



A Brighter **Future**

SAN DIEGO HUMANE SOCIETY

2021-2022





Here's to an incredible year of **impact.**

When the world began to open back up in 2021, so many of us emerged with a renewed commitment to making the world a better place. At San Diego Humane Society we focused on transforming times of challenge into times of healing, and on continuing to Inspire Compassion in our efforts to create a more humane San Diego.

For the first 15 long months of the pandemic, we were there for animals and the people who love them every single day, despite the restrictions caused by COVID-19. In the summer of 2021, we were once again able to open our campus buildings to the public. We slowly resumed hosting animal training classes and children's camps in person. We welcomed back our most impactful events of the year — our Walks for Animals and Fur Ball — after a hiatus that felt far too long. After a time of great challenge, we were excited about all we had accomplished, and all that lies ahead.

The commitment to creating a more humane world is shared by so many in our animal-loving community. At San Diego Humane Society, we are fortunate to be part of turning that commitment into action every single day of the year. Whether it's an orphaned kitten receiving around the clock

care in a foster home, a senior dog becoming part of a loving family, bears having the chance to return to the wild, a family joyfully reuniting with their lost pet, or a person in crisis getting the support they need to keep their animals, the work we accomplish together changes hardship into hope.

Here's to an incredible year of impact. Together, we are creating a more humane San Diego for animals and the people who love them.

Sincerely,

Gary Weitzman, DVM, MPH, CAWA
President and CEO, San Diego Humane Society



41,769
pets & wildlife
cared for

26,077
pets going
home

17,391
animals
spayed/
neutered

By the Numbers

18,707 animals helped by
Humane Officers

2,278,242 pet meals
distributed

STAYED AT ZERO
euthanasia of healthy or
treatable animals



Shelter & Adoptions



Every day at our San Diego, Escondido, Oceanside and El Cajon campuses, we witness the magic of new beginnings for pets in need. Through our sheltering and adoption services, we create brighter futures for animals 365 days a year.

Last year, we:

- Admitted **29,088** companion animals
- Welcomed **388** babies born in shelter or foster care
- Adopted out **17,829** pets
- Reunited **5,781** pets with their families



SANTOS was adopted from our Escondido Campus after receiving lifesaving medical care.



PUFFIN was adopted from our Oceanside Campus after being found as a stray in a local dance studio.



TEDDI the snow gecko received shelter and love at our San Diego Campus after his owner passed away.



MIA was adopted after four months of care at our El Cajon Campus.





We're a community resource that serves as a **safety net** for pet families in need.

Community Support Services

San Diego Humane Society is so much more than an animal shelter. We're a community resource that serves as a safety net for pet families in need. When people in our community face challenges, we offer services to ensure those hardships never have to mean relinquishing a beloved pet to the shelter. Through free pet food, access to veterinary care, emergency boarding for pets in times of crisis and more, we help pets stay with their families — where they belong.

We provided our community with:

- **2,278,242** pet meals
- **127** veterinary vouchers
- **3,218** microchips
- **13,437** vaccinations



Veterinary Medicine

Through our Veterinary Medicine program, we provide animals with everything from basic exams to complex lifesaving surgeries rarely performed in shelter environments. And through our comprehensive residency, internship and externship programs, we serve as a teaching hospital to train the next generation of shelter veterinarians.

The patient could be a puppy who was hit by a car and needs urgent care for a fractured leg, a malnourished cat rescued from a hoarding situation, a stray tortoise with a damaged shell, a dog needing treatment for cancer or a young animal suffering from an infectious disease like parvo. As leaders in the field of shelter medicine, our veterinary team is prepared for anything.

Our medical team performed:

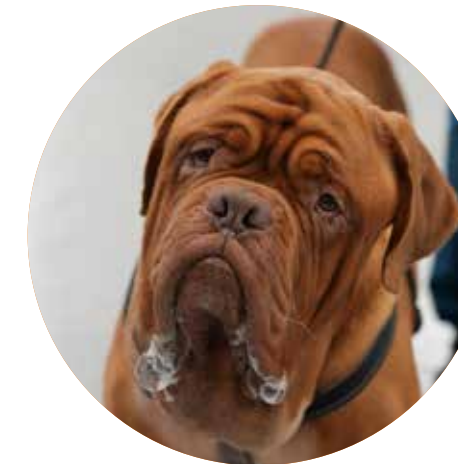
- **17,391** spay/neuter procedures
- **859** surgeries, including orthopedic and other advanced procedures
- **549** dental procedures
- **30,124** diagnostic procedures





 **Pigpen**

Pigpen made a full recovery — and he was adopted by the **Humane Officer who rescued him.**



Bringing Hooch Back to Health

When this 2-year-old French mastiff was found abandoned and tied to a fence, he was in heartbreaking condition. Emaciated and lethargic, Hooch's head was terribly swollen due to the severe wounds on his face and neck. He needed immediate medical attention. Caring for Hooch meant performing multiple surgeries — including a procedure to remove his ruptured salivary glands.

Hooch needed two months of medical care before he was well enough to be adopted. Today, he's living his best life and showing what joy a rescue pet can bring through our Animal Ambassador program! Now, he helps people learn about San Diego Humane Society and the magic of compassionately caring for animals.

Hope for Pigpen

At just 3 weeks old, fragile Pigpen was rescued from a recycling bin by one of San Diego Humane Society's Humane Officers. His foot and tail were severely injured, but this tiny kitten was a fighter. He was brought straight to our Pilar & Chuck Bahde Center for Shelter Medicine for emergency care, where veterinarians treated Pigpen's injuries and bandaged his foot. He then settled into the Kitten Nursery for care, including medication to manage his pain. Fortunately, Pigpen made a full recovery — and he was adopted by the Humane Officer who rescued him.



158 days
in care

Behavior & Training



For animals with serious behavior challenges — including fearfulness, resource guarding and reactivity — it takes time and patience to become ready for their new adoptive families. Through our Behavior & Training program, we develop individualized training plans and work with animals over the course of days, weeks and months. Our commitment to Staying at Zero means we welcome these animals who have nowhere else to turn, and we stand by their side as long as it takes. Seeing these animals learn to trust, manage their anxiety and become part of loving families is one of the most rewarding parts of our work.

Last year:

- **715** animals received behavioral rehabilitation across all campuses
- **344** dogs and cats were enrolled in our Behavior Center, one of the only facilities of its kind in the country

Watching Petunia Blossom

When Petunia, a 3-year-old American pit bull terrier, first arrived at our San Diego Campus as a stray, she was incredibly shy and fearful. Our staff began working with her and, over time, saw her behavior change dramatically. Housing her in our Behavior Center gave her a calm, controlled environment in which to blossom. A regular regimen of positive reinforcement and enrichment helped this previously timid, growling girl become a comfortable, affectionate companion. She learned confidence, manners and basic commands like “sit” and “shake.” She even had the opportunity to go on Canine Adventure outings in the community with our volunteers! After 158 days in our care, Petunia got the second chance she deserved when she was adopted into a wonderful home.

Training Resources for Owned Pets

Behavior challenges are common reasons we see pets relinquished to shelters. But the right support and training resources can make a world of difference! Our Behavior & Training program provides pet training classes, a free Behavior Helpline and a full library of online resources to set animals and their people up for success.

Our work in 2021-22 included:

- Responding to **1,737** Behavior Helpline calls and emails
- Offering **230** training classes, including virtual options
- Instructing **946** pet owners

Kitten Program

The Kitten Nursery at our San Diego Campus was the first facility of its kind in the country. Created in 2009 to meet the unique and resource-intensive needs of orphaned kittens under 8 weeks old, it has expanded into a program with nurseries at our Escondido and Oceanside campuses, and a robust corps of dedicated kitten foster families.

This year, in our nurseries and foster homes, we cared for:

- **5,462** kittens younger than 8 weeks
- **2,600** kittens between 8 weeks and 7 months

Bronx and Bayla

These adorable Sphynx littermates were relinquished into our care when their owner, who had purchased them from a breeder, noticed them sneezing and coughing. We welcomed the babies into our Kitten Nursery and, to cure their upper respiratory infections, our medical team provided them antibiotics, nebulization and subcutaneous fluids. The kittens grew healthy and strong, and were quickly adopted!

Tweety's Tough Start

Orphaned Tweety had a host of issues when he arrived in our care: an infection where his umbilical cord had been attached, digestive issues and signs of having had a seizure. He was also dangerously underweight. Without specialized care, this sweet kitten wouldn't have survived — but our expert caregivers and medical team helped him heal. When he was well enough to move to a foster home, Tweety started to gain more and more weight and turned into a playful, happy kitten.

Tweety 



Bronx 



Last year, we launched our **Safety Net Foster Program** to support pet families in times of crisis, including domestic violence, eviction and other situations requiring urgent relocation.

Eva

Foster Program



Caring for more than 40,000 animals each year takes a village — and our foster volunteers are a key part of our community. By welcoming animals with unique needs into their homes, fosters make a lifesaving difference and create space in our shelters to help more pets.

Last year, we had:

- **1,125** foster homes

- **6,522** animals in foster care

A Safety Net for Felix and Eva

Eva had lived with her dad Felix, a member of the US Army, for almost her entire life. When Felix received notice of his upcoming deployment to Guam, he made arrangements for Eva to be cared for — but those plans fell through. Without time to find a safe place for Eva, and his deployment date rapidly approaching, Felix reached out to San Diego Humane Society. We accepted Eva into our Safety Net Foster Program, which provides temporary care for owned animals in the comfort of a loving foster home. Eva had a

wonderful time with her loving foster family — and when Felix returned from Guam, we reunited him with his beloved pet.

150th Foster!

The dedication of our foster volunteers is incredible. This year, volunteers Betsy Huntingdon and Jim Mott reached an incredible milestone: fostering their 150th pet for San Diego Humane Society!



Humane Law Enforcement



Driven by compassion and a commitment to keeping animals and people safe, our Humane Officers respond when residents of 14 cities throughout San Diego County need help with everything from barking dogs and injured wildlife, to the most heartbreaking cases of cruelty and neglect.

- **18,707** animals seen by Humane Officers
- **2,660** cruelty complaints addressed
- **46** active officers
- **24/7** dispatch
- **14** cities in San Diego County protected

Emergency Response

Our Emergency Response Team (ERT) responds in times of crisis — such as evacuating pets and livestock during wildfires and rescuing animals from accidents.

- **86** volunteers
- **3,848** hours of volunteer involvement
- **506** animals assisted in emergencies

Mighty Joe Young

The rescue of a stray dog from a gorilla enclosure at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park became the biggest media story San Diego Humane Society has ever seen! Our Humane Officers responded after a dog wandered into the park's gorilla enclosure. Zoo staff believe the dog got into the park on his own, and all the way into the gorilla enclosure, before he was noticed. As soon as zoo staff saw the dog, they moved the gorillas out using their safety recall procedure. Our three Humane Officers were able to move in and safely leash the dog and bring him back to our Escondido Campus for care. He was eventually returned safely to his owner!



**Mighty
Joe Young**



Ukraine Response



This year we were here for pet families in San Diego — and across the world.

In March, President and CEO Dr. Gary Weitzman was invited to travel to Poland for 10 days, to support our partner Greater Good Charities' efforts to assist pets and people affected by the heartbreaking war in Ukraine. While there, he worked with the International Fund for Animal Welfare to provide supplies and veterinary aid at the border.

San Diego Humane Society also partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make it possible for Ukrainian refugees crossing the U.S.-Mexico border to bring their pets with them. The first of these animals was Perseya, who was cared for at our San Diego Campus during her required 28-day rabies quarantine before being reunited with her loving mom, Roza.



Community Cat Program



San Diego Humane Society's Community Cat Program supports free-roaming, outdoor cats with no verifiable signs of ownership. We provide spay/neuter procedures and basic medical care, including a veterinary exam and vaccinations, before returning community cats to their outdoor homes. In addition to doing what's best for cats, our Community Cat Program will help to reduce the number of community cats over time — which will help wildlife too.

- **4,369** community cats cared for
- **4,334** community cats returned to their outdoor homes
- **3,639** spay/neuter surgeries performed

Supporting Community Cats Together

When a local community cat caretaker noticed one of the cats in her neighborhood become lethargic and stop eating, she brought him to our Escondido Campus for care. We performed blood work and X-rays on the 3-year-old cat and, based on the results, suspected that he had been exposed to toxins. After supportive care from our team, he improved and we returned him to his caretaker. She'll continue to monitor him, and we'll continue to be here ready to offer support if they need us.



Project Wildlife

Project Wildlife is a national leader in wildlife rescue, rehabilitation and release. As San Diego County's primary resource for wildlife in need, our highly skilled team of wildlife experts give thousands of animals a second chance each year.

- **12,681** injured, orphaned and sick wild animals cared for
- **1,620** wild animals rescued by Humane Officers
- **266** species admitted

Orphaned Bear Cubs Returned to the Wild Great Horned Owl Surgery

After six months in care at our Ramona Wildlife Center, four orphaned bear cubs are back in the wild, where they belong. Project Wildlife is one of only three bear rehabilitation facilities in the state of California, and takes in bears in need from throughout Southern California. When these cubs first arrived, they were all too young to survive on their own. Our wildlife care specialists helped prepare them for a successful return to the wild by providing for their needs with careful, minimal interaction with humans. After a few months, the cubs were moved into a large outdoor enclosure, where they were able to develop their muscles and exercise, and sharpen their natural instincts. We provided the cubs with 10 pounds of food per day until they were ready to thrive on their own!

When a local resident found a suffering owl in their yard, they brought him to our Pilar & Chuck Bahde Wildlife Center for help. The owl had eye trauma, a slight wing droop and a small wound on his side. Our wildlife veterinary team performed an evisceration surgery to remove the eye — an example of the incredible care Project Wildlife is able to provide wild animals of all shapes and sizes. Once the owl had recovered enough, he was moved to an outside enclosure where our team observed that he was maneuvering well with one eye! After gaining strength under daily observation, the owl was placed with a satellite volunteer with a flight cage to complete his recovery. This resilient animal is now back in the wild where he belongs!

Top 5 Species Cared for in 2021-22

- **1,613** Virginia Opossums
- **1,017** House Finches
- **857** Desert Cottontails
- **819** Mourning Doves
- **606** Anna's Hummingbirds



Summary

612

Staff

3,172

Volunteers

445,816

Volunteer hours

\$15,853,216.96

Value of
volunteer hours

Statistics

COMPANION ANIMALS
ADMITTED

Born in shelter or foster care	388
Relinquished by owners	8,833
Transferred from others shelters	380
Seized by Humane Officers	316
Emergency boarding	1,385
Stray animals	17,786
Total Companion Animals Admitted	29,088

COMPANION ANIMALS
GOING HOME

Cats adopted	8,569
Dogs adopted	6,929
Other animals adopted	2,331
Animals returned to their owners	5,781
Animals transferred to other shelters/ rescues	2,467
Total Animals Going Home	26,077
<i>Rate of dogs returned to owner</i>	68.2%
<i>Rate of cats returned to owner</i>	38.1%
<i>Placement rate for healthy animals</i>	100%
<i>Placement rate for treatable/ rehabilitatable animals</i>	100%
<i>Live release rate</i>	92%

OTHER OUTCOMES

Animals euthanized	2,416
Owner-requested euthanasia	3,095
Died or lost in shelter care	267
Total Other Outcomes	5,778

COMMUNITY CATS

Brought by other rescues for treatment	826
Brought by the public for treatment	3,543
Community cats returned to their outdoor homes	4,334
Total Community Cats Cared For	4,369

PROJECT WILDLIFE

Number of species admitted	266
Total Wildlife Admitted	12,681

VETERINARY CARE /
SHELTER MEDICINE

Spay/neuter surgeries for community cats	3,639
Spay/neuter surgeries for owned pets	1,895
Spay/neuter surgeries for shelter animals	11,857
Total Spay/Neuter Surgeries	17,391
Dental procedures	549
Diagnostics	30,124
Orthopedic surgeries	173
Other surgeries (i.e. mass removal, exploratory surgery, eye/ear surgery, abcess drainage)	686

KITTEN PROGRAM

Kittens younger than 8 weeks in nursery or foster care	5,462
Kittens 8 weeks to 7 months in shelter or foster care	2,600
Total Kittens Cared For	8,062

FOSTER

Total number of foster homes	1,125
Total number of animals in foster care	6,522

BEHAVIOR & TRAINING

Shelter animals enrolled in the Behavior Center	344
Shelter animals receiving other behavioral rehabilitation	371
Total Animals Receiving Behavioral Rehabilitation	715
Pre- and post-adoption consultations provided	787
Behavior Helpline responses	1,737
Training classes offered to the public	230
People instructed through training classes	946

HUMANE LAW
ENFORCEMENT & FIELD
SERVICES

Cases submitted for prosecution	40
Educational speaking engagements	22
Cruelty complaints addressed	2,660
Animal bite quarantines	2,381
Animal service calls received	41,832
Wild animals rescued in the field by Humane Officers	1,620
Total Animals Seen by Humane Officers	18,707

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Volunteers	86
Hours of ERT volunteer involvement	3,848
Animals assisted in emergency situations	506

COMMUNITY OUTREACH &
ENGAGEMENT

Adult program attendance (includes virtual)	14,904
Youth program attendance (includes virtual)	8,650
Total Reached Through Community Programs	23,554
Resource Center phone calls received	169,595

COMMUNITY SUPPORT
SERVICES

Microchips for owned pets	3,218
Vaccinations for owned pets	13,437
Vet vouchers distributed	127
Pet meals distributed to families	1,653,672
Pet meals distributed to partner organizations and other rescues	624,570





Expenses and income* for Fiscal Year 2021-22

INCOME	AMOUNT	%
General Contributions	\$ 20,314,109	41%
Bequests and Planned Gifts	9,232,478	18%
Field Service/Licensing/Humane Law Fees	22,381,835	45%
Special Events (net of expenses)	2,033,130	4%
Program and Other Revenue	2,350,481	5%
Investment Income (net of expenses)	(6,326,045)	-13%
	\$49,985,988	100%
EXPENSES		
Adoptions and Animal Care	\$32,717,855	66%
Humane Law Enforcement	5,097,013	10%
Donor Development and Fundraising	3,946,750	8%
Community Outreach	3,852,556	8%
Management and General	3,140,586	6%
Marketing and Communications	1,194,133	2%
	\$49,948,893	100%
Increase in Net Assets*	\$37,095	

*Annual audits and 990s can be found at sdhumane.org.

INTAKE

OUTCOME

DOGS & CATS EUTHANIZED

		DOG	CAT	RABBIT	OTHERS	TOTAL
AO A	Ending Shelter Count for previous reporting period	381	723	84	282	1,470
	Beginning Shelter Count (July 1, 2021)	380	723	84	282	1,469
B	From the public	13,667	11,693	753	2,595	28,708
C	Incoming transfers from SDAWC members	83	133	-	1	217
D	Incoming transfers from other organizations outside of SDAWC	156	4	3	-	163
E	From owners requesting euthanasia	2,197	777	22	109	3,105
F	Total Intake (B + C + D + E)	16,103	12,607	778	2,705	32,193
G	Owner requested euthanasia (not healthy/UU)	2,197	777	22	109	3,105
H	ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE (F - G)	13,906	11,830	756	2,596	29,088
I	Adoptions	6,929	8,569	564	1,767	17,829
J	Outgoing Transfers to SDAWC members	326	217	35	43	621
K	Outgoing transfers to other organizations outside of the SDAWC	629	702	26	489	1,846
L(1)	Return to owner (Stray animals only)	3,889	334	12	53	4,288
L(2)	Relinquishment Reclaim (Animals relinquished by and then returned to owner)	1,095	305	7	86	1,493
M	Healthy (Includes any healthy animal euthanized at owner request)	-	-	-	-	-
N	Treatable	-	-	-	-	-
O	Unhealthy & Untreatable	836	1,382	36	162	2,416
	Unhealthy & Untreatable (Medical Reasons)	408	1,286	35	157	1,886
	Unhealthy & Untreatable (Behavior Reasons)	354	62	1	2	419
	Unhealthy & Untreatable (Combination Med/Beh)	74	34	-	3	111
P	Owner requested euthanasia (Not healthy/UU)	2,189	776	22	108	3,095
Q	Total euthanasia (M + N + O + P)	3,025	2,158	58	270	5,511
R	ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA (Q - P)	836	1,382	36	162	2,416
S	Subtotal outcomes (I + J + K + L(1) + L(2) + R) excludes owner requested euthanasia (not healthy/UU)	13,704	11,509	680	2,600	28,493
T	Died or Lost in Shelter Care	62	92	45	68	267
U	TOTAL OUTCOMES (S + T)	13,766	11,601	725	2,668	28,760
V	excludes owner-requested euthanasia (not healthy/UU)					
	Ending shelter count (June 30, 2022)	504	944	109	210	1,767
W	ANNUAL LIVE RELEASE RATE/PERCENTAGE (I + J + K + L1 + L2) / S	94%	88%	95%	94%	92%
	The Annual Live Release Rate does not include (P) owner-requested euthanasia (not healthy) and (T) animals who died or were lost while in shelter care.					

This table represents San Diego Humane Society's annual animal statistics. San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition statistics are available at sdhumane.org.

San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition Accords

In August 2004, a summit of animal welfare industry leaders from across the nation convened at Asilomar in Pacific Grove, California, for the purpose of building bridges across varying philosophies, developing relationships, agreeing on common definitions and gathering statistics in a standardized format. The statistical guidelines developed from the spirit and vision of this meeting came to be known as the Asilomar Accords, which serve as an important tool in consistently tracking the progress of eliminating the euthanasia of healthy or treatable companion animals in shelters across the United States. All member organizations of the San Diego Animal Welfare Coalition (SDAWC) use the definitions prescribed by these accords.

VISION

A more compassionate world.

MISSION

Create a more humane world by inspiring compassion, providing hope and advancing the welfare of animals and people.

PRESIDENT AND CEO

Gary Weitzman, DVM, MPH, CAWA

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Brian Daugherty, SVP and Chief Philanthropy & Communications Officer

Jessica Des Lauriers, CAWA, SVP and Chief Operating Officer

Audrey Lang, SPHR, SVP of Organizational Development

Michael Lowry, SVP and Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Zarah Hedge, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, DABVP, VP and Chief Medical Officer

Tina Nguyen, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, VP of Employee Engagement

Stacey Zeitlin, MAT, VP of Community Impact

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Tori Zwisler, Secretary

Sharon Blanchet, JD, Chair Board Governance Committee

Julie Ruehle, Chair Finance Committee

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SAN DIEGO CAMPUS

5500 Gaines St. (Adoptions)
5480 Gaines St. (Admissions)
San Diego, CA 92110

EL CAJON CAMPUS

1373 N. Marshall Ave.
El Cajon, CA 92020

ESCONDIDO CAMPUS

3500 Burnet Drive
Escondido, CA 92027

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS

2905 San Luis Rey Road (Dogs)
572 Airport Road (Cats, Small Animals)
Oceanside, CA 92058

PROJECT WILDLIFE

Pilar & Chuck Bahde Wildlife Center
5433 Gaines St.
San Diego, CA 92110

Ramona Wildlife Center
18740 Highland Valley Road
Ramona, CA 92065

619-299-7012

sdhumane.org

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