

# KC PET PROJECT

## Impact Report for June 2024 Activities

### Sheltering Statistics:

Dog & Cat Totals for Jan - June	2024	2023	Difference
Total Intake	7,695	7,493	202 more
Adoptions	4,641	4,570	71 more
Returned to Owners	883	1,036	153 fewer
Live Release Rate	92.9%	93.5%	0.6% lower
Owner Surrendered Pets	1,425	1,507	82 fewer
Stray animals brought in by public	2,938	3,037	99 fewer
Cats/kittens transferred IN	567	784	217 fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	4,449	3,778	671 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	19.1 days	20.8 days	1.7 days fewer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	13.8 days	15.0 days	1.2 days fewer

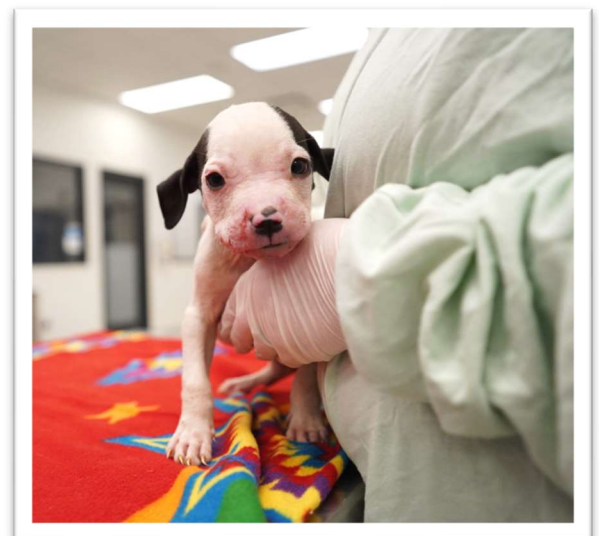
### June 2024 - Animals In & Animals Out

- ❖ We received or provided care for **1,625** new dogs and cats that arrived in June (692 dogs, 907 cats), along with 7 chickens, 2 guinea pigs, 2 lizards, 1 parakeet, 1 pig, 1 pigeon, 2 rabbits, 1 alligator, and 1 tortoise.
- ❖ **1,006** pets were adopted in June (435 dogs, 557 cats, and 14 other pets). Adoptions for both dogs and cats were up **18%** over last June, with dog adoptions up **9%** over last year at this time. *Pet adoptions are up – but are not increasing at the pace of animals coming in every day.*
- ❖ Returned adoptions for dogs were down 14% from last June, and our year-to-date rate of returned adoptions is still an impressive **33%** lower than last year at this time! We continue to see a reduction in adopted dogs being returned due to quality matchmaking skills by our canine team as well as dedicated follow-up and post-adoption support.
- ❖ We achieved a **92.4%** Save Rate in June (91.3% dogs, 93.2% cats). Our Save Rate so far in 2024 is **93.0%**.
- ❖ We provided **196** low cost spay/neuter surgeries for community cats, and 26 free spay/neuter surgeries were provided for pitbull-type dogs that were reclaimed from our shelter by their families.
- ❖ Numbers of stray dogs brought in by the public were up slightly in June, but the numbers of stray cats/kittens brought in surged **24%** higher than last June.

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*Our veterinary team performed a record breaking 1,040 spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in June (the most spay/neuter surgeries ever done in the month of June)!*

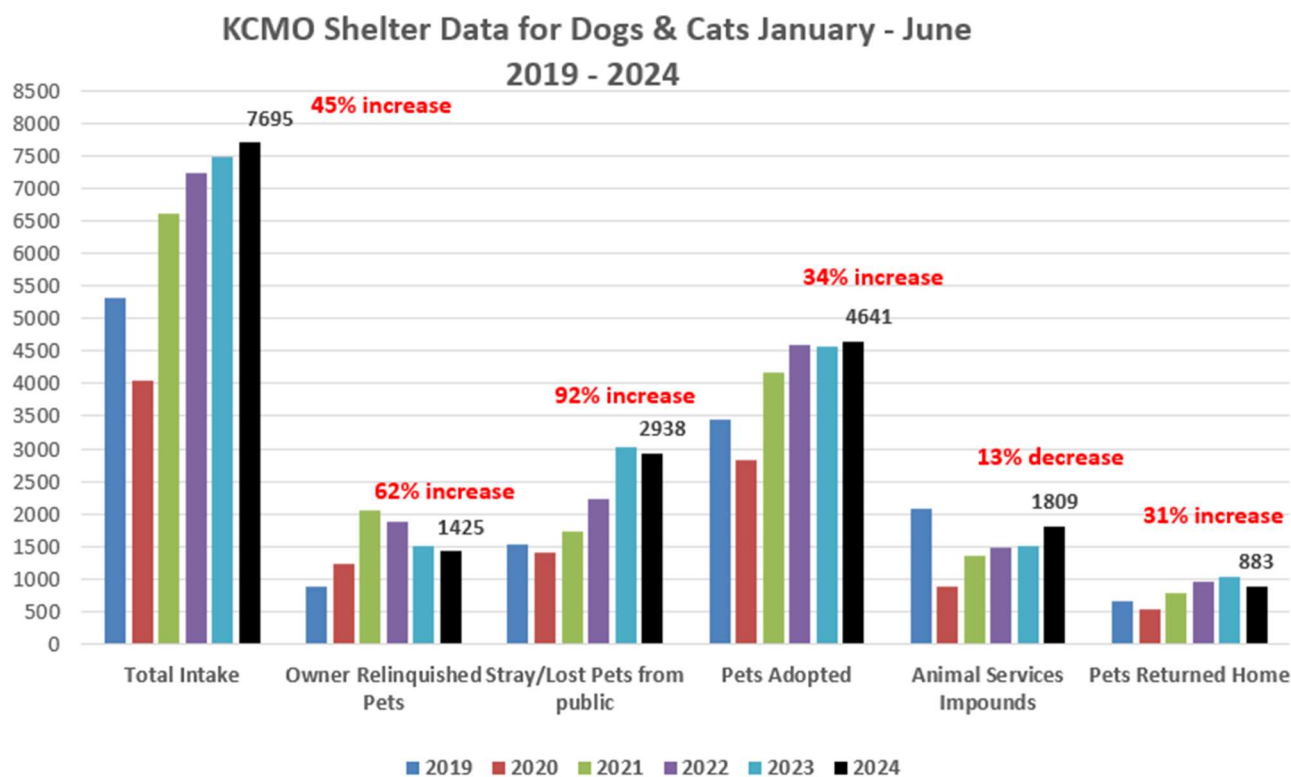
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- ❖ The number of dogs impounded by Animal Services was up **21%** in June and is up nearly **13%** over last year at this time.
- ❖ **419** dogs/puppies and **410** cats/kittens were sent to foster homes in June.

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## Data Trends 2024



- **Intake** for animals is still running **45% higher** than what we were seeing in 2019.
- **Adoptions** are also still at the highest levels in our 12-year history – still **up 34%** over the past 6 years for this timeframe.
- **Stray/lost pets** brought in by the public are still at the highest level ever recorded in Kansas City – **up 92%** from 2019 totals.
- **Pets Surrendered by their Owners** have **risen 62%** over 2019 totals for this period.

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## Animal Services Division Update for June 2024

Officers worked **2,008** total case activities last month, travelling a total of **17,419** miles throughout the city, impounding **331** animals, and returning an additional **19** lost pets back to their homes without having to impound them.

- ❖ Our Animal Cruelty Investigations Team investigated and closed **226** animal cruelty cases, including 55 reports of animal abandonment, 152 reports of neglect, and 19 reports of cruelty.
- ❖ Our Dispatch team handled **3,318** phone calls with an abandonment rate of only **6%**. Dispatchers spent more than 83 hours on the phones and maintained an average wait time for callers at just **28** seconds in the direct Dispatch queue.
- ❖ The number of dogs impounded by Animal Services was up 21% in June and is up 13% year-to-date.

## Enforcement & Criminal Deterrent Efforts by our Animal Services Division

In June, officers issued **fifty-seven (58) criminal citations** for violations of the Kansas City Municipal Code. *A total of 354 criminal citations through Municipal Court have been issued so far in 2024.*

For the first six months of 2024, the Cruelty Investigations Team:

- ❖ Responded to 1,444 unique cases alleging animal abuse, neglect, illegal fighting, or abandonment. This is a **16%** increase in cases compared to the same time last year.
- ❖ Issued **320%** more court citations during cruelty investigations for criminal offenses.

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*The Cruelty Investigations Team saw a **700% increase in number of warrants secured from a judge to seize animals due to egregious acts of animal abuse or neglect January – June 2024.***

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### The top five criminal court citations issued by Animal Services in June:

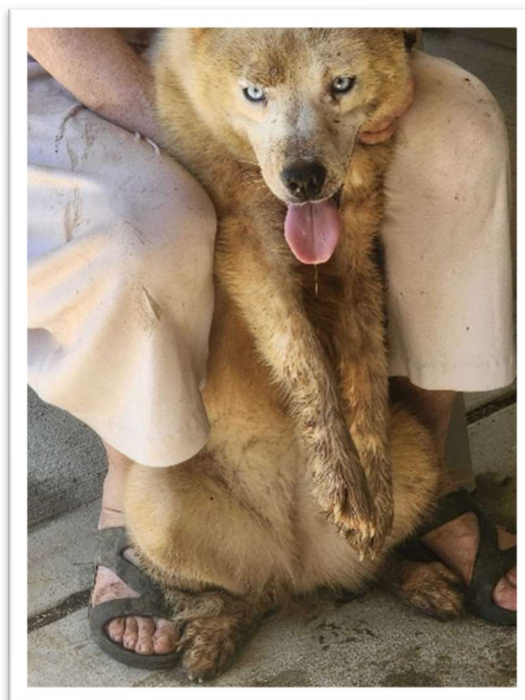
1. dogs creating a public nuisance,
2. failure to provide adequate animal care,
3. failure to display or obtain a city license,
4. abuse of an animal,
5. failure to spay/neuter a pit-bull-type dog.

## Stories from the Field – Discovery of Animal Neglect Leads to Warrant to Seize Dogs

On June 23rd, Animal Services Officers were dispatched to the 9200 block of N. Garfield Ave in response to a report concerning a Husky left unattended outdoors in the sun. Upon investigation, officers discovered several Husky-type dogs inside a hot garage living in filth in what appeared to be many months of fecal matter from multiple large breed dogs. Officers immediately instructed the owner to present all animals in the residence for inspection.

One by one, the owner brought each dog outside. Each dog displayed signs of fleas and was covered in fecal debris and urine staining. Officers were not granted permission to enter the home, and concerns grew as each dog was brought outside, as the strong smell of ammonia from inside the home intensified whenever the door opened or closed.

During the investigation, a total of eight (8) Husky-type dogs were observed. Due to escalating concerns for the dogs' health and previous unsuccessful attempts to gain compliance from the owner, a warrant was issued on June 27th authorizing Animal Services to remove the dogs. However, upon executing the warrant, the owner fled the scene with four of the dogs in her vehicle. The remaining four dogs were safely rescued from the residence, which was deemed unfit to inhabit due to unsanitary conditions constituting animal neglect.



The owner received citations and is required to appear before Municipal Court in August to respond to the charges. The other four dogs have reportedly been taken out of jurisdiction and we are working closely with law enforcement agencies in that city to locate the owner and remaining dogs.

## Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

Chief Communications Officer, Tori Fugate, reported the following activities:

- ❖ Our Father's Day Adoption Special, June 13 – 16, resulted in 74 cats and 54 dogs finding new homes.
- ❖ We hosted a Dog Fostering Fair in June and had great media coverage for the event. Fox 4 had a live broadcast from our shelter the last weekend in June to promote that event and our 4<sup>th</sup> of July adoption special.

- ❖ We launched our **Friendly Finder** program – allowing finders of stray pets to keep them at their home during the mandatory stray hold instead of at the shelter – and added a new page to our website about the program.
- ❖ In the first 18 days of the month, we took in 1,002 pets and we shared a graphic showing each day’s number.
- ❖ KC Pet Project assisted with the filming of a video featured at the US Conference of Mayors in Kansas City in June. We were interviewed, along with Bar K, Whiskers Cat Café, and other local businesses.
- ❖ Katie Grissum created an engaging TikTok/IG video on a “Day in the Life” of our vet clinic team.
- ❖ During the month of June, we offered **FREE** microchipping for any KCMO resident’s pets – totaling **123** free microchips for owned pets throughout the month!
- ❖ At Boulevardia, 75 volunteers and KCPP staff gave time bartending at the annual festival to raise funds for our shelter.
- ❖ Our June 5<sup>th</sup> Dog Day Out post on Facebook had a reach of 292,000 people and we had 300 new sign ups over the next week to participate in the program.
- ❖ Tori and Chief Ryan Johnson presented at the *Donuts with the 2<sup>nd</sup> District* meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our presentation was well received, and we had a lot of great questions from residents.
- ❖ Tori was interviewed at the request of VCA Charities for a Georgetown University Capstone project on successful Dog Day Out programs and how these programs are helping dogs in shelters.
- ❖ In June, we had 284 news stories and 155 broadcast mentions for a total reach of **581,937,402** million people.



Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 73,000	139,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 67,000	201,000+ followers on Facebook
Sessions – 139,000	1.2 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 690,000	

### Volunteer Program Updates

In June, **793** volunteers gave **6,464.27** hours of services, the equivalent of 37 full-time employees.

- ✓ 345 volunteers gave hours at KCCAC
- ✓ 148 volunteer gave hours as part of a business or group
- ✓ 55 volunteers gave hours at our Zona Rosa Adoption Center
- ✓ 107 volunteers gave hours at our Petco Cat Habitat locations

Total value of volunteer hours in June: \$184,490.33, an 80% increase from last month!



**Businesses and groups** that volunteered in brought 148 people to the Campus and gave 421 hours of service – *Clockwork Architecture, CarMax, Lockton, Pembroke Hill Middle School, St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal, Banfield, Rosnet, ScriptPro, GBA Builders, The Summit Church, SERC Physical Therapy and Zenitel.*

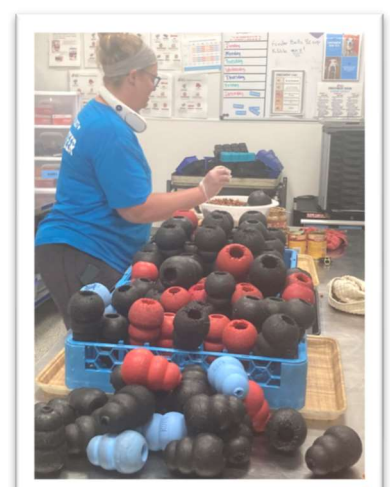
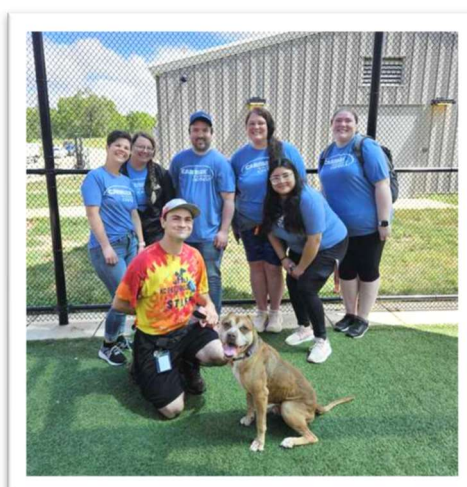
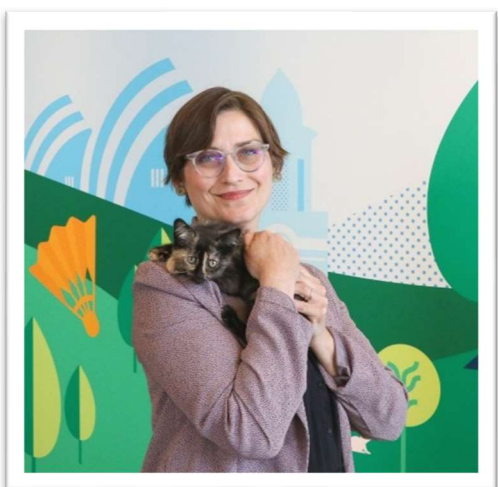
**ScriptPro** employees (right) volunteered on June 21<sup>st</sup> in a variety of jobs across our Campus – cleaning crates, pulling weeds, and more. They held a trivia night before their volunteer day, raising \$7,500 for KCPP!



### Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- ✓ **Total active volunteers: 1,897--** including 78 newly active volunteers
- ✓ We received 473 new volunteer signups in June
- ✓ Four (4) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 78 attendees
- ✓ 50 new volunteers gave 693 volunteer hours last month, and 180 volunteers participated in 322 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 133 volunteers.
- ✓ Thirty-three (33) court-ordered community service volunteers gave 225 hours in June, which is a value of \$6,411.23.

In June, **Angela Hile** (below) joined KCPP as our new Volunteer Engagement Manager. She brings years of experience in Visitor Operations at museums and attractions, as well as experience volunteering at the San Francisco SPCA and as a Zookeeper's aide at Zoo New England and will be a huge asset to our organization and the Volunteer Department!



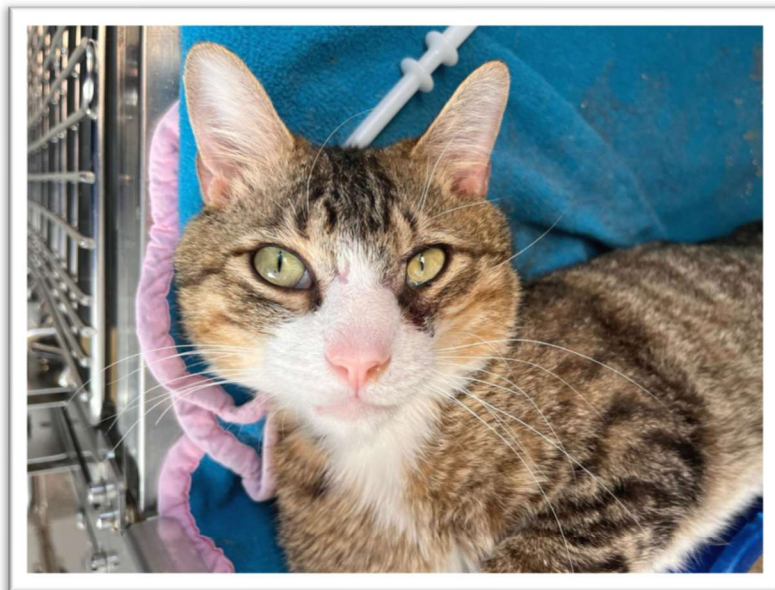
## Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in June 2024

Surgeries				Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	82	Wellness exams	60	Parvo pups treated	14
Community Cats spayed	114	Emergency exams	77	Parvo pups graduated	12
Reclaimed pets neutered	14	Foster pet exams	107	<b>Save rate for parvo</b>	<b>86%</b>
Reclaimed pets spayed	12	Rechecks performed	284		
Shelter Animals Neutered	417	Medical concerns addressed	406		
Shelter Animals Spayed	371	Post-adoption exams	1	Communications with fosters	87
Speciality Surgeries	30	Other Exams	527	Communications with adopters	112
				Medications filled	688
<b>Total Surgeries</b>	<b>1040</b>	<b>Total Exams</b>	<b>1462</b>		

Our doctors have performed **4,449** spay/neuter surgeries and **302** specialty surgeries so far in 2024. *This is an **18%** increase in the number of spay/neuter surgeries performed over last year at this time.*

### Lifesaving Stories from the KCPP Veterinary Clinic – Monty Python and KJ

**Monty Python's** journey with us began in May when he was admitted to the vet clinic with a severe head wound that had led to complications with his left eye and sinus cavity, likely due to a cat bite. Despite his condition, Monty's charming personality made him a favorite among the staff during his two-month stay. His sinus infection proved difficult



to treat with standard antibiotics due to the complex structure of the sinus cavity, filled with turbinates that harbor bacteria.

To identify the specific bacteria causing the infection, we innovatively used a sterile plastic tubing, as we lacked specialized equipment like a rhinoscope. By inserting the tubing through the wound, we were able to collect a deep sinus sample, which confirmed the presence of bacteria. After switching Monty to a more effective antibiotic, his condition improved significantly. By June 18th, **Monty** (left) had fully recovered and was ready for adoption. His endearing nature quickly found him a new home within just four days.

**KJ** (below) was a special dog brought to us by a good Samaritan who saw a car hit him and drive away. The finder reported that KJ was not eating and seemed unable to walk. Upon arrival, we sedated KJ to minimize his fear and pain during the examination and x-rays. Surprisingly, the x-rays revealed no fractures, only a couple of small skin wounds. Despite this, KJ was still unable to walk. We administered fluids and pain medication and monitored his progress.

The following day, KJ made several attempts to walk, first limping on different legs, then army crawling, and eventually walking normally when he thought no one was watching. We suspected that KJ's issues were both physical, possibly involving nerve and muscle injuries, and psychological, likely



due to fear and poor socialization. To address these, we placed KJ in a foster home where he thrived. His foster family reported that KJ loves children and has become much more confident, now walking tall without any issues. KJ is now ready for his forever home, showcasing the success of treating animals both body and spirit holistically.

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

### **Customer Engagement Performance**

#### **Google Ratings:**

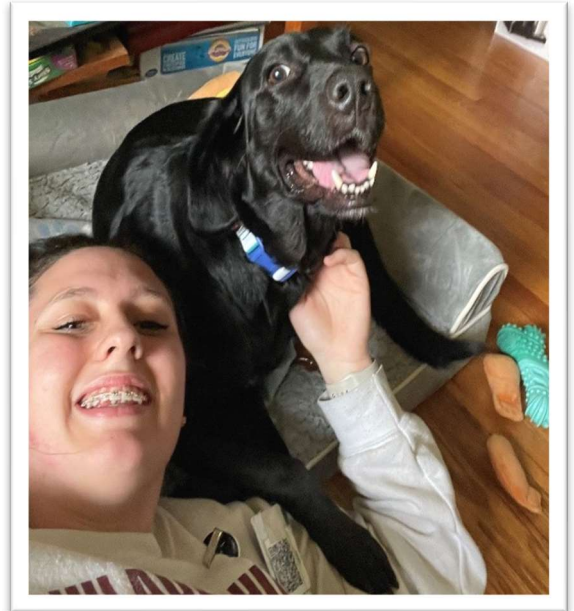
- ✓ KC Pet Project at KCCAC: **4.3/5.00** (1,575 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (712 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (221 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **919** emails were received in June inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **1,100** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process.

We received **34** adoption updates last month, including these notes from adopters:

*“Kelcee (formerly Eartha) loves meeting new people and dogs. Over the past month Kelcee has been spoiled rotten -- she doesn't know what to do with herself! Thank you for allowing us to adopt such a special and loving dog!”*

*“We changed her name to Annika Jade and she is adapting very well. She loves to play with one of our older dogs! She's learning to sit and plays fetch. We are very happy with our decision to adopt her – and she gets along with all the dogs that visit us. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to take her in!”*



### **Pet Support Center – Customer Satisfaction & Services Provided**

- ✓ **2024 Rating: 4.8/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.468/5.0 stars: 19 surveys submitted in June, 1,298 submitted since September 2020

*“If you are looking for the perfect place to find your new best friend – go to KC Pet Project! I recently adopted my dog, Enid, from the KCCAC location. They were insanely kind and informative throughout the whole process. One kind volunteer even sat down to talk about my excitement while I waited! Such lovely volunteers who are so so hardworking and dedicated to what they do!”*

*“We came in frantic, but the staff helped talk me through everything helped me calm down a little bit!”*

*“Very professional, courteous, kind and helpful. Thank you!”*

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***“I really appreciate the care and attention given to me and my dog. Thanks so much for the microchip program!”***

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In June, the Pet Support Center staff assisted **1,573** KCMO residents with in-person services (an average of 52 families a day) who came in for pet relinquishment services, stray animal impounds, microchipping, lost and found/return to home, pet licensing, bringing in sick or injured pets, pets being reclaimed, and for pet resources such as basic pet care supplies as well as supportive programs through Keep 'Em Together, KC.

- ❖ Our average wait time for services in the Pet Support Center was **8 minutes**.
- ❖ We took in **659** stray/lost animals from the public in June.
- ❖ The Pet Support Center kept families together for **146** animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s), **135** animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, **111** were diverted through in-person conversations by our PSC staff, and 12 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter.

***A total of 450 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into or staying at the shelter thanks to supportive services provided by KCPP staff – a 49% increase from June 2023!***

### **The top 4 reasons pets are being surrendered in 2024:**

1. Lack of financial resources or inability to access resources for their pets, including costs for veterinary care and unplanned litters (408 pets),
2. Health of owner/family, health of pet, and euthanasia requests (307 pets),
3. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (290 pets),
4. Housing Issues including cost of housing, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (246 pets).

### **Pet Support Call Center/Pet Helpline Performance**

June 2024	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	3,299	1,054	4,353	24%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	66	57	123	46%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	738	273	1,011	27%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	<b>4,103</b>	<b>1,384</b>	<b>5,487</b>	<b>25%</b>
OUT < Helpline – Main	1,062	215	1,277	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	261	76	337	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	<b>1,323</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Performance for June 2024</b>	<b>5,426</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>7,101</b>	<b>24%</b>

Our Pet Support Center team answered **4,103** live phone calls, made **1,614** outbound calls, and resolved 217 voicemails.

### **Free Microchips in June**

June was Microchip Awareness Month and to celebrate, KCPP offered free microchips to all KCMO residents. Throughout the month, **123** pets were microchipped as a part of this program – providing \$3,075 of free resources to our community to help get more lost pets back home!

### **Return-to-Home Team**

- ❖ Our new **Friendly Finder** program allows Good Samaritans who bring found dogs to KC Pet Project an opportunity to continue caring for that dog in their home for the duration of the 5-day stray hold. This allows the dog to stay out of the stressful shelter, encourages the Good Samaritan to have a bigger involvement in getting that dog back home, and frees up a kennel at the shelter that would otherwise have been utilized.
- ❖ Admissions staff reunited 13 lost pets with their owners PRIOR to impounding them thanks to identification.
- ❖ The team conducted 271 ownership investigations in an effort to send lost pets back home in June.

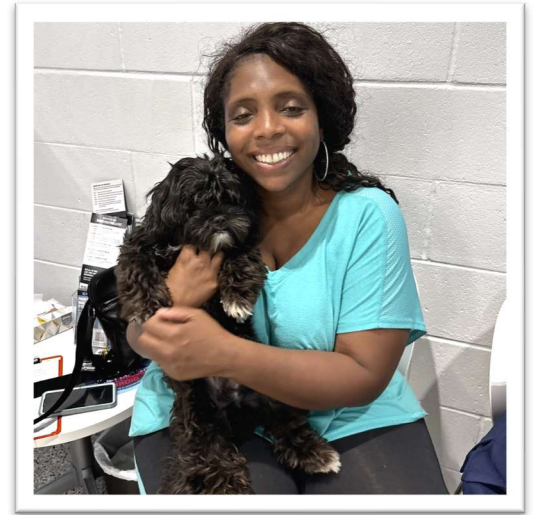


- ❖ 126 (21%) of the 609 lost animals (335 neonate kittens excluded) brought to the shelter in June were returned to their owners. Nearly twenty-three percent (23%) of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while 11% of lost cats arriving were reclaimed/returned to their owners.

### Returned-to-Home: “Best Day Ever!”

When dogs go missing, sometimes owners assume their pet must have been stolen. In this case, the owner (right) was ready to give up her search, but after speaking with our Return-to-Home team, she decided to file a Lost Pet Report and not give up hope that her sweet baby could be found.

Fortunately, that moment came, and she saw her beloved dog was at KCPP! “There is no better feeling than being reunited with your dog that you thought you would never see again.”



### Rehoming Support Services

In June, our team received 149 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted 69 owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 4,178 requests for ReHome services since November 2021.*

- *We received 405 requests in June from residents seeking initially to surrender their pets to the shelter.*

### Keep ‘Em Together, KC Program Updates

Tara McNamara, Keep ‘Em Together Program Coordinator, reported **341 families with 524 pets benefited from our four (4) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in June:**

#### 1. Pet Care Assistance Program (PCAP)

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$1,593.00** for 10 families (13 pets) was provided by KCPP in June.

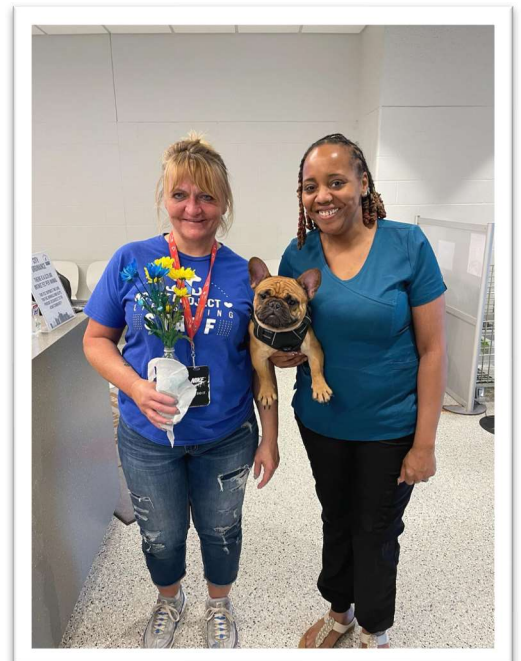
- ✓ 9 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received
- ✓ Healthy Pets KC medical assistance granted: \$250.00
- ✓ Shelter Reunification assistance granted: \$1,343.00

#### 2. Pet Resource Assistance Program

Pet foods were shared with four (4) community pantry partners in the metro, including *Chestnut Avenue Resource Center, Sidney and Mike’s Angels, and two local community cat caregivers.*

**208 families with 381 pets benefited directly from these resources provided in June.**

- ✓ 1,409 lbs. of cat food and 10 lbs. of cat treats
- ✓ 1,629 lbs. of dog food and 31 lbs. of dog treats
- ✓ 156 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 49 collars and 18 leashes
- ✓ 36 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 6 kennels/crates and 2 doghouses
- ✓ 2 dog toys, and 287 miscellaneous pet care items



### 3. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ 73% of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in June were reclaimed by owners who were eligible for the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
- ✓ Since June 2021, we have subsidized \$309,959.00 in reclaim fees for 2,966 families with 3,484 pets.

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**In June, \$7,655.00 was subsidized by KCPD in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 81 families with 93 pets.**

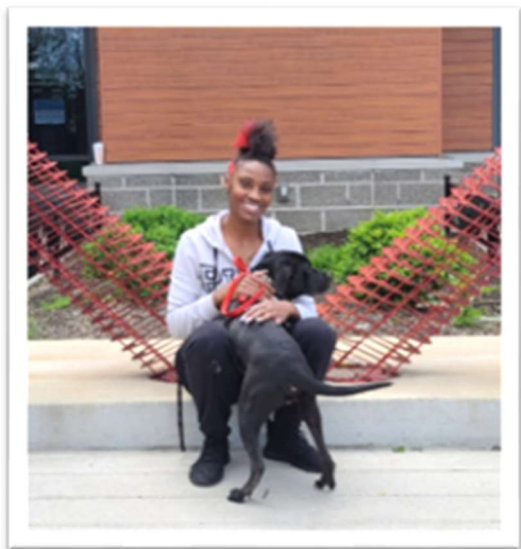
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### 4. Pets For Life (PFL) Program:

Mariana Vasquez, Pets for Life Coordinator, reported activity occurring in the program for the 64127 zip code.

- ✓ New clients met through active PFL outreach: 11
- ✓ New clients who contacted PFL or were referred to PFL by others: 2
- ✓ Number of new pets met: 37
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter appointments scheduled: 19
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter surgeries completed: 15
- ✓ Total number of touchpoints/conversations with PFL clients: 42
- ✓ Supplies given (leashes, food, shampoos, etc.): 104 items
- ✓ Medications or services given (dewormer, nail trim, microchip, vaccines, etc.): 98
- ✓ Completion rate of spay/neuter: 79%
- ✓ Conversion rate of altered pets whose pet families request spay/neuter services: **93%**

Meet **Chanda** and **Drago** (right), part of the first puppies adopted through Pets for Life. Their mom Stella had been a stray for several months. Stella gave birth to 5 puppies outside of a residence that shortly thereafter became a PFL client. Since then, we were able to provide them with food, shelter, toys, vaccines, and spay/neuter services. A close friend from Lees Summit, MO that had been looking for the right puppy fell in love with these two and they are now living their best life with them. The remaining 3 couldn't have chosen a better place to be born, as the family who lived there gladly adopted them!



### **Keeping 'Em Together: Fats Folks and Monique**

It was a Saturday and Monique left home to go to work at the bakery making sweet treats. She never thought the events of the day would lead her to KC Pet Project. While Monique was at work, her family was caring for her dog "Fat Folks" ("Fats" for short). When they let Fat Folks outside to go potty, he saw the neighbor kids that normally play with him across the street at the church playground, and he ran to greet them, escaping the front yard. As Fat Folks crossed the street to come home, he was struck by a vehicle. Animal Services was called to the scene, and Fat Folks was transported to KC Pet Project where the vet clinic staff leapt into action to stabilize the 4-month-old puppy. Surgery was required and he lost a leg, but his life was saved. Following veterinary care and recovery time, Fat Folks was finally ready to go home to his family.

When Monique came to pick up Fats (left), she said he always sleeps in bed with the kids every night, and the kids have been asking every day

when he was going to come home. Even the neighbors were asking when Fats would be home. As our staff got things ready for the reunion, we learned that the cost of care for Fat Folks in our clinic was more than the family had available, but thanks to the generosity of donations from our community, our Pet Care Assistance Program was able to meet them halfway so we could get Fat Folks home to the family that missed him so much!

And to make sure Fat Folks stays safe and healthy, we made sure Monique was aware of the leash law and our staff also rallied together to get him a collar, a leash, and even a tie out so he can be outside to play without getting into the road again.

## Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 49
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 134
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters: 6

- ❖ 134 post-adoption support follow up emails sent
- ❖ 4 behavior support phone consultations performed
- ❖ 84 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- ❖ Assisted 7 people with behavior help or lessons given for recently adopted or foster dogs

During the month of June, our Behavior and Enrichment team faced significant challenges regarding the humane management of our canine shelter population. Sadly, 42 behavioral euthanasia decisions were made. Twenty-seven (27) of those decisions were made predominantly driven by the necessity to create space for new dogs arriving every day. Despite tireless efforts from our team to provide behavioral support and enrichment to every animal, we have unfortunately reached a point where tough decisions regarding euthanasia have become unavoidable. Regrettably, the severity of our space limitations necessitated prioritizing the admission of new animals over the retention of those dogs who faced behavioral challenges. Our canine department remains committed to the welfare and well-being of every dog in our care and continues our dedication to remaining a lifesaving organization during this capacity crisis.

## Canine Operations & Adoptions

We had **872 separate individuals/families** at our KC Campus for Animal Care in June who were interested in meeting dogs available for adoption.

- ✓ Nearly **42%** of all visitors who met with a Canine Matchmaker adopted a dog that day.
- ✓ The average wait time for a Canine Matchmaker in June was **8** minutes.
- ✓ The average wait time for an Adoption Counselor to finalize the adoption was 27 minutes.
- ✓ The average total time spent at KCCAC to meet and/or adopt a dog was **69** minutes.

**435** dogs and puppies were adopted last month – that’s **18%** higher than last June.

- ✓ *Dog adoptions are still **up 9%** year-to-date.*

For the first 6 months of 2024, returned adoptions are down significantly – with a **23% reduction** -- and we believe is due to the quality of matchmaking that is occurring between our Canine Care team members and potential adopters, as well as the post-adoption follow up that occurs.

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**An average of 176 dogs every day participated in canine playgroups!**

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***Our Canine Care team cared for an average of 261 dogs daily at our KC Campus for Animal Care in May.***

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In the month of June, the Canine Care & Adoptions departments trained staff in dog walking, dog to dog introductions, and showing dogs to potential adopters. We welcomed the new Supervisor of Canine Care Nicholas Bisarek to the team. The Canine Care team continued monthly team meetings to increase communication and education across the department and reviewed policies and procedures with a focus on Canine Matchmaking. Foster-to-Adopt continues to gain in popularity, with **21** dogs participating in the program.

**KCCAC Adoptions Customer Service Survey** rating: **4.86/5.0** stars (6 surveys submitted in June)

"Excellent facility and staff!"

"We were very happy with our selection of Picnic, she's such a sweet dog!! Thank you, KC Pet Project!!"

## Canine Foster Care Program

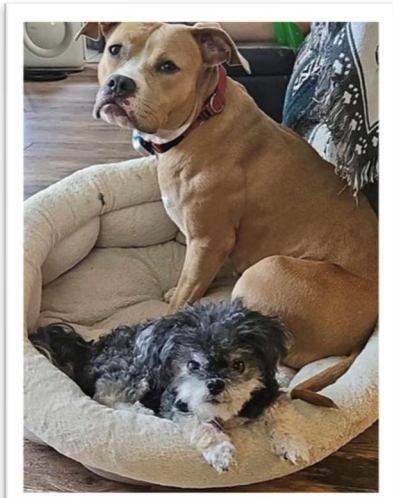
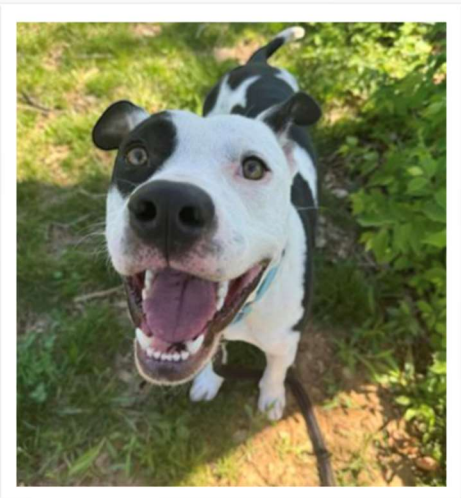
Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported **147 dogs** (32% of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes at the end of June.

- ✓ During the month, **419** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes!
- ✓ We welcomed **93** new dog foster families.
- ✓ We had **72** dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

In June, the Foster Department hosted our **Dog Fostering Fair** for members of the public to come and learn more about our program. We had 25 people attend and we're hoping to host them more often to continue to find new foster families.

**Polaroid**, (below left) a dog that came to us as a stray in the beginning of April, found his foster home on June 15th! After a couple of weeks, it turned out that this foster would be his permanent home!

**Nina**, (below right) another highly at-risk dog, found a foster at the end of June. Nina came to us on May 20<sup>th</sup> and had a very hard time living in the shelter. Her quality of life was rapidly declining. She is now happily decompressing in her new foster home and learning to coexist with her senior foster sibling.



**Volunteers took 225 dogs on a Dog's Day Out in June!**



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

In June, 16 dogs, 1 cat, 1 pigeon, and 1 pig were transferred to these shelters/rescue organizations: *Burge Bird Services, Great Plains SPCA, Kansas City Pig Rescue Network, Lawrence Humane Society, Melissa's Second Chances, Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, St. Tammany Parish in LA, Wayside Waifs, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary.*

## Small Animals & Farm Animals

We processed **14** small animal adoptions last month – 1 chicken, 9 guinea pigs, 3 rabbits, and 1 lizard.

## Transports

Our offsite adoption program continues to create lifesaving space at our main campus location by utilizing staff and volunteers to transport animals offsite to those locations.

Eighty-one (81) puppies/small dogs and forty-eight (48) large breed dogs were moved to off-site locations this month to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center.

Seven (7) small animals were moved to our Petco Adoption Center.

In June, we received a VERY large tortoise that was found by a Good Samaritan – however, we were able to reunite him with his family!



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

Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer in of **117** cats/kittens from *Austin Pets Alive!*, *City of Raymore Animal Control*, *East Newton Animal Coalition*, *Joplin Humane Society*, *Liberty Animal Shelter*, *Nexus Pets (NEW!)*, and *St. Tammany Parish (First transfer in over a year!)*.

- ✓ The average length of stay for adult cats in a Petco Cat Habitat in June was 6 days, and the length of stay for kittens was just **3 days** at the Habitats! The slight increase in Length of Stay is due to an increase in the supply of cats/kittens we have in our habitats during the summer months.
- ✓ We processed **183** cat/kitten adoptions from our Petco Cat Habitat stores (a 97% increase from last month), as well as **13** adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café.
- ✓ Petco Cat Habitat volunteers gave 234.3 hrs to care for cats at the stores – a value of \$6,687.40 to our organization.
- ✓ The Lamar (Corbin Park) Petco store had the highest number of adoptions in June with 31 adoptions, followed by the Liberty store with 30 adoptions!



- ✓ Petco Cat Habitat volunteers gave **675** hours of service to the program, a value of \$19,249.29 to KCPP. This is a 133% increase from last month and a 43% increase from June 2023!
- ✓ The Grandview Petco store reopened their cat habitats in June after repairs were made and store staffing was increased. This store had been waiting for cats since August 2023 and were so excited to finally have cats and kittens for adoption once again!

## Feline Foster Care Program

Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported she sent **410** (400 kittens and 10 adult cats) to foster homes last month.

At the end of June, **399** cats/kittens (66% of the cats at KCPP) were in 114 foster homes, and we onboarded 32 new foster homes.

We had 84 adoptions direct from foster homes last month.

On June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup>, we held larger Feline Foster orientations and between those 2 dates we onboarded 16 new foster homes! Experienced foster and volunteer Melanie Meyers shared program information and foster experience and several attendees took home their foster kittens the day of their orientation. We hope to hold additional larger orientations to keep expanding our incredible feline foster community.

## Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported the number of incoming cats was up significantly in June, especially stray cats.

We had **557** cats adopted – an 18% increase over last June.

- ✓ **450** families arrived in June at our KCCAC location that were interested in adopting cats.
- ✓ The average wait time to see cats was 16 minutes.
- ✓ **36%** of all visitors who met with a Feline Matchmaker adopted a cat that day.
- ✓ Visitors spent, on average, nearly 37 minutes meeting cats before deciding to adopt.

The higher average number of cats in our care per day at KCCAC increased by 43 cats per day (which would translate to an additional 3 employees needed to provide the minimum shelter standard of care). We were fortunate to have a student intern (Destiny) working in Feline Care in June three days a week! Destiny did an amazing job and became an asset to our care team. We hope she learned enough about cats to feel comfortable entering her pre-veterinary program next semester. Plus, Destiny adopted her first cat at the end of June!

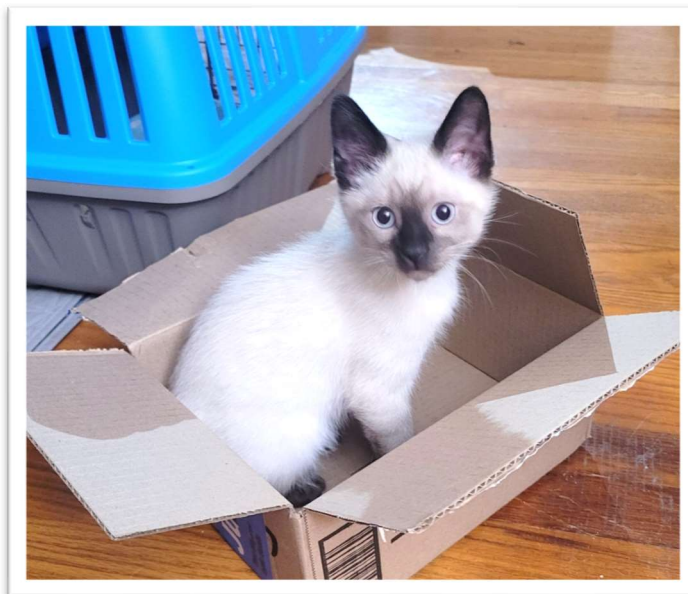
Not only did our main campus intake team process 907 new cats this month, but we also welcomed 238 cats and kittens back from foster homes at our main campus! That is a total of **1,145** cats that arrived in a 30-day period in June!

**Our Community Cat program and TRN (Trap/Neuter/Return) teams** have been busy providing more spay/neuter surgeries than ever before in our organization's history! Our numbers of community/outdoor cats coming in for spay/neuter surgeries has surpassed **747** cats having already come through for services so far in 2024.

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*We sent **800** underage kittens to foster homes in the last 60 days!*

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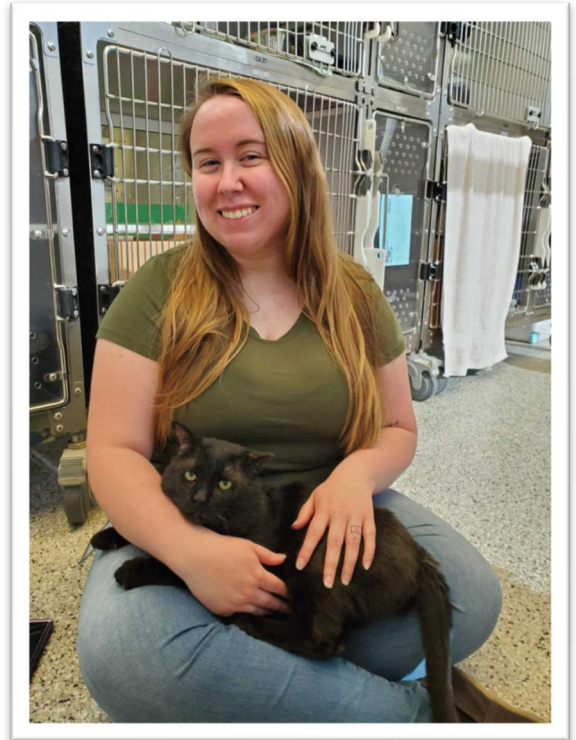



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*In June we saw a record breaking **907** cats/kittens arrive -- a 57% increase over last month! That's the largest number of cats ever to arrive in one month in our shelter's history.*

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**Just to See You Smile!** (right) arrived at KCCAC as an injured community cat who also needed a dental. He spent a little over a month in our vet clinic hospital and charmed his way into his new parent's heart after just three days on the adoption floor. Her smile just sealed the deal.



**Law and Order Criminal Intent** (left) came in as a stray and made it known immediately that his intentions here were criminal. Convinced he was the only one who could bring law and order to the land, he ruled erratically and with total abandon. Unable to contain his adventuresome spirit, he moved into one of our Catio rooms to await a human worthy of his skills. When he met the person from Worth, MO he knew he was destined to roam the wild northern countryside and they adopted him immediately.

**Charlie** (right) was transferred to KCPP from the Joplin shelter on May 30<sup>th</sup> but had to stay at the main campus to get a dental. During his stay, he gave tons of cuddles, posed for lots of photos, and attended a Zoom call with our Chief of Development! He was adopted *just one hour* after being made available.



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Submitted by,

*T Johnson*

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