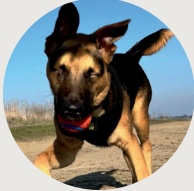




Together We Save Pets

Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society
Impact Newsletter | Spring 2023



BEETHOVEN

"He has quickly become a beloved friend & family member."

-Evelyn, Adopter



PHANTOM

"I saved her life, and now she saves mine."

-Geneva, Adopter



JOEY

"We are super happy to have him join our pack!"

-Allison, Adopter

Critical Surgery Saves Hawaii Puppy

We expect to provide every pet transported to Berkeley Humane with the best possible medical care and Keone was no exception. He traveled almost 2,400 miles from Kona to get the specialized treatment he needed to save his life. Keone was suffering from a large inguinal hernia, which caused his intestines to leak out of his abdomen and into his scrotum.

To meet Keone is to love him. Keone is a sweet and lovable three-month-old terrier mix puppy who was transported from Hawaii as part of our Aloha Dog Project. Upon arriving at our shelter, every dog is provided with an extensive exam by our medical team. That is when the extent of Keone's hernia was diagnosed.

Just like with people, sometimes a hernia operation is straightforward and at other times it can be a very serious surgery. Unfortunately, Keone's needs were anything but straightforward. For each medical case, we assess the urgency, risk, and expected outcome of treatment. Due to the seriousness of Keone's hernia, our medical team determined urgent surgery was needed to try and repair the damage and take away the excruciating pain he must have been feeling in his abdomen.

Since February of 2022, Berkeley Humane's Aloha Dogs Project has transported dogs from Kona, Hawaii to our shelter to help alleviate...



continued on page 4 »



Area Shelters Are Dangerously Overcrowded

To reduce overpopulation of dogs and cats in the San Francisco Bay Area, Berkeley Humane offers low-cost spay and neuter services. Because of your support, families can access critical services and resources regardless of their financial abilities. We believe that when these services are made accessible, pet guardians are more likely to spay and neuter their pets, which prevents unplanned litters and alleviates overcrowding in local shelters.

For more information or to schedule an appointment: spaythebay.org

TRAIN THE BAY

Recently voted Best Dog Training Program in the East Bay! Over 40,000 families have benefited from Train the Bay's small-group behavior and training classes. Whatever your goals, we have the class for you.

To learn more and join a class: trainthebay.org

Planned Giving

A little planning can provide a lot of peace of mind — ensuring the future care of your family, pets, and the causes important to you.

Creating a living trust, will, or other legal document outlining your wishes is critical for a smooth process and to ensure your needs are met.

Berkeley Humane's partner, FreeWill, provides a fast and free online tool to help you plan.

For more information: berkeleyhumane.org/planned-giving

A Message From Jeffrey Zerwekh, Executive Director

Our volunteers and staff love a challenge, and we thrive under pressure. That being said, a few quiet days in a row would be nice! Since the start of 2023, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of animals arriving here with highly contagious viruses and diseases.

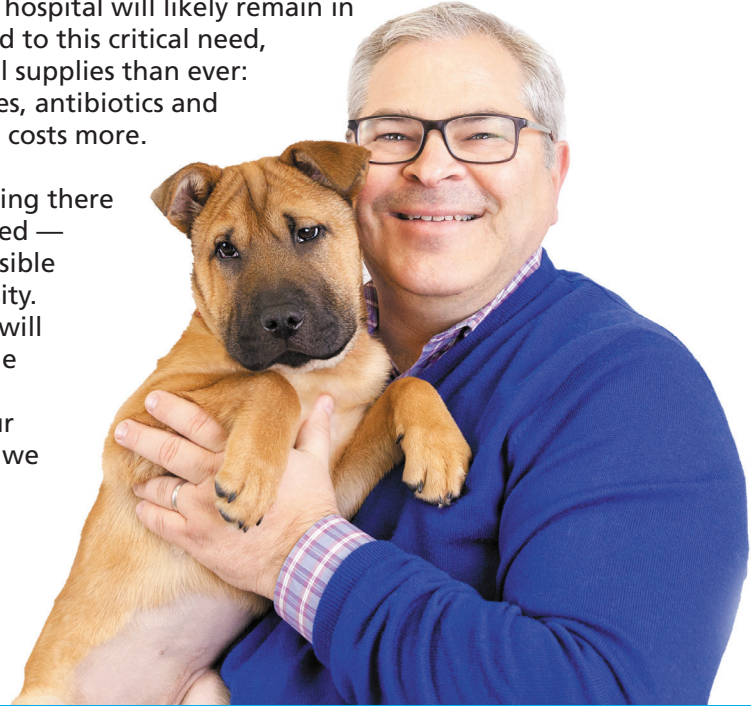
While we have experience in treating ringworm; feline panleukopenia; feline calicivirus; and even unusual gastrointestinal viruses, we have never seen them all at once and coming from so many different public shelters, managed cat colonies, and hoarding cases.

Due to the shortage of veterinary care in many shelters and our community, our hospital will likely remain in high demand. To respond to this critical need, we require more medical supplies than ever: more diagnostic resources, antibiotics and vaccines, and everything costs more.

We are committed to being there for shelter animals in need — but this work is only possible because of your generosity. Your support means we will continue the fight for the health and wellbeing of the shelter animals in our community and for that we thank you!

With gratitude,

JEFFREY



Fighting a Deadly Virus

There are few things that warm your heart faster than seeing a pile of ten four-week-old black kittens all snuggled together. Twenty eyes staring back at you from tiny balls of fur making the smallest meows is one of the most adorable things you will ever experience.

And then the unspeakable happens when only a short time later you learn that they have been diagnosed with panleukopenia and your joy turns to fear and dread.

Feline panleukopenia (FP) is a highly contagious viral disease in cats caused by the feline parvovirus. Kittens are most severely affected by the virus. It is most commonly seen in cats 3-5 months of age and often results in death.



Kitten Season

Every spring, we receive hundreds of orphaned kittens. Many are younger than four-weeks-old and cannot live without being bottle-fed special formula every two hours, day and night, in order to survive. In 2022, thanks to our donors, we were able to care for every bottle baby that came through our doors.

These kittens need us urgently, and we are determined to save them. Please join us as we fight for their lives. Your gift today will fund the special formula, medical care, and supplies that these tiny kittens urgently need if they are going to make it. Thank you for saving lives.

berkeleyhumane.org/kitten-season



Someone Gave Up on Ariel, But We Didn't

We see this all too often. Senior pets are surrendered to animal shelters or simply abandoned when their health needs become too complicated or expensive. It is heartbreaking. At Berkeley Humane we know that senior dogs and cats make wonderful pets, and we make it a priority to transport them to our shelter to ensure they get the medical care they need.

That's why when we met Ariel in a public shelter, we knew we could work to address her medical needs and ensure that, however many years she had left, they would be her best.

Ariel, a ten-year-old spaniel mix, was infested with fleas, had matted overgrown hair, ear infections, a cataract in one eye, dental issues, multiple...

Continued on page 4 »

Because the FP virus is everywhere in the environment, virtually all kittens and cats are exposed to the virus at some point in their lives. While cats of any age may be infected, young kittens, sick cats, and unvaccinated cats are most susceptible. The virus can be found in all parts of the United States and most countries of the world. During the warm months, urban areas are likely to see outbreaks.

This litter of ten kittens came from a hoarding situation, which means they were born in unsanitary conditions and likely exposed to the virus at birth. While at first the litter seemed healthy, all of a sudden several of the kittens developed diarrhea and stopped eating.

Our medical team immediately intervened but for two of the kittens their bodies were just too small. Their tiny immune systems could no longer fight off the virus and they passed away. While deeply saddened by this tragic loss, we were determined to do everything possible to save the others. This was to be no small task due to...

Continued on page 4 »





Honor A Family Member or Pet

Sponsor a Kitty Condo and support the care, nutrition, and love each cat receives while waiting for their new, loving home. A plaque with your inscription will be placed on a Kitty Condo. berkeleyhumane.org/kitty-condo



Fighting a Deadly Virus (continued from page 3)

...an expected 90% mortality rate for kittens with panleukopenia.

Our medical team focused on an aggressive course of action which included strict isolation protocols, providing nutrients, fighting dehydration, and antibiotics which do not kill the virus but can help prevent secondary infections.

It took several weeks with constant monitoring and care, but the other kittens survived and are now thriving — thanks to you and the resources you provide, these kittens beat the odds. Every spring, we care for hundreds of orphaned kittens who would not survive on their own. We expect to continue to see increases in the number of vulnerable animals as our weather patterns change and kitten season gets longer each year. Your ongoing support provides the special formula, medical care, and supplies that these tiny kittens urgently need if they are going to make it. Thank you for saving lives.



Someone Gave Up on Ariel, But We Didn't (continued from page 3)

...mammary tumors, and had never been spayed. Despite the neglect, she had the sweetest disposition and seemed to understand that all the exams and tests were designed to help her. She took it all in stride and could not have been a more cooperative patient.

Ariel underwent surgeries to be spayed as well as to remove the mammary tumors that formed, most likely because of not being spayed in her youth. She also had an extensive dental examination. We found several teeth were rotting and needed to be extracted. Once she underwent these surgeries and had time to recover, the most amazing thing happened. Ariel transformed from a frail and lethargic elderly lady to a pup with a pep in her step! Her energy levels returned and she began acting like a much younger dog.

Ariel was adopted by a family who has experience taking care of senior dogs and who understand that she may need ongoing care for some of her medical conditions. She has a new lease on life thanks to the care your support made possible!

LOVE,



Tito's

Tito's Handmade Vodka, known as the Vodka for Dog People, recently awarded a \$50,000 grant to Berkeley Humane to help support the medical care for dogs arriving from Kona, Hawaii as part of the Aloha Dog Project. Berkeley Humane piloted the Aloha Dog Project in 2022 and thanks to this generous support from Tito's the program is able to expand in 2023, providing more dogs the opportunity to find loving homes and families in the Bay Area.

Critical Surgery Saves Hawaii Puppy (continued from page 1)

...overcrowding at the public shelter. Tourists returning from vacation or frequent business travelers escort each dog on a direct flight from Kona, HI to San Jose, CA. Each dog is met at the airport by a dedicated Berkeley Humane volunteer who drives them to Berkeley to begin the process of finding a new loving home in the Bay Area.

Keone came through surgery like a champ. He was given some time to recover and then went to a quiet foster home to ensure he was provided lots of treats and snuggles while being careful to ensure no further damage to his abdomen. Once he was made available for adoption, he quickly found a new family who coincidentally had adopted a dog many years before with the exact same medical condition!

Since his surgery, Keone has been growing quickly and has the most adorable underbite that makes you smile when you see him. He has also perfected a wiggle dance when he meets someone new which draws you in and makes you laugh. He is a good boy who will live a long and happy life thanks to donors like you who provided the resources necessary to save this very special dog. Mahalo!