

WINTER 2024

ANIMAL FRIENDS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WINTER 2024

As we near the end of 2024 and our 150th year as an organization, I am filled with gratitude. We found support in every corner – from our donors who supported us in expanding our lifesaving work, to our staff, volunteers, and fosters who dedicated their time to caring for animals, to our community who stepped up to welcome a new family member into their home.

This holiday season, we're reflecting on our 150 years and all the ways we honored this momentous achievement. In 2024, we implemented our Strategic Plan, which set ambitious goals to provide even more support for the needs of our community through innovative additions like the launch of our new Telemedicine program. We created the first National Pet Care for All Day on April 24 to celebrate the human-animal bond and emphasize the need for accessible pet care. We are dedicated to continuing to rise to meet the evolving needs of pets and people.

As the need for expanded services in our community grows, we are grateful to our donors who ensure we are able to rise to meet these challenges. With 150 years of innovation and expertise behind us, we know we have the tools and support to make a difference in the lives of animals. Thank you for being an integral part of our lifesaving work. We look forward to working together to build a better future for companion animals and their people.

Wishing you a very warm and happy holiday season!



ALLISON C. LINDQUIST
President and CEO
East Bay SPCA



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On the Cover

Pancho, our Happy Tail

FOSTER PROFILE

EAST BAY SUPERHERO: JAIME GABRIEL

Each year during Kitten Season (roughly April-October) our foster program places hundreds of kittens a month into temporary homes. Out of the 1,088 dogs and cats we placed through our foster program in 2023, more than 600 were neonate kittens (birth to four weeks old).

From round-the-clock bottle feeding and support for kittens post-surgery, to care for full litters of young cats, our foster volunteers are integral to the health and wellness of our feline population. It's because of fosters like Jaime Gabriel that we're able to offer support to municipal shelters, and place so many cats into homes each year.

Jaime is new to our foster team, but not new to fostering. She began fostering 20 years ago with a local feline rescue, joining East Bay SPCA as a kitten foster earlier this year. Jaime provides shelter,

companionship, and plenty of love and affection for cats too young to be listed for adoption.

"I have space and the time and want to help however I can," says Jaime. Earlier this year, a foster kitten named McRib found a special place in her heart – and ended up staying for good. "My dog and I fell in love, and now he's Miles Davis, and part of our family," she says, calling him a "foster win."

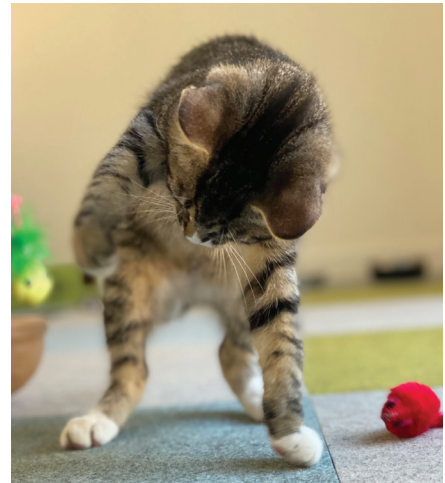


"Foster Win" Miles Davis

Jaime recognizes that it can be challenging to develop a bond with an animal who will eventually need to leave the nest. Even though it's difficult to say goodbye, she says it's worth it in the end. "I like feeling like I'm making a difference, at least short term, in these kittens' lives. Giving them love and attention they've maybe never had before, and setting them up for success in finding their forever home."

Each year our need for more foster volunteers increases, as shelters like ours experience increased intake and overcrowding. There are a number of ways to get involved, and our flexible program works with your schedule. Taking part is as easy as heading to our website: eastbayspca.org/foster and filling out our foster application.

Cats pictured on the right are just some of the felines Jaime has helped.



150TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS

1874-2024

Our 150th year was a celebration of how far we have come as an organization. Established in 1874 by a group of Oakland citizens concerned about the welfare of work horses and oxen, our legacy has always been rooted in compassion and care for animals. Over time, our mission has evolved, and we have focused on innovative approaches to transform the lives of both companion animals and the people who love them.

Now, we are **More than a Shelter**. Through a variety of robust programs and services, we are striving to meet the changing needs of both animals and the people who love them. From implementing quality medical care to homeless animals, to providing accessible pet care to low-income families, to teaching the next generation of animal lovers through education programs, we support the complex needs of people and animals.



2024 SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS:

January – We kicked off our 150th celebration with a staff party to commemorate this momentous occasion.

April 24 – The first **National Pet Care for All Day** was celebrated. We established the national holiday to raise awareness of the importance of accessible pet care for all pet owners.

May 5 – Our annual Growl, Meow & Wine event raised a record-breaking amount to support our lifesaving programs.

June – We launched our innovative new Telemedicine program, which allows pet owners to seek care for their pets from the comfort of their own home.

August/September - We participated in NBC's Clear the Shelters promotion and found homes for over 100 animals.

December – We are wrapping up our 150th year with **Bring Joy Home**, a campaign to find homes for our wonderful animals this holiday season.



Sandwich was just one of the thousands of animals we were able to help in our 150th year as an organization. An increasing number of animals that come into our care each year are arriving as strays, and Sandwich was one of them. The small black Terrier mix was found on the side of a freeway with a poorly healed pelvic fracture and other injuries, likely due to being hit by a car. Our Medical team jumped into action to assess and treat his injuries. They determined that the best course of action would be a surgery known as a Femoral Head Ostectomy (FHO) to treat the pelvic fracture.

"Sandwich's case demonstrates our team's dedication to pivoting our treatment plans to do what is in the best interest of the animal and their long-term quality of life,"

Kristen Beitzel, Vice President of Medical Services.



Sandwich with foster mom, Linda

Our team performed the procedure and monitored Sandwich during his healing. The little dog was nervous, shy, and in need of some TLC. Our Behavior team felt that a foster home would be the best place for him to get the one-on-one attention he needed.

His amazing foster family helped to slowly bring him out of his shell but, despite the surgery and following pain management, his foster family noticed he wasn't using his leg. Without use, the leg's muscle wasn't gaining the necessary strength. Our team supported the foster family to encourage Sandwich to use the leg, but it continued to show no improvement. Sandwich's hip started to become painful, and our team needed to intervene to improve his quality of life.

Our veterinarians decided that Sandwich's best chance at a pain-free life would be to amputate the leg. After his surgery, Sandwich went back to his foster home to recover. He was a new dog. Now no longer in pain, the Terrier mix showed his bubbly, spunky personality. He was adapting amazingly to life on three legs and we were overjoyed to see the sweet little dog go from shut down to spry and happy. Once Sandwich was recovered, he was placed up for adoption, where he quickly found an incredible family to love him.

We are so pleased that we were able to meet Sandwich's needs and change course to ensure he received the best outcome possible.

As we look to the future, we will continue to adapt to meet the complex and changing needs of the animals in our care and the community members who rely on us. We are grateful for our history as a safe haven for so many in need over our 150 years.



HAPPY TAILS

PANCHO (FORMERLY KNOWN AS GERONIMO)



Pancho and another friend on a Field Trip with foster, Craig

Adopted September 2024

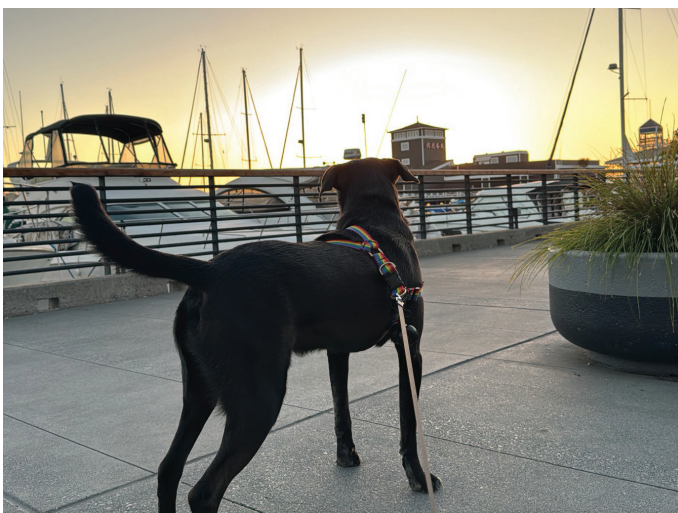
Before adoption, Pancho experienced a longer-than-typical stay in our shelter. Short foster stays allowed him to relax and socialize on his journey to his new home, whether it was a Field Trip to the park or time in the backyard (as seen on the cover of this issue). Our foster program provides flexibility for our participants while creating wonderful decompression time for our animals, and helps pets like Pancho find their perfect fit.

We were so glad when his adopter reached out with this Happy Tail. We always love to hear where an animal's journey leads beyond our campus. His adopter shared the following:

"When I went into the East Bay SPCA, I prayed to God to allow my future companion to choose me and not the other way around. The universe delivered. I was forewarned that Pancho came with behavioral issues and would perhaps need more attention than other dogs. With him being at the shelter for such a long time, I understood how Pancho felt because prison is part of my past and I too was labeled incorrigible, but I shut the critics down by changing my life around."

"I observed that he wasn't used to sleeping on the bed with a human and he sure wasn't used to laying down on the living room sofa. He's definitely getting used to the good life now. My family has fallen in love with him already and when they visit us, Pancho gets ecstatic!!

Undoubtedly, Pancho was a blessing in disguise & I love him so much! No one, absolutely no one is perfect and when life kicks our butt, we can all use a lot more love, acceptance and patience. I love you, Pancho!"



HOLIDAY TIPS

DIMINISH PET WORRIES THIS SEASON

Planning to travel or host holiday events this season? The holidays are often fun and exciting for us, but they can be stressful for our furry loved ones. Prepare for your holiday plans and help keep your pets healthy and stress-free all season long.

- If you plan on boarding your pet, ensure they are up to date on vaccinations and preventatives like flea, tick and heartworm medication. Schedule a vaccine appointment through our clinic at eastbayspca.org/vaccine or make a telemedicine appointment to renew prescription preventatives at eastbayspca.org/telemedicine
- For pets that may be anxious during busy holiday events, ensure they have a safe, quiet place to relax. If your pet benefits from anxiety medication, make a telemedicine appointment to renew their prescription ahead of any events.
- Provide enrichment to keep your pets distracted and stress-free during the busy holiday season. Learn more about enrichment ideas at eastbayspca.org/behavior.

THE GIFT OF A LEGACY

Julie Kliger's love of animals goes back to childhood. She learned to have compassion for creatures of all types from her father and has carried that lesson with her. East Bay SPCA's mission closely aligned with her own values and goals to treat animals with respect and integrity. To honor her love of animals and show her commitment to furthering our mission of enriching the human-animal bond, Julie has committed a legacy gift that will impact animals in our care into the future. "Those who do not have a voice need those with voices to provide shelter, love and advocacy. I wish to make a clear statement that caring for animals—and the humans who care for animals—is worthy of public recognition and high praise," says Julie.

We are grateful to Julie and her husband for planning a gift that will support our work for years to come.



Create your legacy

Support our lifesaving work, Impact Animal Lives

By designating a gift to East Bay SPCA in your will or revocable living trust. These gifts make a lasting difference in our ability to transform the lives of cats and dogs and enrich the human-animal bond.

The FreeWill estate planning tool easily helps you create your plan:
Scan or visit: eastbayspca.org/FreeWill





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About East Bay SPCA: Established in 1874, East Bay Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (East Bay SPCA) is proud to be one of the nation's oldest shelters and a leading innovator in the Bay Area region. East Bay SPCA is More Than a Shelter, transforming the lives of cats and dogs by enriching the human-animal bond through accessible and respected expertise. Learn more at eastbayspca.org.

East Bay SPCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Federal Tax ID # 94-1322202.

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LOCATIONS

Oakland Adoption Center
8323 Baldwin Street
Oakland, CA 94621

Dublin Adoption Center
4651 Gleason Drive
Dublin, CA 94568

**Theodore B. Travers
Family Veterinary Clinic**
8323 Baldwin Street
Oakland, CA 94621

**Oakland Spay/Neuter
Surgery Center**
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Oakland, CA 94621