicon Valley, we're dedicated to keeping families together by providing veterinary care to families facing financial difficulties. There are so many tremendous people who have come together to ensure we can be a safety net for our community.

Supporters Bob and Bonnie Phelps heard we needed of key medical equipment to better treat and care for our animals and reached out to learn more. Their donation ensured we could ultimately purchase everything on the wish list of Dr. Cristie Kamiya, our Chief of Shelter Medicine, and provided funds for a few unexpected costs.

In addition to funding our equipment, our generous supporters help us keep our medical center accessible.

Robin Fox is a longtime HSSV donor who is passionate about making sure all pets have access to veterinary care, regardless of a family's financial circumstances.

"It warms my heart to think of the families and pets benefiting from the loving care given by HSSV," says Robin. "In these times of economic



struggle, it is wonderful that you are able to offer pet owners a way to care for their animals in difficult situations. I'm so grateful for the HSSV medical team!" For over seven years, Robin has been supporting emergency care that keeps pets with their families. During the pandemic, she increased her giving to support the additional need she saw in the community.

Some donors are thinking far into the future. To celebrate an upcoming special birthday in 2022, volunteer Kathy DePippo established her endowment at HSSV and is funding it through a future bequest. The "DePippo Pride and Pack Endowment" supports mobile vet clinics, emergency vet care, and the care and rehoming of senior pets. By securing our future with endowments, donors like Kathy safeguard

HSSV's successful programs and enable us to aspire toward more ambitious goals.

With the help of these generous donors and hundreds more like them, we have been able to provide care for more animals than ever. Just recently, we were able to increase our mobile clinic capacity thanks to the support of our community. Thank you for helping us keep pets with their people!



Donate your Car & Make an Impact!

A terrific way to help animals in our community.



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit HSSV.ORG/AUTO

From “Regular” to Ringworm: a Foster Parent’s Journey

By Makiko Barrett

I started fostering ringworm kittens in 2020 because one of my “regular” foster kittens ended up having ringworm. I knew I had the time and space to care for these special kittens, so I decided to keep taking care of them. Fostering them also frees up more space in Ringworm Land, the affectionately nicknamed ringworm treatment area at HSSV.

I have fostered primarily ringworm cases since then. It’s wonderful to know that HSSV actively pulls these at-risk felines from shelters who don’t have the resources to treat them. I feel blessed to be able to treat these kittens at home and to enable HSSV to rescue even more.

I recently fostered a group of almost all black cats, consisting of two moms and eight kittens. Two moms who looked like sisters were co-parenting their kittens when they were rescued. HSSV placed them in two separate foster homes before they knew they had ringworm. They were returned to HSSV Ringworm Land once the ringworm lesions appeared. I knew I had the



Mom cat Zoe (left) and one of her adorable kittens with ringworm (right).



space to treat all the family members together . . . So, I decided to foster them all.

However, by the time the two families joined, they no longer remembered each other. One of the moms, Zoe (the Grouch), was semi-feral and refused to come out of hiding. She was hissing at everything that moved, including the other mom and kittens. The spare bedroom I use as a foster room is relatively large. I placed the cat towers at different corners of the room to give Zoe some space of her own. Using cat treats as distractions, I was able to pet her after a week, and the cats coexisted peacefully.

Ringworm treatment consists of oral medication and twice-a-week lime sulfur dipping. Fortunately, Zoe didn’t mind me mixing the oral medication into her wet food, but for the first two weeks, it was quite a challenge coating her fur with lime sulfur. It took me ten days to be able to pick her up. She gave me a gentle head-bump after a good fourteen days and I was delighted to hear her purr!

After that, everything was smooth sailing and Zoe didn’t mind being carried or dipped in lime sulfur at all. My family members visited the foster room frequently so these cats and kittens would understand human kindness. By the time they were ready for adoption, all of them, including Zoe, had become very affectionate and couldn’t get enough petting. Zoe took a little while to get adopted, but I am confident she found a loving home, as they all did.



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to Animals
This Season**

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