

KC PET PROJECT

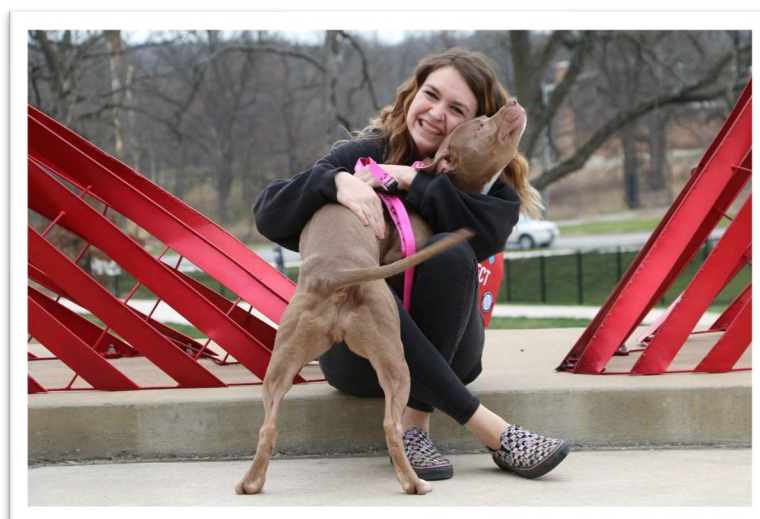
Impact Report for March 2024 Activities

Sheltering Statistics:

Dog & Cat Totals for Jan - Mar	2024	2023	Difference
Total Intake	3,374	3,460	86 fewer
Adoptions	2,237	2,379	142 fewer
Returned to Owners	442	499	57 fewer
Live Release Rate	94.3%	94.7%	0.4% lower
Owner Surrendered Pets	688	625	63 more
Stray animals brought in by public	1,119	1,283	164 fewer
Cats/kittens transferred IN	303	615	312 fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	2,085	1,707	378 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	18.7 days	23.0 days	4.3 days fewer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	13.1 days	12.7 days	0.4 days longer

March 2024 - Animals In & Animals Out

- ❖ We received or provided care for **1,070** new dogs and cats that arrived in March (660 dogs, 410 cats), along with 2 chickens, 1 goat, 7 guinea pigs, 1 pig, and 3 rabbits.
- ❖ **676** pets were adopted in March (424 dogs, 245 cats, and 7 other pets). For the 1st Quarter 2024, dog adoptions are up 5% over last year at this time, but cat adoptions are down nearly 20% due to a much lower inventory of available cats/kittens.
- ❖ We achieved a **95.6%** Save Rate in March (94.5% dogs, 97.2% cats).
- ❖ Our veterinary team performed **734** spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in March – including 32 free spay/neuter surgeries provided for owned cats, 91 low cost spay/neuter surgeries provided for community cats, and 28 free spay/neuter surgeries provided for pitbull-type dogs that were reclaimed from our shelter by their families. **Our doctors have already done more spay/neuter surgeries in the 1st quarter 2024 than any other Q1 in our history.**
- ❖ Doctors performed **1,324** medical examinations on pets in/arriving at our shelter, including treating 11 puppies admitted with deadly parvovirus that all survived and graduated from our in-house parvo ward in March.



- ❖ The number of dogs surrendered by their owners increased **54%** from the previous month, and the number of dogs brought in as “strays” from the public also increased 5% from the previous month.
- ❖ **368** dogs/puppies and 34 cats/kittens were sent to foster homes in March.
- ❖ So far in 2024, we’ve seen a tremendous reduction in the number of dogs being returned within the first 30 days of being adopted – with a **43%** decrease already in 2024 over last year at this time. We attribute this reduction in adopted dogs being returned to quality matchmaking skills by our canine team and dedicated follow up and adoption support provided after they adopt from KCPP.

Data Trends 2024

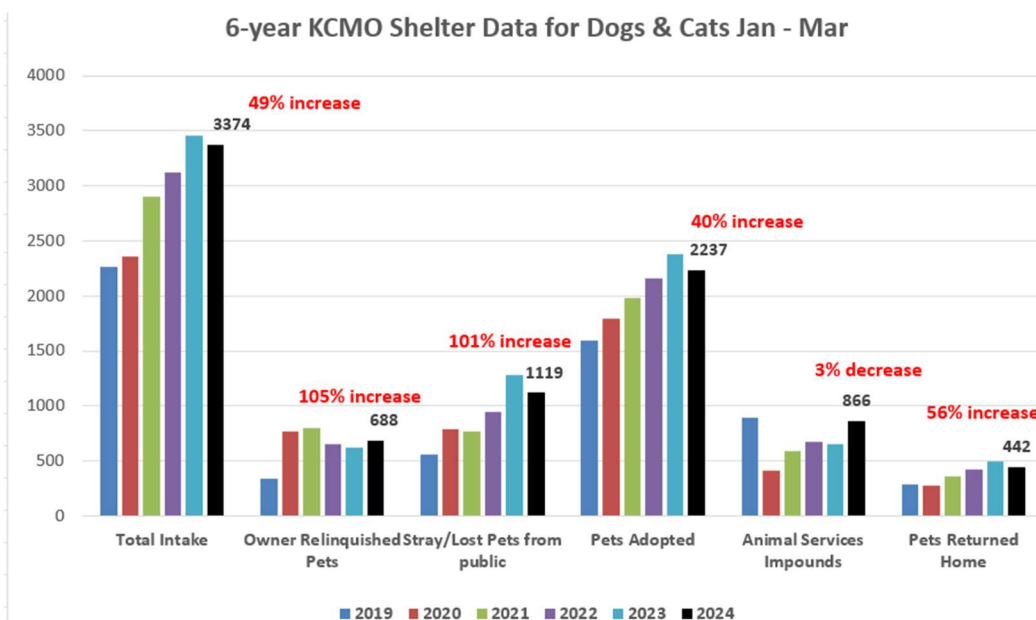
Intake for animals is still running **49% higher** than what we were seeing in Q1 in 2019.

Adoptions are also still at the highest levels in our 12-year history – **up 40%** 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 101%** from 2019 totals.

Pets Surrendered by their Owners have **risen 105%** over 2019 totals for this period.

Our Live Release Rate so far in 2024 is **94.3%**.



Animal Services Division Update for March 2024

Officers worked **1,954** case activities last month, travelling a total of **14,236** miles throughout the city, impounding **236** 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 **170** animal cruelty cases and issued 72 citations through the Municipal Court of Kansas City related to animal cruelty investigations.
- ❖ Our Dispatch team answered 2,673 live phone calls, made 850 outbound calls to residents, and resolved 154 voicemail messages. Dispatchers spent 77 hours and 19 minutes on the phones in March and maintained an average wait time for calls to be answered at just **32** seconds in the direct Dispatch queue.

Enforcement & Criminal Deterrent Efforts by our Animal Services Division

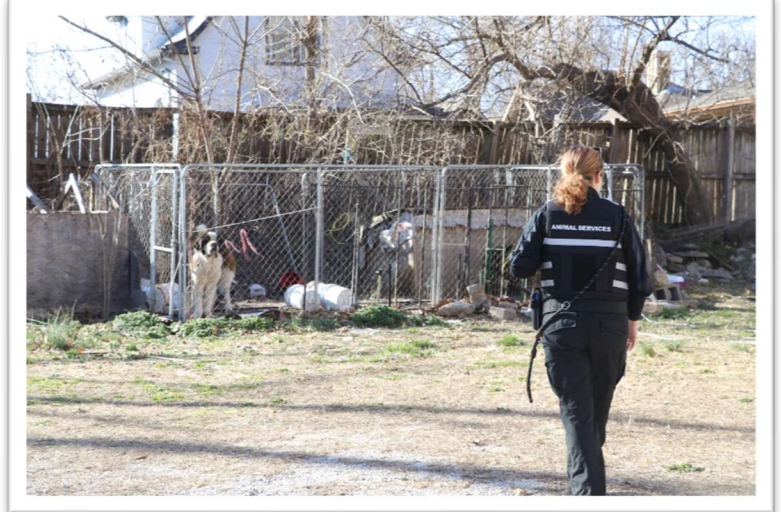
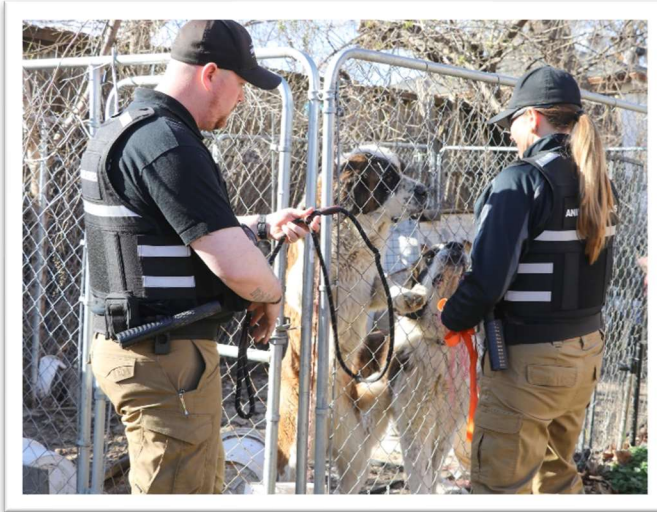
In March, officers issued **eighty-eight (88) criminal citations** for violations of the Kansas City Municipal Code. Citations are one of the many compliance-based tools that each Animal Services Officer is trained to use to ensure that humane care and compliance standards are upheld.

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

1. failure to display or obtain a city license,
2. failure to provide adequate animal care,
3. dog creating a public nuisance,
4. dog running at large, and
5. failure to spay/neuter a Pitbull-type dog

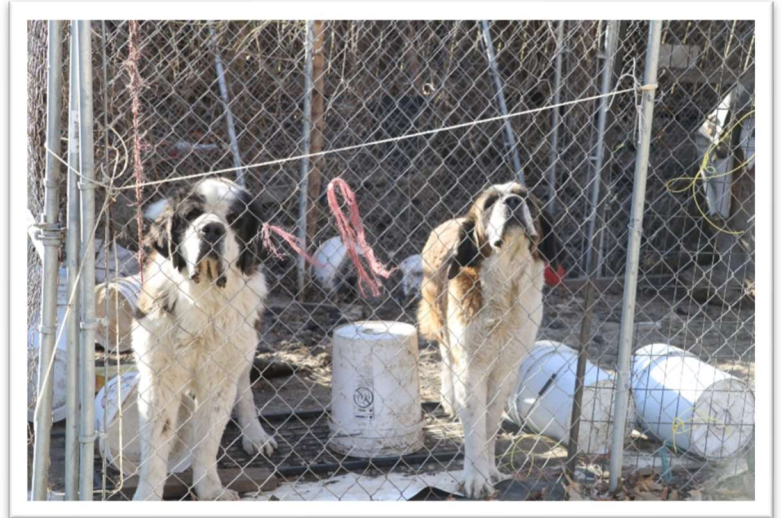
Stories From the Field -- Search Warrants Executed for Animal Cruelty & Neglect

In March, the Cruelty Investigations Team obtained two search warrants through the Municipal Court of Kansas City, Missouri, that led to the confiscation of four dogs. These warrants pertained to investigations concerning animal abandonment, as delineated in section 14-11(b) of the KCMO Code of Ordinances. Before the seizure, Investigators diligently tried to reach the suspected animal owners multiple times, establishing at least 12 hours without care as required by the City Ordinance. Charges have been filed against the owners through the Municipal Court for the abandonment of these dogs.



Cruelty Investigations Manager LaDue issued one Unfit Owner declaration, as sanctioned by section 14-5(e) of the KCMO Code of Ordinances. This declaration empowers Animal Services to deny an owner's request for the reclaim animal from the shelter if evidence indicates abuse or neglect. The dogs in question will undergo a mandatory holding period, during which the owner retains the right to appeal the declaration. If uncontested, ownership of the animals will transfer to KC Pet Project, who may proceed with disposition.

To ensure that Animal Cruelty Investigators are operating within legal boundaries, adhering to due process, and upholding individuals' rights, Manager LaDue and Chief Johnson conduct weekly meetings with KC Pet Project's in-house legal counsel. During these sessions, the actions of the division are thoroughly reviewed and assessed. This proactive approach not only enhances accountability within the team but also guarantees the delivery of professional services to our city. Through such rigorous reviews, we strengthen our cases and contribute to breaking the cycle of animal cruelty in an effective manner.



Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

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

- ❖ Our story of Horton (the dog found frozen in January) reached national audiences in March when he was featured on ABC World News Tonight's March 23rd evening broadcast. He was featured on Good Morning America's website and Instagram page, and The Dodo did a great social media video featuring him resulting in **5 million views!**

- ❖ Vine Street Brewing Company hosted an event releasing their Kat Kolsch beer and KCPP was the beneficiary of event proceeds.
- ❖ On March 5th, CEO Teresa Johnson, Chief Communications Officer Tori Fugate, and Chief Ryan Johnson met with Morgan Said from the Mayor's office to present and discuss year-end data and provide information surrounding the lack of affordable pet-friendly housing in KCMO. On March 4th, we presented year-end statistics and accomplishments to 1st District City Councilman Nathan Willett and shared information surrounding barriers to pet retention in KCMO.
- ❖ Tori was a guest speaker at the VCA National Employee Meeting held in Washington DC and participated on a panel with the head of VCA Charities discussing KC Pet Project's Dog Day Out program and the work she is doing creating their Dog Day Out toolkit.
- ❖ Tori and Katie Grissum were guest speakers at a Marketing class at the University of Kansas discussing KC Pet Project's marketing and branding strategies.
- ❖ Radio station 90.9 The Bridge held a live remote in our shelter lobby on March 22nd as part of their Spring Funding Drive. They did a \$5,000 match with all donations made to them being matched for KC Pet Project thanks to a generous donation from Exteriors Plus.
- ❖ We held our *St. Patrick's Day O'Doption special*, sponsored by Petco Love, March 14-17 and 87 pets were adopted during the event.
- ❖ In honor of the KC Current Home Opener, we hosted the **1985 US Women's National Soccer Team** at the shelter for a volunteer workday.
- ❖ We held our second free city-wide spay/neuter clinic as part of the Spay Neuter Collaborative of Kansas City and 32 cats were spayed/neutered at KCPP during the event – with **368** pets spayed/neutered in total that weekend.
- ❖ Our *March into Spring Adoption Special* was from March 1-3 and 94 pets were adopted.
- ❖ In March, we had 11 news stories and 80 broadcast mentions with a total reach of **53,541,759** million people.



Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 74,000	133,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 68,000	199,000+ followers on Facebook
Sessions – 138,000	1.3 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 724,000	

Volunteer Program Updates

In March, **673** volunteers gave **4,627.53** hours of services, the equivalent of 26.69 full-time employees.

- ✓ 478 volunteers gave hours at KCCAC
- ✓ 60 volunteers gave hours at our Zona Rosa Adoption Center
- ✓ 85 volunteers gave hours at our Petco Cat Habitat locations
- ✓ 1 volunteer gave hours at our Petco Adoption Center

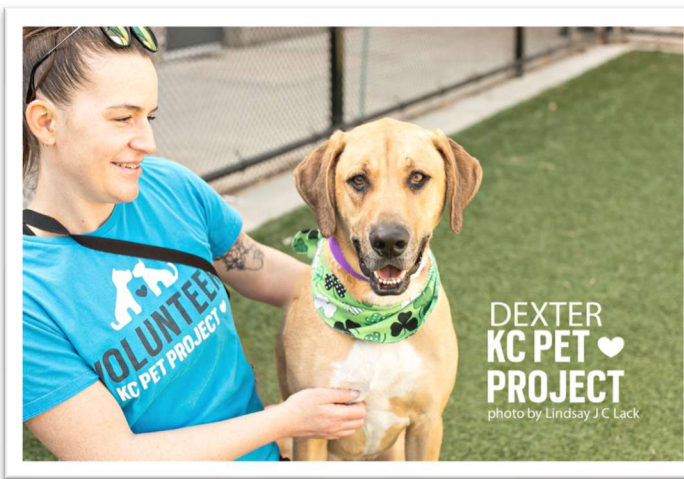


Total value of volunteer hours in March: \$131,363.16 – a 4.8% increase from last month.

Businesses and groups that volunteered in March brought 137 people to our Campus and gave 293 hours of service – a value of \$8,362.22: *Seismic Digital, Scouts BSA, Grandview High School, Element- MJH, Multivac Inc, Transition Center of Kansas City, Liberty Academy, Girl Scouts, The Summit Church, and Johnson County Developmental Supports.*

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- ✓ **Total active volunteers: 1,993** -- including 58 newly active volunteers
- ✓ We received 342 new volunteer signups in March
- ✓ Four (4) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 58 attendees
- ✓ 30 new volunteers gave 295.84 volunteer hours last month, and 135 volunteers participated in 240.78 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 97 volunteers.
- ✓ Thirty-one (31) court-ordered community service volunteers gave 220.84 hours in March, which is a value of \$6,302.77.



Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in March 2024

Surgeries		Medicine		Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	36	Wellness exams	114	Parvo pups treated	11
Community Cats spayed	55	Emergency exams	60	Parvo pups graduated	11
Reclaimed pets neutered	19	Foster pet exams	27	Save rate for parvo	100%
Reclaimed pets spayed	9	Rechecks performed	278		
Shelter Animals Neutered	247	Medical concerns addressed	592	Clinic Administration	
Shelter Animals Spayed	254	Post-adoption exams	2	Foster concerns addressed	209
Owned Cats Neutered	9	Other Exams	251	Adopter concerns addressed	112
Owned Cats Spayed	23			Medications filled	375
Speciality Surgeries	82				
Total Surgeries	734	Total Exams	1324		

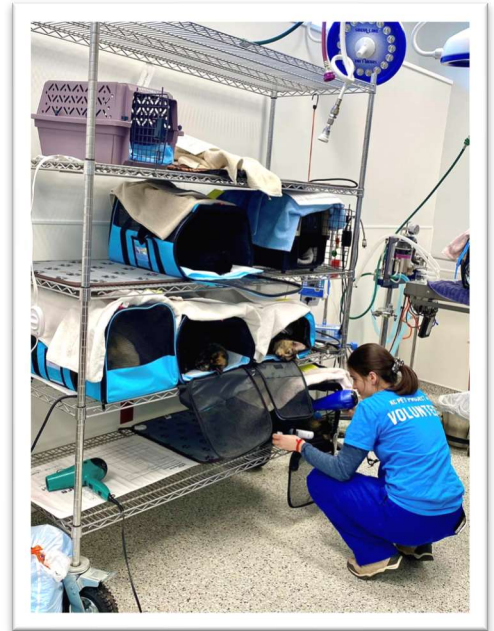
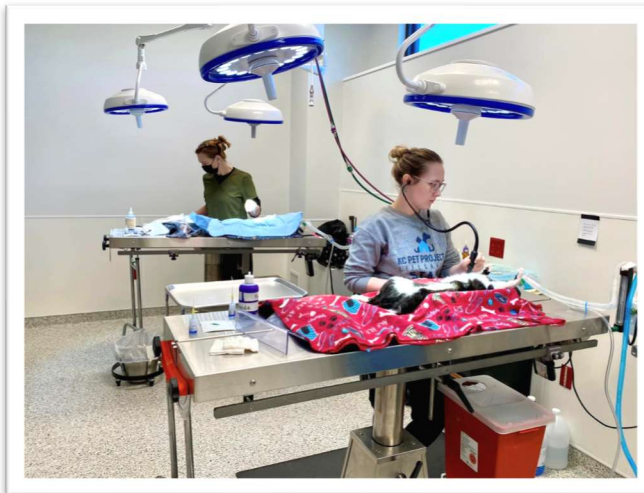
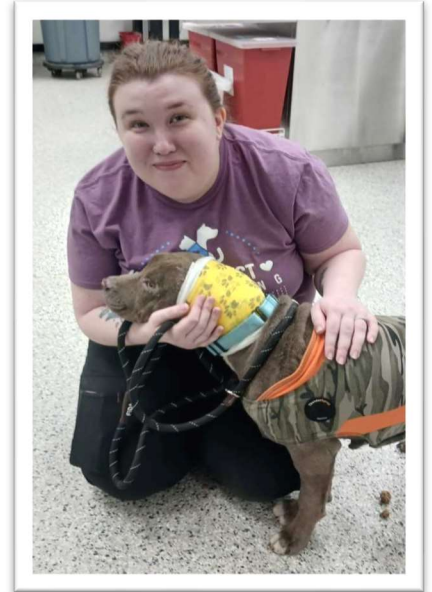
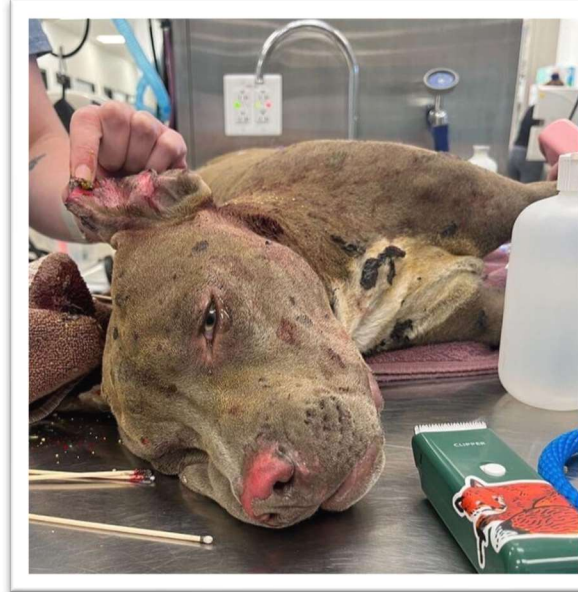
News from the Veterinary Clinic – Benny’s Survival Story and a Citywide Spay/Neuter Event

Benny, a severely injured dog from a tragic fire at a houseless camp, arrived at our shelter in late February. He was critically burned—suffering from injuries to his feet, back, rear, ears, and face. Despite our experience with burn victims, we feared for his survival, understanding the complex and painful recovery ahead. Still, we were determined to help him heal.

The initial treatment phase was challenging, requiring anesthesia for daily wound care due to the severity of his painful burns. Benny was initially wary, but as his pain eased and he began to heal, his affectionate and playful personality shone through. Gradually, Benny (photos below) won the hearts of everyone in our clinic and even got visits from his owner, which visibly lifted his spirits.

After four weeks of intensive care, pain management, and affection, Benny (photo below) had healed enough to go home. His owner, now in a better situation with new employment and housing, was deeply thankful for our support. Their reunion was emotional, marking the end of a tough journey for both. We were honored to have played a part in their recovery and reunion.

During our bustling **Spay Neuter Collaborative of KC** event on March 10th, we offered free spay/neuter surgeries and vaccinations for KCMO cat owners. Our skilled team successfully spayed 32 cats, including six in heat, and attended to special cases like an infected uterus and a cystic uterine horn. Four dedicated volunteers joined forces with seven of our clinic staff, who generously worked extra shifts, ensuring everything went smoothly from pre-surgery exams to post-op recovery and discharge. This initiative not only helped prevent countless unwanted litters, but also supported community residents who otherwise might not be able to afford these vital veterinary services. We're thrilled to continue making a difference in the lives of both pets and their owners in KCMO.



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** (1,546 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (703 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (216 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **605** emails were received in March inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **754** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process.

We received **78** adoption updates last month, including these notes from adopters:

"I recently adopted Haunted Piano from the Zona Rosa site! We have changed his name to Sir Haunted Soup since the name you all chose was so amazing! Soup is doing so well! After going to the vet and getting another test to confirm his FELV, we have been taking strides to ensure he stays healthy and happy. He has a dog buddy, Wade, that my boyfriend adopted from your main site, and they are working on getting along. Soup had so much energy and just loves to cuddle and be held like the little baby he is. We love him and feel so lucky to have him."

"Ivy is the perfect dog for our family. She matches our energy level and fits right in. She's already spoiled and has picked up on our routines quickly. We love her very much and are happy to have her as part of our family."

Pet Support Center – Customer Satisfaction & Services Provided

- ✓ **2024 Rating: 4.816/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.71/5.0 stars: 29 surveys submitted in March, 1,298 submitted since launch in September 2020

"So much help – from the time I arrived with a surrender, with plenty of follow up info for later. Thank you!"

"Extremely helpful! Beyond expectations!"

"First time here – very friendly and efficient. Thank you!"



"Amazing place to go adopt a dog or cat! All the staff were very friendly! Always helping us out and explained to us everything we needed to know."

- ❖ In March, the Pet Support Center staff assisted **1,309** KCMO residents with in-person services (an average of 42 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 4 minutes.*
 - ❖ The Pet Support Center kept families together for **172** animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s), **97** animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, **83** were diverted through in-person conversations by our PSC staff, and 21 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter.
- A total of 373 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into the shelter thanks to supportive services provided by KCPP staff.***
- ❖ We took in **339** stray/lost animals from the public in March.

The top 4 reasons pets are being surrendered in 2024:

1. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (200 pets),
2. Health of owner or health of pet (149 pets),
3. Housing Issues including cost of housing, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (146 pets).

- 4. Lack of financial resources or inability to access resources for their pets, including costs for veterinary care and unplanned litters (126 pets).

Pet Support Call Center/Pet Helpline Performance

March 2024	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	2,767	654	3421	19%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	65	38	103	37%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	529	190	719	26%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	3,361	882	4243	21%
OUT < Helpline – Main	1149	277	1,426	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	329	101	430	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1,478	378	1,856	N/A
Total Performance for March 2024	4,839	1,260	6,099	21%

Our Pet Support Center team answered **3,361** live phone calls, made **1,856** outbound calls, and resolved 264 voicemails.

News from the Pet Support Center

- ❖ PSC staff attended a training session from KCPP Feline Foster Coordinator Leslie Bauer about kittens. With kitten season getting underway, Leslie shared tips with PSC staff about identifying kittens who are most in need and shared messaging that can be passed along to community residents who have questions about what to do if they find kittens outside.
- ❖ PSC staff updated their *Found Animal* and *Owner Surrender* forms with new language. These new forms relay needed information in a clearer and easier to understand format for the community.

Return-to-Home Team

- ❖ In March, the Return to Home Team launched **Petco Love Lost** to host all Lost and Found Pet Reports submitted to the organization. Utilizing Petco Love Lost’s facial recognition software, Lost and Found resources, and community-centric website, we expect to create more reunifications in the community before animals even come in. Good Samaritans and animal owners will now be routed to submit their reports to Petco Love Lost, which provides a public viewing platform, increasing the ability for our community to help KC Pet Project reunite more pets with their owners.
- ❖ 113 (23%) of the 501 lost animals brought to the shelter in March were returned to their owners. Nearly twenty-six percent (26%) of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while only 6% of lost cats were reclaimed by their owners.



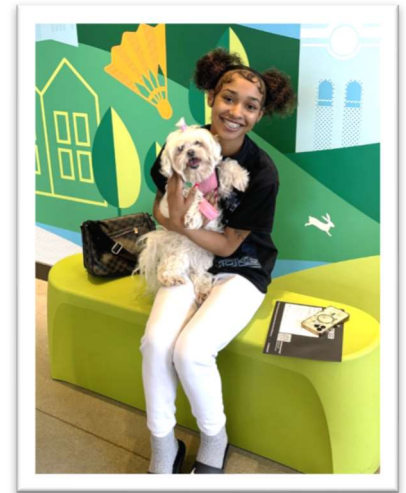
Rehoming Support Services

In March, our team received 98 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted **40** owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 3,782 requests for ReHome services since November 2021.*

- *We received 359 initial requests in March from residents seeking to surrender their pets to the shelter.*

Returned-to-Home: A “Miracle” Reunion

Miracle, a sweet senior female Maltese, arrived at the shelter with a microchip, as well as two ID tags on her collar. But unfortunately, all the owner’s contact information was outdated. Miracle sat in a kennel for 5 days on a stray hold while we searched for her family. So many families were interested in adopting Miracle, and just as our staff was about to make her available for adoption, our Return to Home team was able to track down her family - who rushed immediately to the shelter to get her. Miracle had been their baby for 10 years and she was so excited for this miracle reunion!



Keep ‘Em Together, KC Program Updates

Tara McNamara, Keep ‘Em Together Program Coordinator, reported **340** families benefitted from our four (4) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in March:

1. Pet Care Assistance Program (PCAP)

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$4,540.31** for 16 families (20 pets) was provided by KCPP in March.

- ✓ 17 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received
- ✓ Healthy Pets KC medical assistance granted: \$2,129.31
- ✓ Shelter Reunification assistance granted: \$2,411.00

2. Pet Resource Assistance Program

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

250 families benefited directly from these resources provided in March.

- ✓ 599 lbs. of cat food
- ✓ 2,181.5 lbs. of dog food
- ✓ 130 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 45 collars and 39 leashes
- ✓ 37 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 6 kennels/crates and 1 doghouse
- ✓ 9 dog toys, and 133 miscellaneous pet care items

Pet Pantry Partnerships – The Don Bosco Center

As part of our Keep ‘Em Together, KC initiative, we partner with local food pantries in the metro area to provide pet food. One of the organizations that our team has been partnering with is The Don Bosco Center. In conjunction with Harvesters’, Don Bosco has been able to provide a monthly drive-through food pantry for community members. KC Pet Project has been able to attend these food drives to provide pet food to participating families.

In March, Don Bosco hosted their last drive through pantry event for now. Tara McNamara attended this event, as well as Derek Melies, Development Coordinator. Derek previously was the Keep ‘Em Together Coordinator and regularly supported the Don Bosco clients. During the event, staff had the opportunity to provide more than **100 pet families** with food and treats for their beloved pets. Tara is working with Don Bosco to determine how to continue providing pet food and supplies to pet families in the Columbus Park area of Kansas City.



3. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ 74% of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in March were reclaimed by owners who were eligible for the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
- ✓ Since June 2021, we have subsidized \$285,064.00 in reclaim fees for 2,721 families with 3,194 pets.

In March, \$6,960.00 was subsidized by KCPP in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 74 families with 84 pets.

4. Pets For Life (PFL) Program:

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

- ✓ New clients met through active PFL outreach: 46
- ✓ New clients who contacted PFL or were referred to PFL by others: 13
- ✓ Number of new pets met: 126
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter appointments scheduled: 12
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter surgeries completed: 7
- ✓ Total number of touchpoints/conversations with PFL clients: 83
- ✓ Supplies given (leashes, food, shelters, etc.): 222 items
- ✓ Medications or services given (dewormer, nail trim, microchip, vaccines, etc.): 45
- ✓ Completion rate of spay/neuter: 78%
- ✓ Conversion rate of altered pets whose pet families request spay/neuter services: 90%

Keeping 'Em Together: Michael and Samson

Michael was in the hospital when his beloved best friend, **Samson**, went missing in mid-December. Samson slipped out of the fence of his temporary caretaker's house after they let him outside. The caretaker searched everywhere for him but had no luck finding him. Michael was devastated his pup was lost, but he never lost hope.

After weeks of checking all the shelters in the area, Michael saw a photo of a dog that looked like his dog Samson on the KC Pet Project website! He drove to the shelter the next morning. "My dog is my everything," Michael said, "I'm lost without him," It had been weeks since Samson was first reported missing and Michael couldn't imagine it would be his dog, but when he saw him, he knew immediately it was Samson! Samson went home with a microchip thanks to the resources provided by our Keep 'Em Together KC program and our Pet Care Assistance Program assisted Michael in covering the fees for Samson's stay – ensuring Samson could go back home with Michael where he belonged.

This is just one way in which our Keep 'Em Together KC and Pet Care Assistance Programs help pets find their way home and stay there. We are so happy that Samson and Michael were able to be reunited.



Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 70
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 128
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters: 25
- ❖ Avg. daily number of dogs in canine playgroups: **176**

- ❖ 128 post-adoption support follow up emails sent

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

- ❖ 6 behavior support phone consultations performed
- ❖ 55 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- ❖ Assisted 7 people with behavior help or lessons for recently adopted or foster dogs

In the month of March, the Behavior & Enrichment Team began facilitating dog walking classes for staff in the morning in addition to doing afternoon training classes for staff and volunteers. Currently this team is teaching 4-5 classes a week to keep increasing staff skill levels. In April, the Behavior Team will also begin providing basic canine body language classes to our Animal Services Division.

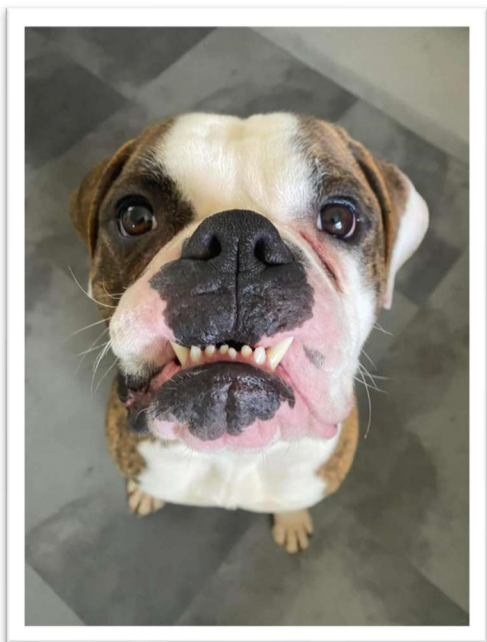
Canine Operations & Adoptions

We had **939** visitors at our KC Campus for Animal Care in March who were interested in meeting dogs available for adoption.

- ✓ Nearly **40%** of all visitors who met with a Canine Matchmaker adopted a dog that day.
- ✓ The average wait time for a Canine Matchmaker in March was 8 minutes.
- ✓ The average total time spent at KCCAC to meet and/or adopt a dog was 65 minutes.

424 dogs and puppies were adopted last month – that’s a 7% decrease in dog adoptions from last March. However, dog adoptions are *still up 5.2% over this time in 2023*.

We saw a notable decrease in adopted dogs being returned in March – with a **55% decrease** over the same month last year. For the 1st Quarter 2024, returned adoptions are down significantly – with a **43% reduction** -- and we believe is due to the quality of matchmaking that is occurring between our Canine Care team members and potential adopters!



In March, the Canine Care & Adoptions departments trained in dog walking, dog to dog introductions, and showing dogs (matchmaking) for potential adopters. The Canine Care team continued monthly team meetings to increase communication and education across the department. Topics at the March meeting included air horn distribution for staff safety protocols, changes to the veterinary clinic's surgery procedures, and a group brainstorming session over better ways to pass out canine enrichment.

Foster-to-adopt arrangements continue to gain popularity, with 29 dogs now participating in the program.

KCCAC Adoptions Customer Service Survey rating: **4.88/5.0** stars (3 surveys submitted in March)

"The young ladies in your retail store worked with me awhile to find the right kennel for my pup. So professional & helpful. My dog loves the toys they helped me pick out! (Carrot with a rope is perfect). Pam helped me through the adoption process & answered all my questions and was totally awesome. She gave me the fuzzy blanket that peaches and her brothers (baby peach) came in with. She did this because her brother's smell was still

on it & having it would calm peaches! Peaches foster mom has also been helpful. What an awesome experience! LOVE U GUYS AND EVERYTHING U DO. "

Canine Foster Care Program

Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported **142 dogs** (34% of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes at the end of March.

- ✓ During the month, **368** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes!
- ✓ Volunteers took **205** dogs on a Dog's Day Out last month!
- ✓ We welcomed **111** new dog foster families.
- ✓ We had **74** dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

Our Canine Care team cared for an average of 258 dogs daily at our KC Campus for Animal Care in March.

Volunteers took 205 dogs on a Dog's Day Out in March!

The Canine Foster Team had another busy month caring for several nursing moms and puppies. We hosted another mom and puppy information session to train new fosters, and some of them have already jumped in to foster their first litter.

Weasley (right), a dog that has been struggling in the shelter since he arrived at the end of January, left for foster in March and is loving his new foster home!

Program Spotlight - Dog Day Out Program

Our Dog Day Out volunteers continue to go above and beyond in running the program on the weekends, and we've welcomed new volunteers onto the team to help. Our volunteers have done such a great job of matchmaking that several DDOs have turned into adoptions or long-term foster! By placing more emphasis on marketing our Dog Day Out program, we sent 520 large breed dogs on a Dog Day Out during the 1st Quarter 2024 (a 43% increase in dogs going on a DDO) and subsequently 388 of those dogs were adopted (75%) – AND the number of dogs adopted following a DDO went **UP 13%** over last year at this time! And the average length of stay for dogs in our shelter before being adopted was **REDUCED** to 24 days -- a reduction in length of stay by 7 days despite taking in a record number of dogs during this time.

Despite having a record number of large breed dogs arriving in Q1 2024, we saw a 13% increase in the number of dogs being adopted from our shelter during this time AND a reduced Length of Stay before being adopted -- and we attribute much of this success to the increase in the number of dogs going on a DDO!

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

In March, forty-nine (49) dogs, 1 African Gray parrot, and 1 pig were transferred to these rescue organizations in March: *Burge Bird Services, Critter House KC, Great Plains SPCA, Kansas City English Bulldog Rescue, Kansas City Pig Rescue Network, Melissa's Second Chances, Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, Pawsitive Tails, Wayside Waifs, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary.*

Small Animals & Transportation Program:

Forty-eight (48) puppies/small dogs, sixty (60) large breed dogs, and five (5) small animals were moved to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center or Petco Adoption Center in March!

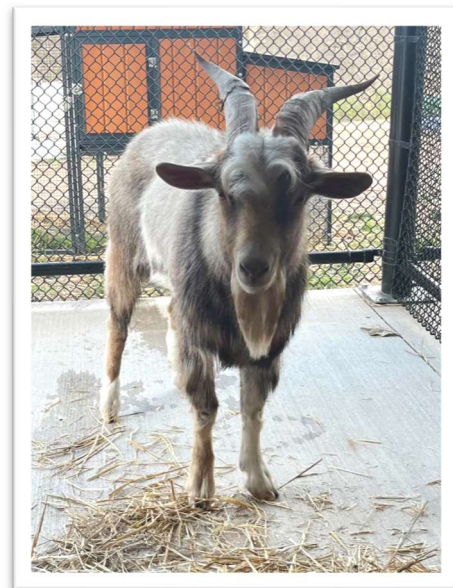
We processed **7** small animal adoptions last month – 3 chickens, 1 goat, 1 guinea pig, and 2 rabbits.

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

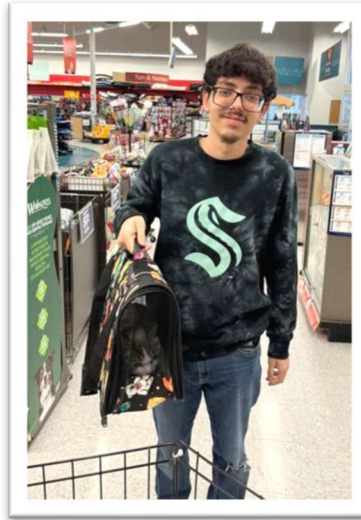
Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer of **41** cats/kittens from *Gladstone Animal Control, Joplin Humane Society, Liberty Animal Shelter, and Midwest Animal Res-Q in Raytown.*

The average length of stay for cats in a Petco Cat Habitat in March was **only 2.7 days**, and the length of stay for kittens was still **less than 1 day** at the Habitats!

- ✓ We processed **63** cat/kitten adoptions from our Petco Cat Habitat stores, as well as 22 adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café.
- ✓ The Olathe Petco store had the highest number of adoptions in March with 10 adoptions.



Warwick Davis Leprechaun (right) was a staff favorite at the main shelter before heading over to the Olathe Petco Habitat this past month. While she was a little shy at our main shelter, she became more comfortable at the Habitat before meeting her new dad, where she walked out of her kennel and hung out with him until it was time for her to go to her new home!



Chimera (far right photo) was a dainty little Tortie with a unique pattern to match her one-of-a-kind personality. Her family quickly fell in love with her special charm and lovable nature while embracing her quirks with open arms. It was heartwarming to witness the bond form between them, and we're lucky to be a part of their journey.

Feline Foster Care Program

Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported March brought the beginning of kitten season to KCPP! We sent **34** (29 kittens and 5 adult cats) to foster homes last month.

At the end of the month, **38** cats/kittens (27% of the cats at KCPP) were in 12 foster homes, and we onboarded 8 new foster homes in preparation for our upcoming kitten season in 2024.

While the total numbers for feline foster for the first 3 months of 2024 are on par with 2023, the distribution of the kinds of cats and kittens that have gone to foster are very different. So far this year, we have seen a marked increase in the number of nursing mom cats (75%), 4–6 week-old kittens (144%), and 6-8 week-old kittens (157%). In contrast, we've had large decreases in stray kittens (95%) and bottle baby kittens (100%) sent to foster so far this year.



Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported we took in **410** cats/kittens in March. We had **245** cats adopted – a 23% decrease from last March due in part to few cats being available for adoption.

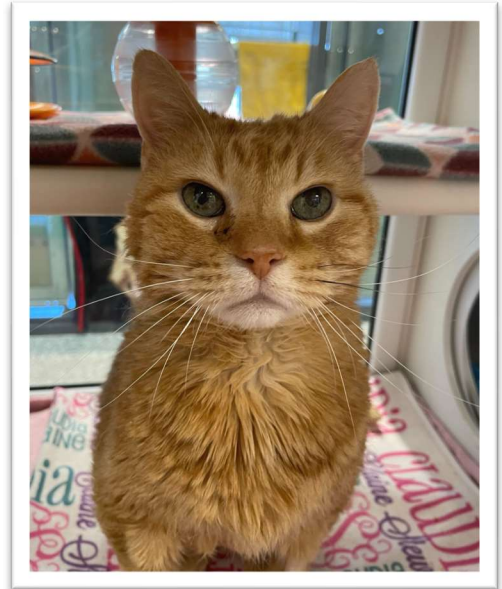
- ✓ **354** families arrived in March at our KCCAC location that were interested in adopting cats.
- ✓ The average wait time to see cats was between 9 – 13 minutes.
- ✓ Nearly **30%** of all visitors who met with a Feline Matchmaker adopted a cat that day.
- ✓ Visitors spend, on average, nearly 38 minutes meeting cats before deciding to adopt.

We've seen a 6% increase in the 1st Quarter 2024 in owner surrendered cats and a 150% increase in the number of cats coming into our shelter from due to several over-the-limit cases with cats. Overall, numbers of stray cats coming in so far in 2024 are down nearly 30% from last year.



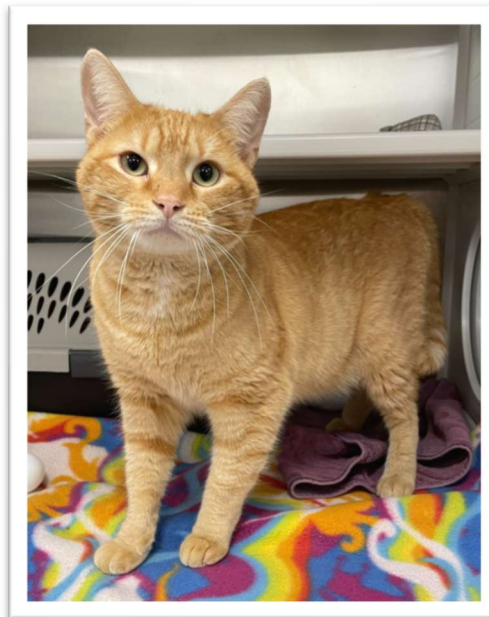
Sir Pad Nubbins (left) arrived from another shelter on Feb 8th, but within a week he was hospitalized for severe ulcers on his tongue. He spent three weeks fighting Calicivirus, and thanks to our wonderful vet team, he made it out of hospital on March 7th. It took less than 48 hours for this 3.5-legged sweetheart to get adopted!

Olga our 17-year-old angel (right) arrived as a stray on February 19th. She had some recovery time in our vet clinic for pre-existing concerns but was adopted within two weeks of moving to the adoption floor.



Cream (lower left) was transferred to us on Feb 8th and felt overwhelmed with all the changes. We worked with her for three weeks before she opened up to us, but once she did it only took her a week to find her new family. Happy life, sweet Cream!

Stevie Nicks (lower right) was brought in by Animal Services as part of an over-the-limit case at the end of January. She was extremely fearful and shut down quickly in the shelter environment. Most of the cats from this group had dental issues, so our team worked with her to make sure she would be able to be medicated after her surgery. After her surgery, she was able to join the remaining cats from her household and was adopted on March 23rd!



Submitted by,

TJohnson

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