

POCKET

"I... [met] a woman who was walking two sweet dogs... she was fostering one of them from Berkeley Humane. That was on a Tuesday and by Thursday Pocket was living with us! He's an absolute delight, and we're so happy for... that fortuitous encounter."

—Susan, Adopter



MAGENTA & COLUMBIA

"They are growing like weeds, and love exploring all the nooks and crannies of our home. They've even wormed their way into their big brother's heart! Magenta and Columbia make us smile every day, and we feel so lucky to have adopted them through Berkeley Humane!"

—Katherine, Adopter



LOU (FKA BIBBLE)

"Lou loves his daily hikes! We call him 'The Mayor of Dogs' for his sweet playfulness with every canine he meets."

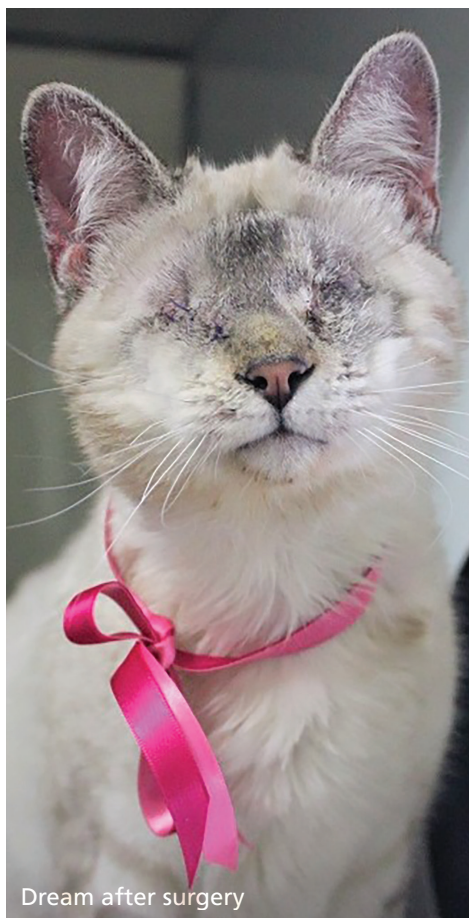
—Bess & Parker, Adopters

# Together We Save Pets

Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society  
Impact Newsletter | Spring 2024

## Love is Blind

At just seven-months-old, Dream was a sweet, cuddly, and playful kitten, despite her battle against a progressive and painful eye infection that would take her sight. Dream was transferred into our care with severely scarred and ulcerated eyes that were no longer responding to treatment. As her health quickly deteriorated, our medical team jumped into action to perform a double enucleation surgery—the only way to save her life.



Dream after surgery

Although we were certain that surgery was the best option, we also knew that Dream's recovery would be long, and that she would need love, patience and support as she adapts to blindness. Our medical team continued to monitor Dream, while an experienced foster tended to her daily care. To our surprise, Dream bounced back almost immediately!

Just hours after surgery, Dream expressed interest in toys. It wasn't long at all before she found her way, was eating and moving on her own, and got adopted!

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*She adjusted to our home super easily. Jumping [with] confidence immediately :)*

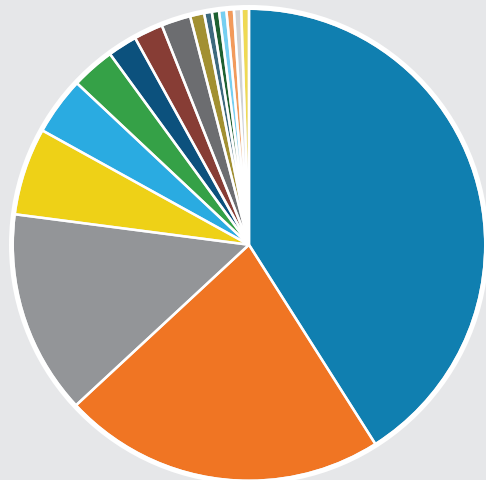
—Rachel, Adopter

Dream's journey was a marvelous success—not only because of her resilience, but because of all the support we had along the way.

It is with the support of our generous donors, volunteers and loving fosters, that Dream's dream of a new loving home came true!

## 2019-2023 Intake by County

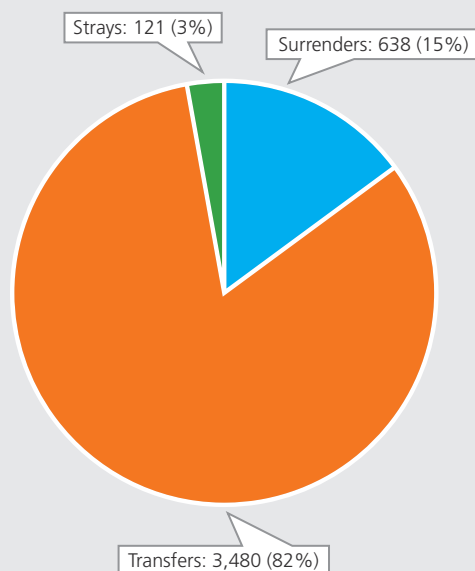
Your support allows Berkeley Humane to serve the communities that need us the most here in Alameda County and beyond.



Alameda County: 41%	County of Hawaii: 2%
Solano County: 22%	Marin County: 1%
San Joaquin County: 14%	Napa County: 0.5%
Contra Costa County: 6%	San Francisco County: 0.5%
Kern County: 4%	San Mateo County: 0.5%
Yolo County: 3%	Santa Clara County: 0.5%
Sonoma County: 2%	Santa Cruz County: 0.5%
Orange County: 2%	Disaster Response Out of State: 0.5%

## Intake Source

Pets currently in shelters in need of urgent medical care remain our priority, thanks to the resources you provide.



## A Message From Jeffrey Zerwekh, Executive Director

Sometimes all our shelter dogs and cats need is time to heal and a place to find refuge before finding a new loving family. Whether a dog or cat stays with us three, or three hundred and fifty-six days, you provide that chance for these animals to feel safe, protected, and loved.

You provide the resources to make sure we jump into action with every medical case, surrender, or transfer from an over-crowded public shelter. Every week more animals arrive in the shelter with new medical and behavioral challenges. You save the lives of thousands of animals transported to us by supporting the highly skilled care provided by our dedicated volunteers and staff.

Thank you for taking on the most critical role... the one that ensures that the dogs and cats who need it most are cared for and loved.

With Gratitude,

JEFFREY



## Finding Love Again, Together

Clyde and Mr. Cuddles, two distinguished and beautiful tuxedo cats, were living great lives until one day everything changed. Throughout the year, we receive calls not from the pet owners, but from the families of those pet owners who are dealing with their incapacity or death. These family members are struggling to find new homes for the pets displaced by the loss of their owner.

That was the circumstance for Clyde and Mr. Cuddles. They were adopted as kittens by a woman who loved and cared for them, but when she suddenly passed away, their world was turned upside down.

Finding homes for adult cats is not always easy, especially for a bonded pair, but we were determined to find them a new loving home. Clyde and Mr. Cuddles were used to a quiet life, a peaceful home, for almost ten years. Our top priority was to find them a similar living situation and to keep the bonded pair together.

Barbara, a local resident, reached out to us looking to adopt a tuxedo cat. Once Barbara heard that Clyde and Mr. Cuddles lost





## SPAY THE BAY

Since the inception of Spay the Bay in 2016, we have seen ever increasing demand for affordable veterinary care. As we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic, our community continues to grapple with the rippling economic effects of inflation.

Thanks to your support and donations, we are able to sustain our program, and continue to offer low cost vaccines, spay and neuter surgeries, microchips, and various other medical services to our community's pet guardians who want to provide the best care to their furry family members despite challenging times.

In 2023, Spay the Bay served 1,313 of our community's dogs and cats, providing 340 core vaccines, 548 spay and neuter surgeries, and 425 microchips.

### Sometimes, Saving a Life Just Takes Time

On January 5, 2023, Kalia arrived on the first flight of the new year from Hawai'i as a great candidate for our Aloha Dog project. With little chance of getting adopted at an overcrowded municipal island shelter, we were confident she would be welcomed quickly into a new loving family here on the mainland. Kalia was an alert four-year-old who loved every dog and person who crossed her path. She was a hands-down favorite of the volunteers and staff. Yet, week after week, she was passed over for adoption.

Not all dogs do well in a kennel environment, but Kalia seemed to thrive. She received constant attention, a minimum of three walks a day, and all the canine playgroups she could handle. She was everyone's best friend. But soon the weeks turned into months. Was Kalia aware that every week...

Continues on page 4 »

their original mom, it did not take too much convincing for Barbara to adopt the two cats together. Clyde and Mr. Cuddles had a layover at the shelter just long enough to receive all their medical checks and were quickly delivered by our volunteers to their new home.



Barbara and Clyde

Clyde and Mr. Cuddles adapted right away to their new surroundings. It was not long before Barbara's new companions had the run of the house. They wasted no time in seeking out Barbara's lap to receive a never-ending supply of head scratches and cuddles.

Most of our animals are transported from other overcrowded shelters, but we also have animals in our care that were stray, abandoned, or surrendered by their owners. Your support of our rehoming efforts has a tremendous impact on the people and animals we serve, especially in the most challenging situations such as the loss of a pet owner. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of Barbara, Clyde and Mr. Cuddles!

Mr. Cuddles





## The Best Glow-Up Award Goes to...

Wally and Chewy experienced a lifetime of neglect before being transferred into our care. **Thanks to the support from animal lovers like you**, Wally and Chewy were able to heal, socialize, and recover at their own pace. The loving care that they received from volunteers and staff gradually helped them feel safe and supported. They both enjoyed a much needed makeover that allowed their personalities to shine through. Once they were healthy and looking great, our volunteers worked tirelessly to find them new loving homes.

WALLY



BEFORE

AFTER

CHEWY



BEFORE

AFTER

**Tax Efficient Giving** Did you know that non-cash gifts are an incredible way to support Berkeley Humane? Whether it's through Donor Advised funds, stock donations, real estate contributions, or IRA donations, your tax efficient gift can make a significant impact on the lives of shelter animals.

**Planned Giving** Leave a legacy of love. Designating Berkeley Humane in your will, trust, or other charitable giving plans sustains our lifesaving programs to thousands of animals for years to come.

For more information, please visit our website at [berkeleyhumane.org/donate](https://berkeleyhumane.org/donate).



Pecan, adopted November, 2023.  
Photo by Mark Rogers.

## Sometimes, Saving a Life Just Takes Time (continued from page 3)



Kalia, adopted and enjoying her toy

... her friends from prior playgroups did not return when they found their new loving homes?

Kalia's long stay in the shelter was heartbreaking, but we were never going to give up on her, even as the colder months started and the end of the year grew closer and closer.

Then it happened—during the final adoption days of 2023—just as we were about to close, a couple arrived and requested to take Kalia for a stroll. Within two blocks they were smitten. After 361 days in our care, Kalia found her people and left the shelter.

Thank you for providing us with the resources to house, care for and love the shelter pets that deserve a family to call their own—no matter how long it takes.