

KC PET PROJECT

Impact Report for June 2022 Activities

Sheltering Statistics Year-to-Date:

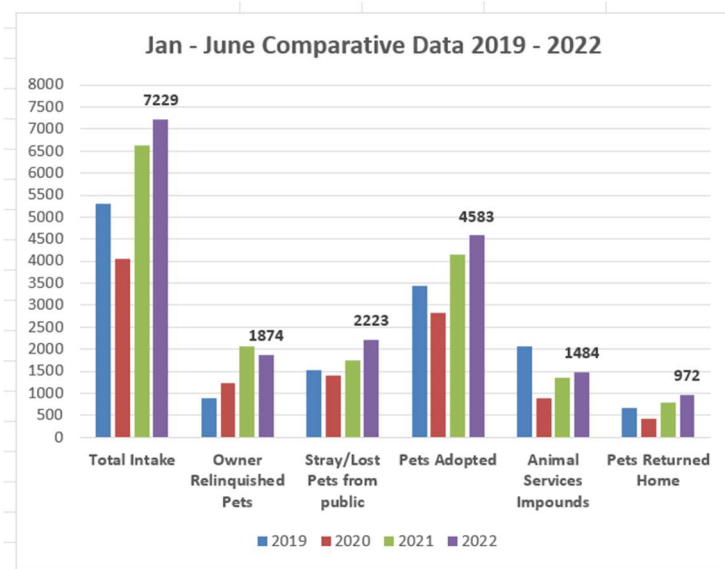
Dogs & Cats as of Jan – June 2022	2022	2021	Difference
Adoptions	4,583	4,161	422 more
Total Intake	7,229	6,621	608 more
Returned to Owners	972	782	190 more
Live Release Rate	96.8%	96.9%	0.1% lower
Owner Relinquished Pets	1,874	2,055	181 fewer
Stray animals brought in by public	2,223	1,740	483 more
Animals transferred IN	1,076	892	184 more
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	3,496	3,298	198 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	17.3 days	14.9 days	2.4 more days
Average Length of Stay for Cats	18.1 days	19.8 days	1.7 fewer days

June 2022 - Animals In & Animals Out

- ❖ We received or provided care for **1,603** new dogs and cats that arrived in June (741 dogs, 862 cats). We also received 1 ferret, 8 guinea pigs, 2 rabbits, and 1 pet rat.
- ❖ Our veterinary team performed **890** spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in June and provided emergency medical care to **108** seriously injured animals that arrived (abscessed wounds, emaciated, fractured limbs, hit by vehicles, drowning, tumors, gunshot, seizures, broken jaw, eye injuries, etc.). Doctors performed **879** examinations on pets in/arriving at our shelter.
- ❖ At the end of June, 169 of our dogs/puppies (40%) and 451 of the cats/kittens (**67%**) were in foster homes.
- ❖ Pet adoptions increased for both dogs and cats in June, with a record-setting **971** pets being adopted last month (421 dogs, 543 cats, and 7 other pets).
- ❖ Due to the sustained demand for cats/kittens to adopt, our feline transfer program has been able to save 1,037 cats and kittens at risk of euthanasia from other overcrowded shelters in and around our region. This is a 39% increase from last year.
- ❖ We provided services for 73 owned pets from our community in June through community cat spay/neuter clinics and our crisis boarding program, for a total of 370 owned pets that have received low-cost veterinary services in 2022.
- ❖ Stray/lost pets being brought in by the public continue at a record pace, with a 28% increase for 2022.
- ❖ We achieved an incredible **96.5%** save rate in June (97.6% dogs, 95.5% cats) and our Year-to-Date save rate for 2022 is still an impressive **96.8%**, despite taking in the highest number of animals in our city's history.

So far in 2022, we've provided care for 7,229 dogs and cats - the largest number of pets ever received in 6 months in our shelter's history.

Pet adoptions are up 10% for the year, with a record 4,583 pets having been adopted in the first 6 months of 2022!



Data at-a-glance January - June:

- ✓ Total intake of dogs and cats is at the highest level ever recorded in our 10-year history. We have already taken in more pets in six months than we did in the entire year 2012 when we took over operating the KCMO shelter.
- ✓ Numbers of pets being adopted is at the highest level in our 10-year history.
- ✓ Stray/lost pets are arriving at the highest level ever recorded.
- ✓ Numbers of lost pets being returned to their homes is at highest level ever recorded.
- ✓ Our veterinary team performed the largest numbers of spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in our organization's history.

Animal Services Division Update

- ❖ Officers responded to **1,360** calls for service in June 2022. As of June 30, our division had responded to nearly 500 more calls for service that last year at this time.
- ❖ Our Animal Services dispatch team received **3,407** phone calls from residents (a 5% increase from May) and made 1,013 additional calls to residents in June.
- ❖ Officers issued 44 verbal warnings for violations and issued 15 official Notice to Correct Violation warning tickets to residents. Four (4) citations were entered into the Thin Blue Line (TBL) system for review and approval by the City Prosecutor.
- ❖ There are 13 open Potentially Dangerous or Dangerous Dog cases in various stages of investigation.

Total Calls by Type Responded to in June 2022

Calls related to stray/roaming animals continue to comprise nearly half of our monthly call volume from residents.

Call Type	June '22	May '22
Enforcement	77	49
Cruelty Investigations/Neglect	258	241
Other Services (PD/Fire/MAST)	144	164
Stray Animals/Animals at Large	613	670
Wildlife	88	141
Bite – Non-Domestic Animals (bats, etc.)	46	15
Bite – Domestic (dogs/cats)	134	126

Approximately 105 of the 613 stray/loose animal calls were related to public safety concerns, such as reports of aggressive dogs or animals in the roadway.

Call Results for June 2022

Results for Calls with Animals	June '22	May '22	% Change
Animals Impounded by Officers	219	254	14% decrease
Wildlife Relocated/Transferred Out	43	52	17% decrease
Animals Returned Home by Officers	34	39	13% decrease

Thirty-four (34) loose/lost dogs that could be returned in the field were reunited with their owners by officers, rather than impounding them at the shelter

Stories From the Field

Macho the dog (right) was brought into our shelter's veterinary hospital on June 16th by Animal Services Officers McGehee and Macan after being found with a large gaping wound on his shoulder requiring medical care. While his wound looked serious, doctors soon realized that Macho had a much more serious health condition. X-rays revealed Macho was suffering from advanced stage heartworms and was in Congestive Heart Failure due to lack of veterinary care. Our shelter veterinarians began heartworm treatment for Macho and we're hoping to find him a foster home soon to continue his recovery.

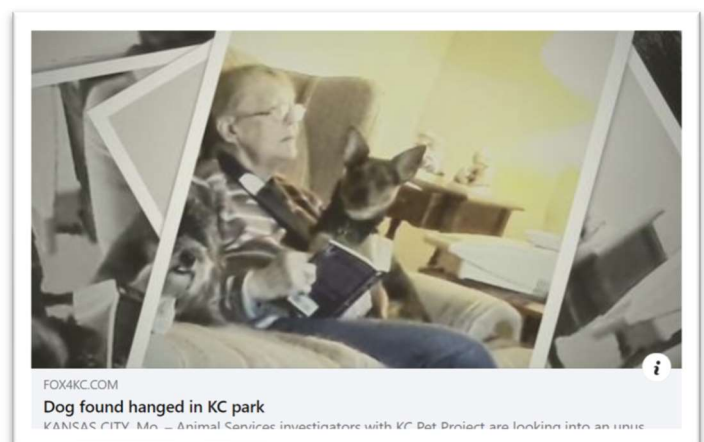


Media Coverage/ Public Education/Community Engagement

- ❖ Tori Fugate, Chief Communications Officer shared several reminders throughout the month about caring for pets and keeping them safe around the fourth of July.
- ❖ Our Animal Services Officers responded to several calls in June of dogs left in hot cars or left in the sun unattended and we shared a social media graphic about animals and the heat.
- ❖ Our Animal Cruelty Team investigated a case of a dog that had been killed and hanged from a tree in Blue Valley Park. We posted the story to social media asking for any information on who many have committed this crime against the family's beloved dog (see full story below) and an arrest in the case is coming soon.
- ❖ We had a total of 164 media stories and mentions in the news during the month of June.

Animal Cruelty TIPS Hotline Launched in June

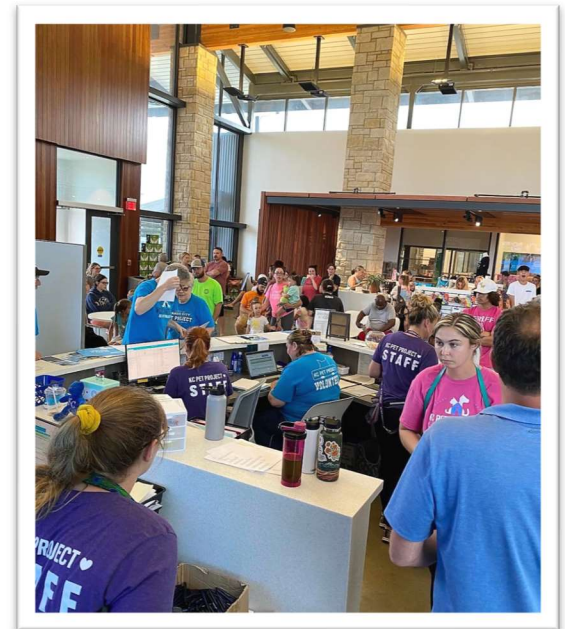
KC Pet Project's Animal Services Division launched our new Animal Cruelty Tips Hotline in June following a horrible case of animal cruelty. Buddy the dog was found deceased in Blue Valley Park near 23rd and Topping on June 10th. Our Cruelty Investigations team received a call from someone reporting a deceased dog in the park. When officers arrived on scene, they found a small black and tan dog laying inside a Goodwill shopping bag, near the same area another person reported a dog matching that description hanging from a tree in the park. The dog had a rope tied around his muzzle and his head. A small rag was left in the bag. Our team recognized the dog from a picture of a missing dog posted on a Lost and Found Pets Facebook group on June 9th. We contacted the heartbroken family and they identified the dog as Buddy, who had mysteriously disappeared from their yard. We began seeking tips or information from the public regarding Buddy's case and our Cruelty Investigators began working with local law enforcement and following up on several solid leads. An arrest in this case is expected soon.



Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Engagement

Chief Communications Officer, Tori Fugate, reported the following activities occurred in June:

- ❖ Our Father's Day Adoption Special resulted in 158 pets being adopted that weekend.
- ❖ KC Pet Project was featured in an national article in TODAY about creative shelter pet names.
- ❖ Kansas City's Boulevardia event was back this year, and 75 KC Pet Project staff and volunteers were bartenders for the main stage throughout the weekend to raise money for our organization.
- ❖ We reached a point in June where we were in crisis with too many dogs in the building. We did an impromptu fee-waived adoption event, one day only, at KCCAC and our Zona Rosa adoption center. We adopted out **104 pets** during the event. The post was shared 5,300 times on Facebook, and we received a lot of media coverage.
- ❖ On June 25th, we held a *Be a Foster* Open House at the Campus so the public could learn more about fostering.
- ❖ We relaunched monthly in-studio segments on Fox 4 that will be every fourth Saturday of the month at 8:25 am.
- ❖ Boulevard Brewing Company has named Chiefs Center, Creed Humphrey, as their "protector of the tailgates" and as part of their promotion with him, there will be a benefit for KC Pet Project later this year at the brewery.
- ❖ We had a front page feature story in The Kansas City Star about our *Home Away from Home* emergency boarding program.
- ❖ We shared several promotions about pet safety ahead of the 4th of July holiday and had many media stories throughout the month on how full our shelter has been.
- ❖ Our ProX summer intern, Evilyn, created Spanish language flyers to promote fostering pets.
- ❖ Tori consulted on several projects for other shelters and national organizations in June including El Paso Animal Shelter on opening an offsite adoption center, Sumter County in Florida (at the request of Best Friends Animal Society) on marketing without using social media, Animal Welfare Society in Maine on marketing strategies for lost/found pets and long stay dogs, and the Humane Society of the United States (with Amanda Gatten) on data tracking for owner surrenders.



Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 95,900	We passed 88,000 followers on Instagram.
New Users- 88,859	We are at 141,000 likes on Facebook.
Sessions – 160,560	We have 1.2 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 847,826	

*Estimated media reach for the month of June for animal services and sheltering stories was **339,304,058 million** people!*

Community Education/Partnerships/School Visits

- ❖ Alex Ayala, Tammy McMillan, and volunteer Miko Kookan took kittens to The Parkway Senior Center's long-term memory care units. Studies show a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of people living in long term care facilities when they can interact and connect with animals. We are working on developing a foster program with them for senior cats and kittens.
- ❖ Alex gave a presentation to campers at Camp Lake of the Woods in Swope Park. The campers are from schools around the Kansas City area and learn about ways to make a difference in their community. Campers made enrichment treats for our shelter pets from items they had collected.
- ❖ Alex spoke at the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting and talked about volunteer and foster opportunities.
- ❖ In June we hosted three children's birthday parties. These parties are a great way to develop the social/emotional connection between children and animals in a shelter.
- ❖ Alex hosted four (4) scout groups with 47 Scouts, St Paul's Episcopal Day School summer program with 10 students, and Pembroke Hills middle school summer program with a total of 16 students. These student groups were supported by our FEC Education Intern BreOnna. Students learn about KC Pet Project and make enrichment treats with items they bring for donation.



- ❖ The Kansas School for the Blind held a donation drive for KCPP. The students then visited to bring the donations and got to meet some shelter pets.
- ❖ An Eagle Scout candidate (photo above) made 20 community cat houses to distribute to our community this winter. These projects not only benefit KC Pet Project by providing needed items but are a great way to educate Scouts about why these items are needed while developing future animal advocates in our city.
- ❖ In June, five (5) summer Interns from ProX joined us at KC Pet Project (photo above). ProX is a program that works with high school students of all backgrounds and abilities to help them be successful in a work environment. These motivated interns held jobs in our Pet Support Center, Marketing and Communications, Finance, and Human Resources departments. Our Education Intern from the Full Employment Council (FEC) completed her hours, and she has joined our team as an official staff member working in our Roasterie Café and retail store!

- ❖ We met with Camila Alvarez, Partners in Education Coordinator with the Kansas City Public Schools and we expressed our interest in providing educational opportunities in elementary schools throughout the district. We are drafting an MOU and hope to further our relationship with the district.

Volunteer Program Updates

In June, **549** volunteers gave **4,471.73** hours of services, the equivalent of **25.80** full-time employees.

- ❖ Total value of volunteer hours in June: \$127,623.35
- ❖ New Volunteer Shelter Tours Conducted: 16
- ❖ Number of Individuals who Attended a Shelter Tour: 146 (a 33% increase from last month's total of 110)
- ❖ Total New Volunteer Hours Given: 100.63 hours (17 volunteers)
- ❖ Number of Volunteers Who Completed Trainings in June: 99 (including in-person mentoring sessions totaling 97.77 hours for 56 volunteers)



Groups that volunteered in June gave 243.30 hours of service with 123 people (a 76% increase from last month's total of 138 hours). Businesses and groups that gave service in June included: *Rockwell Automation, JE Dunn Construction, Deloitte, FOX4, Easterseals Midwest, Jimmy John's, Dental Care on Cookingham, Lockton, and C2FO.*

Service Group Visit Satisfaction:

- ✓ **2022 Rating: 4.8/5.0 stars**
- ✓ June Rating: 5/5.0; 2 surveys submitted in June; 11 surveys submitted since launch in April 2022

Shelter Tour Satisfaction:

- ✓ **2022 Rating: 4.89/5.0 stars**
- ✓ June Rating: 4.70/5.0 stars; 43 surveys submitted in June; 84 surveys submitted since launch in March 2022

"What a stunning campus and healthy environment for these animals in need. I have volunteered all over America, and I have NEVER seen anything like this. The rest of the world needs to take notes! Absolutely unreal. I just moved to KC from California last week, and I am so excited to put my experience to good use with this establishment! It would truly be an honor to do so. Such friendly and empathetic volunteers and staff – I hate that I can't remember my tour guide's name, but she is WONDERFUL and I can't wait to see her, and KC Pet Project, again ASAP"

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- ✓ Total active volunteers: **1,964** including 134 newly active volunteers
- ✓ We received a total of 190 new volunteer signups in June, with 53 new people wanting to volunteer specifically for Petco Cat Habitats.

"We really enjoyed getting to volunteer at such a wonderful organization. Thank you for everything you guys do!"
"Everybody was so nice and answered my millions of questions so kindly. Lovely training experience!"

News from the Volunteer Department

- ❖ In June, the Volunteer Department was honored to partner with **FOX4** for their Annual Founders Day of Caring, a day dedicated to supporting a local nonprofit in the community. The Fox4 staff supported KC Pet Project for a full day of service - with 48 members of their team performing kennel cleaning, enrichment, campus beautification and cleanliness, and pet food pantry food prep. Overall, the FOX4 team gave a total of 96 hours of service, a value of \$2,875.20 for the organization.
- ❖ **Shelter Tour Refresh:** Amanda Gatten, Director of Community Programs, and Heather Sandor, Volunteer Program Manager have



been reconstructing a new Volunteer Shelter Tour and Orientation presentation to provide a more in-depth overview of the organization, including our community impact, our services, and important information about starting as a new volunteer.

- ❖ Natalie Nepper, Volunteer Engagement Specialist, launched “Walk with Me,” a new program to grow our green level dog walking support. “Walk with Me” makes it easier for volunteers to confidently put their hands-on green level training to use by walking dogs with Natalie on Sunday through Thursday each week or scheduling a time to walk with their mentor. *This program helps volunteers who don’t feel comfortable walking dogs alone, as well as volunteers who may want some extra support getting started.* The shelter can be an overwhelming environment for new dog walkers and our goal is to foster a strong support system for our volunteers.

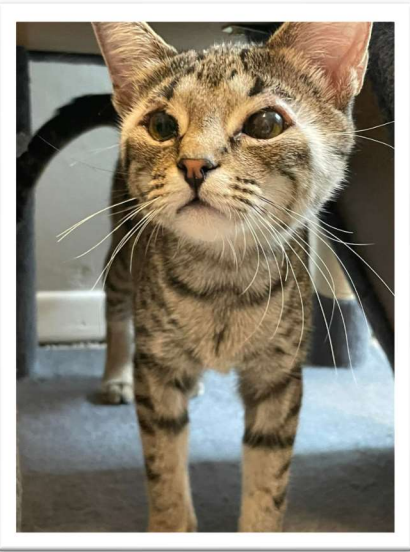
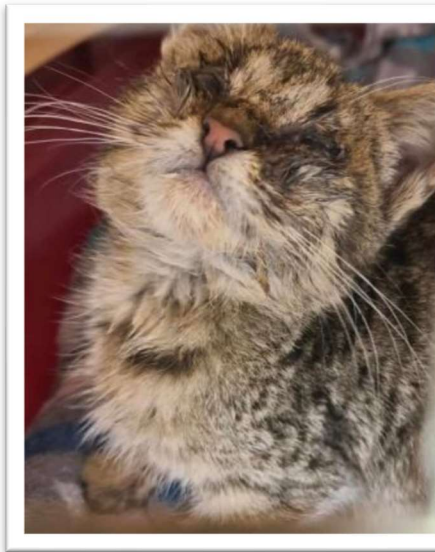


Retail Sales & Roasterie Café

Manager of Retail Operations, Bria Sweany, reported 27% growth in retail sales and 14% growth in Café sales compared to last June. We have begun working with new locally based companies, Dream Cream and Penny’s Bakery to offer their products in our coffee shop. We are expanding our on-line retail store to offer additional items and apparel.

News from our Veterinary Clinic

- ❖ Our veterinary team performed **890** spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in June and provided emergency medical care to 108 seriously injured animals that arrived (abscessed wounds, emaciated, fractured limbs, hit by vehicles, drowning, tumors, gunshot, seizures, broken jaw, eye injuries, etc.). Doctors performed 879 examinations on pets in/arriving at our shelter.
- ❖ **Aria Stark** (right) arrived at our shelter five months ago as a tiny blind kitten. Our veterinary team was able to save her eyes with medications, however doctors discovered she had a condition called *eyelid agenesis*. This tiny kitten’s eye lids weren’t formed correct, causing her eye lashes to rub painfully against her eyes. But we have amazing doctors here at KC Pet Project who look for “solutions, not excuses” and they created a plan to surgically repair Aria Stark’s eye lids. This tiny little fighter underwent two surgeries in our shelter’s veterinary clinic where our doctor’s **created eye lids from her lip/cheek area!** She went into foster with one of our incredible veterinary technicians and has completely healed from her surgery. She now proudly wears cute white stripes of fur beside her eyes from the transplant and was recently adopted by a new family who couldn’t wait to take her home.



Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in June 2022

Spay/Neuter Surgeries		AC Injured/Emergencies		Public Injured/Emergencies	
CC RTF - Cat Neuter	29	Cats brought by AC	23	Cats brought by Public	7
CC RTF - Cat Spay	29	Dogs brought by AC	51	Dogs brought by Public	27
RTO - Cat Neuter	0	Total	74	Total	34
RTO - Cat Spay	3	Abscess/Wounds	5	Atopy/Alopecia/Dermatitis	4
RTO - Dog Neuter	18	Animal Fight	2	Wounds/Lesions	6
RTO - Dog Spay	3	Atopy/Dermatitis	3	Eye Issues/Injury	1
Shelter - Cat Neuter	201	Underweight/Emaciated	13	Failure to Thrive	1
Shelter - Cat Spay	206	Laterally Recumbent	5	Geriatric	2
Shelter - Dog Neuter	182	Hyperkalemia	1	Hit By Car	2
Shelter - Dog Spay	184	Eye Injury	1	Laterally Recumbent	2
Rabbit Neuter	1	Broken Jaw	1	Ringworm	1
Rabbit Spay	0	Died After Arrival	2	Matted	1
Total Spays/Neuters	856	Drowned	1	Hernia	1
		Pressure Sores	1	Illness (Severe URI, Lethargy)	3
		Tumor	1	Injured Limbs	3
Specialty Surgeries		Congestive Heart Failure	1	Parvo	1
Amputation	8	Gunshot	1	Demodex	1
Dental	7	Seizing	2	Fly strikes on ears	1
Entropion	3	Geriatric	1	Underweight/Emaciated	4
Enucleation	3	HBC	5	Total Emergencies	34
Hernia Repair	3	Illness (URI, Lethargy)	11		
Feeding Tube Placement	1	Injured Limbs/Pelvis	9	Wellness Exams	
Mass Removal	4	Matted	1	Cats	294
Third Eyelid	1	Embedded Collar	1	Dogs	295
Wound Repair	4	Prolapsed Vagina	1	Rabbit	1
Total Specialities	34	Failure to thrive	1	Rodent	6
		Parvo	4	Total Wellness Exams	596
Heartworm Exams		Total Emergencies	74		
HW Consults	34			Vet Clinic Appointments	
HW Injections given	53	Parvo Virus		Drop-off	13
Total Heartworm Dogs	87	Canines in Parvo Ward	29	Foster Pets	59
		Canines treated in Foster	0	HW Injections	73
Administrative Services Provided		Canines treated Outpatient	0	KCPP 300	9
Phone Calls	351	Total canines treated	29	ORE	9
Foster Concerns	255	Deceased	3	Other	2
Emails	200	Save rate for parvo	90%	Post Adoption	11
Total	806			Rechecks	17
				Staff Pet	3
				Total Appointments	196



*Photos left: Puppy with “Strangles”
and Fear Free clipping technique
for a matted cat.*

Pet Support Center – Pet Support Desk, Pet Helpline, and Return-to-Home

Customer Engagement Performance

Google Ratings:

- ✓ KC Pet Project at KCCAC: **4.4/5.00** (1,386 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (562 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (178 Google reviews)

"I would be remiss if I didn't express my sincere thanks to Natalie and the staff of veterinary professionals at KC Pet Project. I owe these professionals a debt of gratitude I will never be able to properly repay. They took AWESOME care of my boys from their exams, microchip implantation, vaccines, and "alterations." Natalie explained everything and assisted me with each step of the process. She eased my anxiety, calmed my fears, and answered all my questions without hesitation, and ALWAYS returned my phone calls promptly and with great professionalism. I truly felt like she cared for my dogs as if they were her own. The staff not only treated me with respect but showed great kindness and respect to Dutch and Tucker. So, with great humility, much thanks, and appreciation to all the staff, THANK YOU SO VERY KINDLY for the grade A, top-notch, magnificent care you gave Dutch Master, and Tucker Buddy."

"These guys are working miracles out of this shelter!! The staff and volunteers are working extremely hard to help save the lives of all sorts of animals. Please donate or adopt or foster!! I adopted Ravi today and he is such a good boy!! You can tell the staff here put a lot of time in with this dog. Thank you guys soooo much!!"

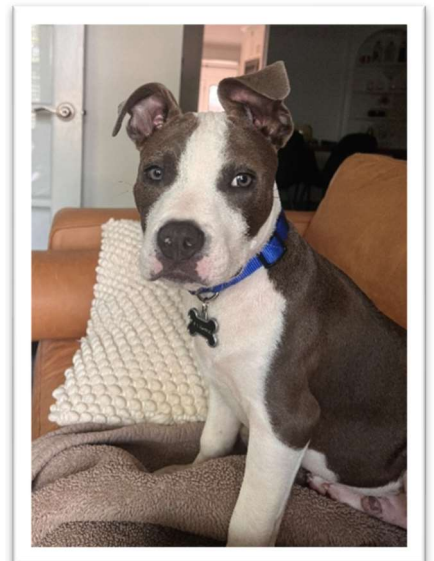
Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported 1,415 emails were received in June inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional 939 emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available to adopt or the adoption process.

Adoption Updates:

June, we received 47 adoption updates through our Constant Contact email campaigns. Here's what some of our adopters had to say this month:

"Just wanted to send an update on our puppy we adopted from KCPP on April 29th. Arlo (formerly known as Ziti) came in with his siblings and they all had parvo. He was so sick he almost didn't make it, but we are so happy he pulled through because he came into our home at the perfect time. We had just lost our bulldog unexpectedly a couple of weeks before and we were devastated. He brought light back into our home and we love watching him grow. We are so thankful for the Vet Clinic at KCPP for taking such good care and not giving up on him, and his fosters that helped get his weight back up before we were able to adopt him. We love our Arlo! (photo right)

"On Sunday, my husband and I nervously adopted Millie mostly due to the wishes of 2 of our kids who have long been seeking a rescue dog. This was not a decision we were taking lightly. She was incredibly shy and not too responsive to us at first. Millie has done a 180 starting that evening and now the last couple of days has become the most loving, happy, and obedient dog! We're saying we somehow won the dog lottery. We feel incredibly blessed that our prayers landed us at Zona Rosa and to her. I wanted to make sure your organization knew our gratitude and specifically that wonderful lady that helped us adopt her on Sunday! Please pass this on to her. I know Pet Project work can be a hard line of work at times and so we wanted to share how our lives have been changed in a wonderful way because of you."



Pet Support Center - Customer Satisfaction Survey

- ✓ **2022 Rating: 4.544/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.67/5.0 stars: 32 surveys submitted in June, 187 submitted since launch in September 2020

Pet Support Center Performance

June 2022	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	4347	1451	5798	25%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	26	149	175	85%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	1194	347	1541	23%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	5567	1947	7514	26%
OUT < Helpline - Main	1255	182	1437	13%
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	217	60	277	22%
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1472	242	1714	14%
Total Performance for June 2022	7039	2189	9228	24%

- ❖ In June, the Pet Support Center assisted approximately **779** KCMO residents with in-person services including pet relinquishment, microchipping, stray animal impounds, lost and found/return to home, pet licensing, records requests, taking in sick or injured pets, pets being reclaimed, and providing pet resources such as basic pet care supplies as well as supportive programs through Keep 'Em Together, KC.

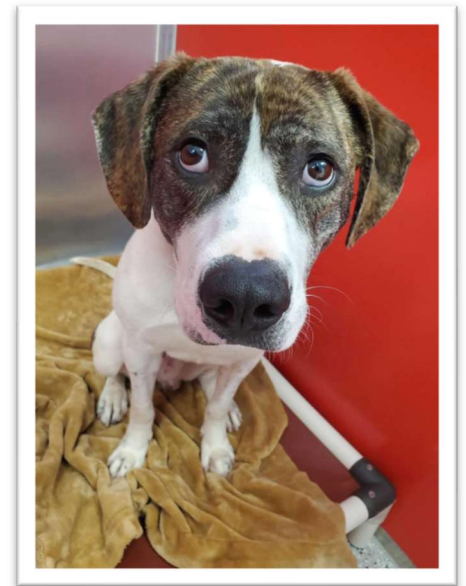
Our Pet Support Center team answered 5,567 live phone calls, completed 1,714 outbound calls, resolved 460 voicemails, and completed 8,271 interactions with pet families in June.

- ❖ The Pet Support Center kept families together for 151 animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s); 50 animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, and 11 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter. ***A total of 225 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into the shelter, a 9% increase from May.***

- ❖ **The top 3 reasons for surrendering a pet** currently in 2022 are:

- 1) Health of the animal or health of the owner/family (528 pets);
- 2) Lack of resources and the inability to afford pet-related care (437 pets); and
- 3) Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals in the home (362 pets).

Housing-related issues are the fourth largest cause for pet relinquishment (342 pets). *Reasons include cost of housing, loss of home, moving/relocating, and pet restrictions.*



Pet Support Center Department Updates:

- ❖ The Pet Support Center team launched new communication campaigns to put more resources in front of families seeking help for their pets. This new campaign lists behavior resources, human social service agencies, private rehoming support, and a link to Keep 'Em Together, KC, and invites clients to provide updates on whether they were able to overcome their challenges and keep their pets or continue to explore relinquishment.

Return-to-Home Team

- ❖ The Return-to-Home team received 177 Lost Pet Reports and 64 Found Pet Reports filed online or over the phone by residents last month. They conducted 44 in-depth microchip investigations for stray animals in our care. We cross-

posted 228 animals on public Lost and Found websites such as Pawboost, and Petco Love Lost, to reach a wider audience and increase chances of reunification.

- ❖ Return to Home Support Volunteers gave 113:27 hours to reunification efforts, including posting animals to KCPP's webpage and social media sites, continuing investigations on microchips with outdated or missing information, and contacting owners to assist them in reclaiming their pets.
- ❖ 147 (21.8%) of the 674 animals brought to the shelter in June were returned to owners. Nearly 32% of lost dogs that arrived were reunited with their families, while only 4.82% of lost cats were reclaimed by their owners.

Rehoming Support Services

In June, our team received 194 requests for private rehoming. Eligible pet owners posted 82 owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website for rehoming support services. ***Our team has received 1,171 requests for ReHome since September 22, 2021.***

Keep 'Em Together, KC Program Updates

Amanda Gatten, Director of Community Programs, reported the following updates for our 4 KETKC Subsidiary Program in June:

Pet Care Assistance Program

Pet owner financial assistance totaling \$3,665.73 for 21 families (26 pets) was awarded in June:

- ✓ 29 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received
- ✓ Home Away from Home Reunification fees: \$738.00
- ✓ Pet medical assistance granted: \$1,028.73
- ✓ Reclaim fee assistance granted: \$1,899.00

435 families benefitted from our four (4) Keep 'Em Together, KC subsidiary programs in June, a 192% increase from last month's total of 149.

Home Away from Home (HAFH) – Crisis Boarding Program

- ✓ Six (6) families with 6 pets applied for crisis boarding assistance in June. Three (3) new families were enrolled in the HAFH program with 4 pets.
- ✓ Four (4) families with a total of 7 pets were reunited in June.
- ✓ Twenty-three (23) new safety net foster applications were received in June.
- ✓ Current number of families and animals enrolled in the Home Away from Home program is 4 families with 5 pets.

For the last 4 weeks, Natalie Howard, Keep 'Em Together Case Manager, has been attending "A New Model for Shelter Care: Replacing Kennels with Foster Homes", an apprenticeship through Maddie's Fund. This apprenticeship is focused on finding new ways to recruit fosters and keep current fosters engaged. Natalie is applying her new skills to the Home Away from Home program to help continue to grow the program's capacity for support. Our Keep 'Em Together team continues to hold bi-monthly virtual foster training sessions to educate our community on our HAFH program.

Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ Total Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program awards to pet families in June: \$8,680.00
- ✓ 83 families with 104 pets benefitted from the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program last month.

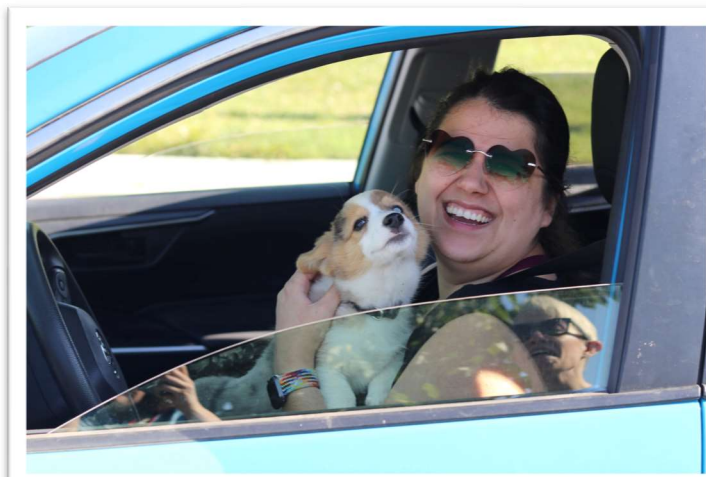
In the past 12 months, we subsidized \$90,930.00 in reclaim fees for 866 families with 937 pets!

Pet Resource Assistance Program

Pet foods were shared with 7 community pantry partners in the metro: *the Don Bosco Center, Amethyst Place, Unity Southeast Kansas City Community, Lawrence Humane Society, Independence Animal Services* and 2 local community cat caregivers. **253 families with 816 pets** benefitted directly from these resources provided in June. Total resources distributed to our community included:

- ✓ 15,720 lbs. of cat food
- ✓ 55,738 lbs. of dog food
- ✓ 515 lbs. of dog treats and 25 lbs. cat treats
- ✓ 5,300 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 57 collars and 25 leashes
- ✓ 7 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 3 kennels/crates and 532 miscellaneous pet care items

In just six months, our team has distributed more than 93,328 lbs. of pet food and supplies, including 3,194 doses of flea medication, to 420 families with 1,125 pets!



On June 28th, we held a **Community Drive Thru Pet Food and Microchip Event** at our KC Campus for Animal Care's north parking lot. We distributed 52,000 lbs. of dog foods, 500 lbs. of dog treats, 10,000 lbs. of cat food, and 5,000 lbs. of kitty litter through a drive-thru event (photos above). This community event was made possible thanks to Chewy and The Humane Society of the United States for the food and supplies, and to Banfield Foundation for their sponsorship of the microchips.

News from the Keep 'Em Together, KC Program

- ❖ Amanda Gatten, Director of Community Programs, attended KCPP's first training session with the Humane Society of the United States for the upcoming launch of our newest pet retention program, *Pets for Life*.
- ❖ Amanda partnered with Human-Animal Support Services and **FindHelp.org** to get Keep 'Em Together, KC's subsidiary programs listed on the FindHelp.org platform. Find Help is the go-to database for social services and supportive programs for families seeking assistance.
- ❖ Amanda and Tori represented KCPP on a national call with the HSUS to discuss our data collection process in the Pet Support Center and Keep 'Em Together, KC programs, and how our organization uses data to inform program building and assess the needs of the community, including the current housing crisis and its impact on owner relinquishment and the need for temporary crisis care for pet families.

At our drive-thru microchip and pet ID tag clinic on June 28th we provided 68 free microchips and 122 custom pet ID tags for 74 KCMO families and their pets.

Keeping 'Em Together: Leo's Journey

After finding themselves without permanent housing, Kate and her family made the difficult decision to surrender their beloved cat Leo (right) to allow him more stability. That's when they learned about the *Home Away from Home* program at KC Pet Project. We found Leo a wonderful temporary foster family that took great care of him while Leo's family worked to finding stable, permanent housing. After 2 long months of saving and searching, they were finally able to find a place in



their budget and were ready to bring Leo home. Housing is by far the most difficult barrier for pet owners to overcome in a community where very few pet-friendly, affordable housing options exist.

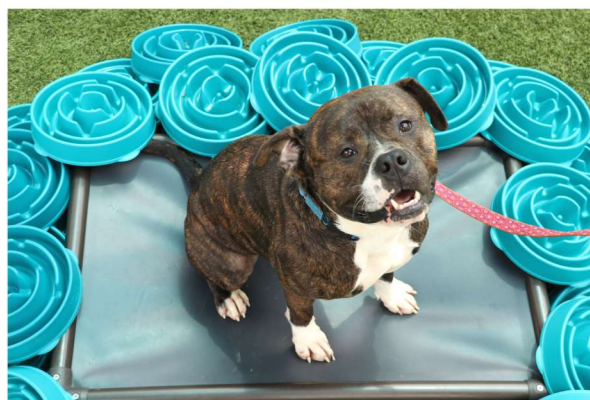
Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Number of dogs behaviorally assessed in June: 80
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 101
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters by Behavior Team: 25

Behavior follow-up support for adopters: 87 post-adoption follow up emails were sent, 28 phone consultations performed, 99 behavior support email correspondences, 6 free behavior lessons given to adopters, and free behavior consultations with families were conducted in June that prevented 3 dogs from being surrendered.

In June, the Canine Behavior Team set a record by having **158 dogs in playgroups in one day**. We would like to highlight work of our talented Playgroup Supervisor, Matthew Holt, for responsibly and safely overseeing all the dogs in our playgroup program each day to ensure dogs receive daily enrichment, exercise, and help our team learn more about dog behaviors.

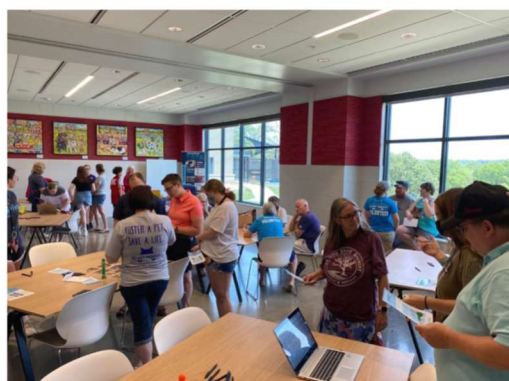
An average of 131 shelter dogs participated in canine playgroups every day in June!



Canine Foster Care Program

- ❖ Giana Galeno, Canine Foster Program Coordinator, reported at the end of June, 169 dogs (**40%** of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes. Volunteers took 102 dogs on a Dog's Day Out last month.
- ❖ We welcomed 71 new dog foster families in June, and we had 58 dogs adopted directly from foster homes last month.
- ❖ 55 puppies under 8 weeks old went to foster homes last month.
- ❖ We held a "Be A Foster" Open House event in partnership with Petco Love (right) and invited the public to come talk to many of our current fosters to learn about different fostering opportunities. We had a great turnout, had games and giveaways, and many people signed up on the spot to be new fosters for us.

267 dogs were sent to foster homes in June!



Canine Transfer & Placement | Transport | Small Animals & Farm Animals

Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported 66 animals were transferred out to other organizations in June, including 6 dogs with behavioral needs, and 7 dogs with specific medical needs.

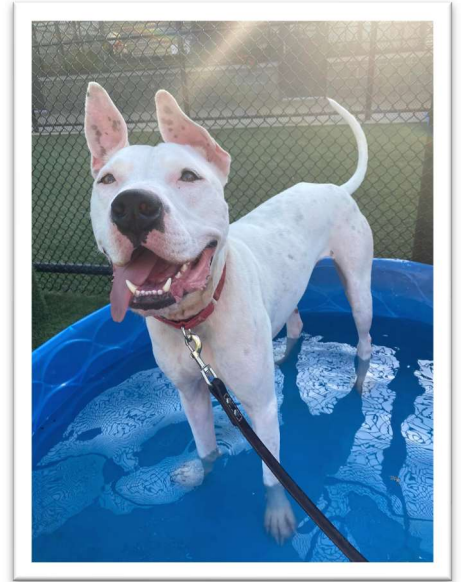
Organizations we transferred animals to in June: Always & Furever Midwest Animal Sanctuary, Chain of Hope, Columbia Second Chance, Critter House KC, Joplin Humane Society, Melissa's Menagerie, Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, MOGS Missouri German Shepherds, Nebraska Dachshund Rescue, Inc, Pawsitive Tails, Paws-N-Claws Iowa, Protecting Animal Welfare Society, Unleashed, Vintage Dog Rescue, and Wayside Waifs

Our **small animal program** processed **7** adoptions – 4 guinea pigs, 2 rabbits, and 1 ferret.

Canine Operations/Adoption Centers/Adopter Satisfaction Survey Results

KCCAC Survey total overall rating: 4.89/5.0 stars (5 surveys submitted in June, 120 responses to date).

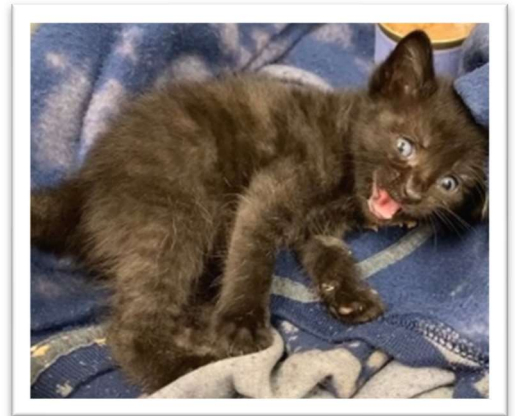
- ❖ Our Canine Care team cared for an average of 224 dogs every day in June at our Campus location.
- ❖ In June, we saw a record number of animals in our shelter. On June 21st, our small but mighty canine care staff was overwhelmed with 291 dogs in the building. In crisis mode, we turned to “solutions, not excuses” to save dogs and the following day we launched a one day only Fee Waived Adoption Event! This resulted in 188 potential adopters visiting the shelter that day and a total of 86 dogs went home with new families. Many more families were given vouchers for free adoptions to come back another day that week. A total of **968 visitors** looking to adopt pets came to the Campus in the month of June, a 52.2% increase in visitors from May. We processed 422 dog adoptions in the month of June.
- ❖ Adoptions at our Zona Rosa location are up **115%** for 2022.



Feline Foster Care Program

Feline Foster Manager, Leslie Bauer, reported kitten season is in full swing! We sent out another 444 cats and kittens to foster in June (427 were underage kittens)! This was a **6% increase** over June 2021.

- ❖ At the end of the month, we had 146 active foster homes and 18 new foster homes were onboarded in June.
- ❖ 86 cats and kittens were adopted directly from foster homes in June, more than double the amount from May. At the end of the month, 471 felines (**69%** of all cats/kittens) were in foster homes.
- ❖ Of the kittens sent to foster this month, 134 were underweight and 59 were in need of socialization. One particular underweight kitten was an adorable boy we named **Huxley** (right). He had other severe medical concerns; he was unable to stand or walk. But he had a great appetite and had a fighting spirit about him. Huxley was examined by our veterinarians and went into foster with one of our amazing vet clinic staff members for supportive care. He continued to improve with treatment and care, and after just one week he was able to walk, run, and jump like a normal kitten!



Petco Cat Habitats | Whiskers Cat Café | Feline Lifesaving Transfer Program

- ❖ Danielle Jones, Manager of Feline Lifesaving, reported we transferred in **138** cats in need from other area shelters/agencies, including our partners at Joplin Humane Society, and Best Friends of NW Arkansas. These transfers made up 16% of our total felines arriving in June.
- ❖ We trained 12 new Petco Cat Habitat volunteers this month. These incredible community volunteers gave 998.28 hours of time in June at 10 Petco store locations.
- ❖ In June, we processed 247 cat adoptions from Petco stores and 45 cat adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café. These adoptions accounted for **45%** of all feline adoptions processed last month. The Liberty store had 33 adoptions in June – the highest number in the metro.



Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Feline Care and Adoptions Manager, reported at the end of June 2022, we had 676 cats in our care versus 720 cats in our care last year. Even with more cats arriving this year, a lower in-shelter population indicates we are improving our pathway planning and population management by getting cats out to adoption centers more quickly, therefore reducing length of stay.

- ❖ **Agent Carol** (right) was a cat reported by the FBI for having babies inside their parking garage (which isn't technically against the law). So, Agent Carol was trapped and brought to our nursery with her three babies Bob, Bertha, and Ingrid. A few days later, we received another mother cat with a badly broken leg and a single kitten. She had to have an emergency leg amputation and was no longer producing milk for her baby. So, Agent Carol took this kitten in without hesitation. She nursed them all until they started eating on their own and we were ready to spay her so she could go back to serving as a secret agent for the FBI. But, as her final mission, she provided emergency mothering to yet ANOTHER litter of four abandoned kittens that arrived late in the evening. She nursed them for several days which gave us time to find them a foster home. Agent Carol's retirement from raising babies has been submitted and should be official soon.
- ❖ Last month we had the opportunity to place several outdoor-loving cats in caring homes in rural communities in Joplin. We transferred four cats needing outdoor placement to shops or indoor-outdoor homes. We help the Joplin shelter by transferring cats from them with special medical needs, especially ringworm, and they helped our organization by finding great outdoor home partners for these kitties, including **Lawnmower**, shown here (right) at his new home.
- ❖ Three days in June we had extremely high numbers of cats arriving at our shelter, with 50 – 64 cats/kittens arriving each of those three days.
- ❖ We found new homes for 543 cats in June this year, a 22% increase from last year.
- ❖ We did have to chuckle when a stray kitten was brought in wrapped in a t-shirt and a sports bra. 😊

Submitted by,

T Johnson

Teresa Johnson, President/CEO & Chief Lifesaving Officer, KC Pet Project

862 cats arrived in 30 days in June - the largest number of cats ever to arrive in one month at KCPP!

