

KC PET PROJECT

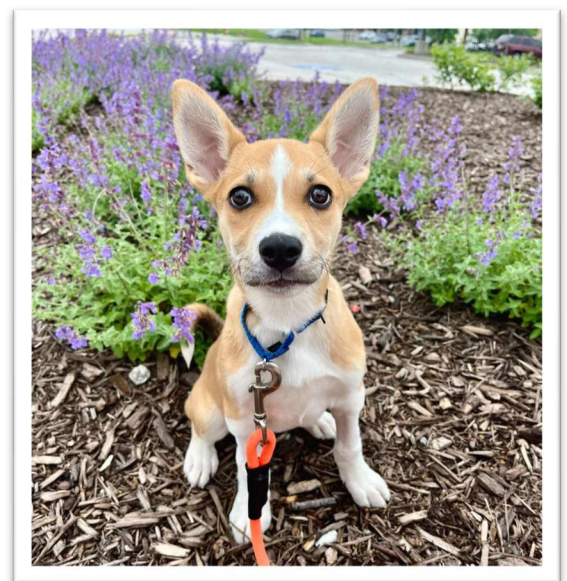
Impact Report for May 2024 Activities

Sheltering Statistics:

Dog & Cat Totals for Jan - May	2024	2023	Difference
Total Intake	6,096	6,072	24 more
Adoptions	3,644	3,730	86 fewer
Returned to Owners	735	883	148 fewer
Live Release Rate	93.0%	93.9%	0.9% lower
Owner Surrendered Pets	1,157	1,177	20 fewer
Stray animals brought in by public	2,248	2,427	179 fewer
Cats/kittens transferred IN	450	727	277 fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	3,439	2,905	534 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	18.9 days	21.1 days	2.2 days fewer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	13.1 days	13.5 days	0.4 days fewer

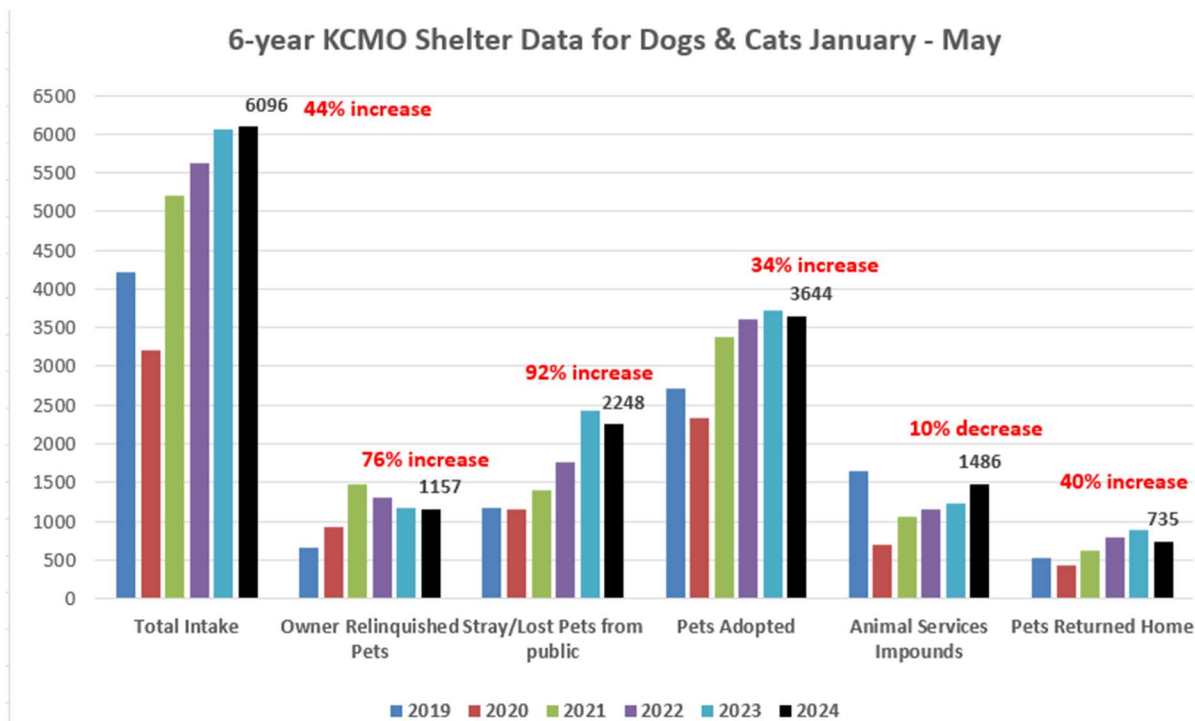
May 2024 - Animals In & Animals Out

- ❖ We received or provided care for **1,567** new dogs and cats that arrived in May (733 dogs, 818 cats), along with 3 chickens, 3 goats, 7 guinea pigs, 2 rabbits, and 1 sheep. *We had the largest number of dogs to ever arrive in the month of May in the history of Kansas City.*
- ❖ **751** pets were adopted in May (426 dogs, 315 cats, and 10 other pets). Dog adoptions were down slightly from last May but are still *up more than 7%* over last year at this time.
- ❖ Returned adoptions for dogs were up in May, but our year-to-date rate of returned adoptions is still an impressive **24%** 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.
- ❖ Cat adoptions were up nearly 3% in May due to more cats/kittens coming in (more inventory) but are still down nearly 15% YTD due to lower inventories of available cats/kittens throughout the first part of the year.
- ❖ We achieved a **90.8%** Save Rate in May (91.2% dogs, 90.2% cats). Our Save Rate so far in 2024 is **93.0%**.
- ❖ Our veterinary team performed **785** spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in May (the most spay/neuter surgeries ever done in the month of May) – including **157** low cost spay/neuter surgeries provided for community cats, and 20 free spay/neuter surgeries provided for pitbull-type dogs that were reclaimed from our shelter by their families.



- ❖ Stray dogs brought in by the public was up 9% in May, but the total number of stray dogs brought in by the public year-to-date has finally fallen slightly lower than 2023 numbers.
- ❖ The number of dogs impounded by Animal Services was up 5% in May and is up 11% over last year at this time.
- ❖ **367** dogs/puppies and **417** cats/kittens were sent to foster homes in May.

Data Trends 2024



- **Intake** for animals is still running **44% 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 76%** over 2019 totals for this period.

Animal Services Division Update for May 2024

Officers worked **2,190** total case activities last month, travelling a total of **14,607** miles throughout the city, impounding **356** animals, and returning an additional **24** lost pets back to their homes without having to impound them.

- ❖ Our Animal Cruelty Investigations Team investigated and closed **232** animal cruelty cases, including 42 reports of animal abandonment, 151 reports of neglect, and 39 reports of cruelty.
- ❖ Officers saw a **107%** increase in May in the number of animals that were found abandoned in a home/yard and a **52%** increase in the number of animals brought in as stray/at large.
- ❖ Our Dispatch team answered **2,868** live phone calls, made 883 outbound calls to residents, and resolved 142 voicemail messages. Dispatchers spent more than 77 hours on the phones and maintained an average wait time for callers at just **35** seconds in the direct Dispatch queue with a call abandonment rate of only **5%**.

Enforcement & Criminal Deterrent Efforts by our Animal Services Division

In May, officers issued **fifty-eight (58) 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. *A total of 297 criminal citations through Municipal Court have been issued so far in 2024.*

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

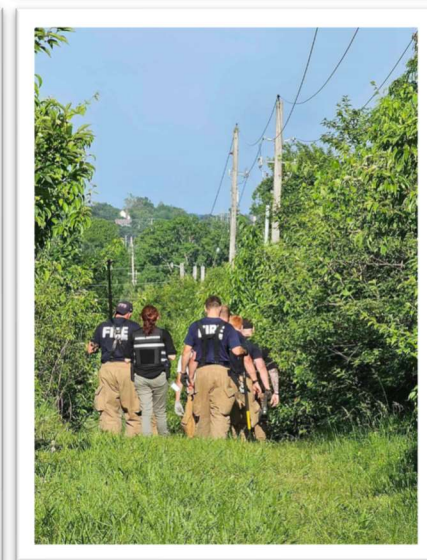
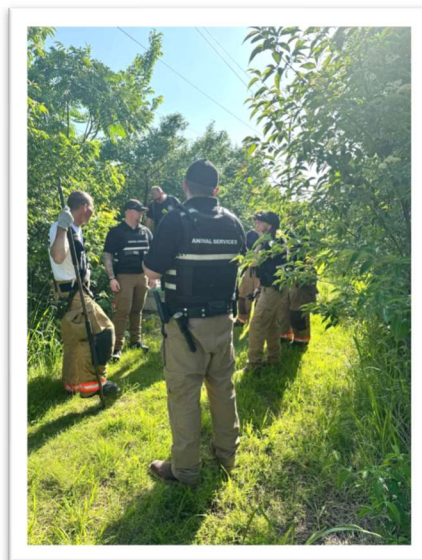
1. dog creating a public nuisance,
2. failure to display or obtain a city license,
3. failure to provide adequate animal care,
4. dog running at large,
5. failure to spay/neuter a pitbull-type dog,

Stories From the Field – Missing Alligator Located from School Petting Zoo Event

On May 23rd, our Animal Services Division received a report of a missing alligator during an unlicensed petting zoo event at Lakeview Middle School. Our officers responded to the school to interview school leadership and representatives from the company that owned the alligator. It was reported the 14” alligator was last seen that morning in an outdoor enclosure and the alligator’s mouth had been secured with black electrical tape. A search was immediately launched in the area, as the alligator had already been missing for several hours before the incident was reported.

Platte County Fire Department responded to assist in the search for the missing alligator using state-of-the-art infrared imaging devices. A high-resolution drone took to the sky above the ground team to search for the alligator in open areas surrounding the school. After hours of searching for the alligator, it could not be located. Additional search efforts by our officers continued throughout the week.

On June 3rd, our Animal Services Division was notified that the alligator had been discovered that morning near the back door of the school. When officers arrived, they secured and transported the animal to our shelter where it was medically evaluated and placed in “on hold” status pending the outcome of the case. Alligators are prohibited by Kansas City ordinance and are not allowed under state statute RSMo 578.023 unless properly licensed and credentialed (such as in a zoo or animal refuge).

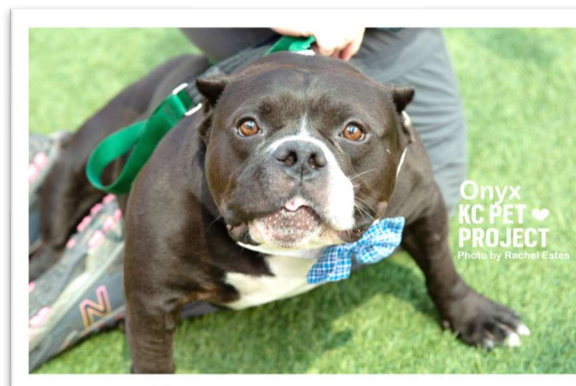
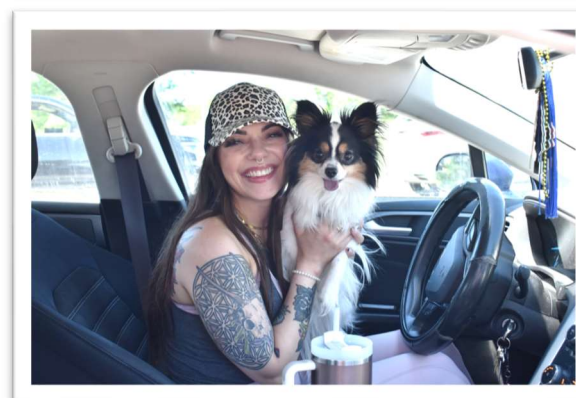


Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

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

- ❖ Our Memorial Day Adoption Special was extended from May 16th – 27th and **290** pets were adopted during the event!
- ❖ We hosted a check presentation at our Campus in May with Van Subaru and Jenny Matthews and celebrated their generous Share the Love campaign donation.

- ❖ KC Pet Project participated in the **Pawsitive Protection** drive-through vaccination event on May 11th sponsored by Councilwoman Melissa Patterson-Hazley and the City of KCMO. Staff from KCPP Animal Services, Pet Resource Center, and Union Hill Animal Hospital worked the 4+ hour event and **226** pets from Kansas City, MO were vaccinated, microchipped and licensed (photos right).
- ❖ Tori was a featured speaker at the first National Animal Care and Control Association (NACA) State Summit held in San Antonio, Texas. The summit featured representatives from 37 states and their animal control associations. Tori was on a panel for “Emerging Trends in Animal Control” to discuss trends around social media and utilizing media to highlight animal control agencies.
- ❖ Tori and Tabitha Urban, KCPP’s Director of Canine Operations, were featured speakers at the Humane Society of the United States’ Animal Care Expo in San Antonio, Texas. Their topic “*Intake to Placement Strategies for Big Dogs*” was well received and shared how we are moving dogs out of the shelter quicker despite our higher intake numbers.
- ❖ We hosted a Community Engagement University class with the City of KCMO in our Education Pavilion in May.
- ❖ We received an incredible 27 pallets of canned Orijen and Acana cat food donated from Champion Foods to share with adopters, staff, volunteers, fosters, and our community.
- ❖ On May 31st, we hosted a Kitten Party at Casual Animal Brewing Company. We had hundreds of attendees and were able to raise \$1,000 in donations, in-kind gifts, and retail sales.
- ❖ In May, we had **303 news stories** and 86 broadcast mentions with a total reach of **633,597,948** million people!
- ❖ The big news story in May was the story of the 14” alligator that went missing from a Northland Middle School’s petting zoo event. The story was shared locally and picked up by national outlets including USA Today and Yahoo News.
- ❖ Tori provided content and was quoted in a feature article for NPR’s Marketplace about the affordable housing crisis and its impact on pets.
- ❖ We featured a video on Instagram of a dog named Onyx (right) who was on our At-Risk list. He was considered an urgent placement. A family saw the video and drove from Louisiana to adopt him!



Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 71,000	134,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 66,000	201,000+ followers on Facebook
Sessions – 135,000	1.2 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 647,000	

Volunteer Program Updates

In May, **633** volunteers gave **3,587.07** hours of services, the equivalent of 21 full-time employees -- a 15% decrease in the number of volunteers compared to last month.

- ✓ 289 volunteers gave hours at KCCAC
- ✓ 122 volunteer gave hours as part of a business or group
- ✓ 54 volunteers gave hours at our Zona Rosa Adoption Center
- ✓ 85 volunteers gave hours at our Petco Cat Habitat locations

Total value of volunteer hours in May: \$102,374.96

Businesses and groups that volunteered in brought 122 people to the Campus and gave 278.6 hours of service – *Eagle Scouts, Crossroads Preparatory Academy, Summit Christian Academy Elementary Stewards, Lockton Companies, The Summit Church, Farmers Insurance, and Transition Center of Kansas City.*

Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

- ✓ **Total active volunteers: 1,932** -- including 53 newly active volunteers
- ✓ We received 210 new volunteer signups in May
- ✓ Four (4) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 53 attendees
- ✓ 86 new volunteers gave 267 volunteer hours last month, and 131 volunteers participated in 210 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 98 volunteers.
- ✓ Twenty-nine (29) court-ordered community service volunteers gave 134 hours in May, which is a value of \$3,834.63.

Volunteers created and planted an amazing sensory garden at our Campus and grew produce that was recently harvested. They boiled down hamburger meat and the greens, and the mixture is being used to make healthy popsicles for enrichment treats for our shelter dogs.



News from the Veterinary Clinic

- ❖ Dr. Heather Kennedy was a featured speaker at the HSUS Animal Care Expo to an audience of animal welfare professionals and veterinarians. Her well-attended presentation was titled "Please Don't Stress the Cat," and focused on providing evidence-based medical care for cats in shelters.
- ❖ Our doctors have performed **3,439** spay/neuter surgeries and **272** specialty surgeries so far in 2024. *This is a **19.3%** increase in the number of surgeries performed over last year at this time.*

Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in May 2024

Surgeries		Medicine		Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	70	Wellness exams	84	Parvo pups treated	23
Community Cats spayed	87	Emergency exams	85	Parvo pups graduated	20
Reclaimed pets neutered	13	Foster pet exams	120	Save rate for parvo	87%
Reclaimed pets spayed	7	Rechecks performed	261		
Shelter Animals Neutered	311	Medical concerns addressed	350	Clinic Administration	
Shelter Animals Spayed	297	Post-adoption exams	7	Communications with fosters	65
Speciality Surgeries	51	Other Exams	512	Communications with adopters	50
				Medications filled	542
Total Surgeries	836	Total Exams	1419		

Lifesaving Stories from the KCPP Veterinary Clinic – The Wandering Witness

The Wandering Witness (right) came into our clinic via an Animal Services Officer in April after a person reported his friendly neighborhood cat had been attacked by a raccoon. We could smell him before we saw him. Once out of the carrier, we quickly found the source of the smell . . . his very infected wounds. All his limbs were swollen, hot, and filled with pus. His shoulders were also covered in infected wounds. There really wasn't a section of his poor body that wasn't injured, scarred, or infected. Despite everything he had endured he was the sweetest little man.

After giving him much-needed pain medication, we could see the relief in his eyes. We decided the best way to clean his painful wounds would be to do so under anesthesia. While anesthetized, we clipped, compressed, cleaned, and flushed as much of the infection out of the wounds as we could. Our doctors prescribed fluid therapy and strong antibiotics and we hoped his compromised body would start to heal itself.

The Wandering Witness was so happy to see us each day and he quickly improved. After a week and a half of treatment, we decided to proceed with his neuter and to debride his wounds again while he was sedated. He still had some swelling and discharge, but all his wounds were smaller and had begun to heal.

After two more weeks of pain medication, antibiotics, and fluid therapy, The Wandering Witness was ready for the next step in his journey. He was made available for adoption and a new family scooped him up less than twenty-four hours later! We'll miss this sweet boy but wish him the best life ever.



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

Customer Engagement Performance

Google Ratings:

- ✓ KC Pet Project at KCCAC: **4.2/5.00** (1,562 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (711 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (220 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **1,361** emails were received in May inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **728** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process.

We received **43** adoption updates last month, including these notes from adopters:

"Nice pet adoption place! Very nice facility with a coffee shop in store. They have a pretty good selection, but also seem to have pets at a café, Petco stores, and fosters... Nice staff, too!"

"Jessyca and the other kind staff member with long brown braided hair and glasses were hoping for an update on Filly(right) and she has settled in AMAZING. She was labeled fearful and shy/defensive in the shelter, and we adopted her without being able to touch her but now she is gaining confidence rapidly and so sweet and cuddly! Within an hour she was in our laps, exploring the house, and playing with her toys, she took to the crate with only a little training, learned several new tricks, and LOVES rolling in the grass outside. She's also an A+ car traveler! We LOVE her and we're so glad we adopted her! Thank you SO much!"

"I just wanted to share an adoption update to let you know how we are doing with our new doggo. We adopted "Pita" (now named Luna) from the Zona Rosa campus about a month ago and she is just a joy. She is the sweetest thing...she loves getting love, loves giving kisses, sleeps like an angel, she's housebroken and gets along with our other 3 dogs really well. We couldn't be happier with her. She's a blessing in our lives and we love her to pieces already. She's a special girl and she gets lots of love and attention and walks and treats. She's in good health, has been to the vet, and has gained some weight. Thank you for providing us with this sweet girl who is now part of our forever family."



Pet Support Center – Customer Satisfaction & Services Provided

- ✓ **2024 Rating: 4.814/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.710/5.0 stars: 18 surveys submitted in May, 1,334 submitted since launch in September 2020

"Staff are inviting and clarifying. I really appreciated their level of attentiveness – especially Jalen."

"The staff are all very friendly and easy understanding as I'm not very financially stable. They treated Opie as their own. I appreciate KC Pet Project and am very thankful to their team/staff."

Amazing facility, very clean and inviting and the BEST staff! I can't say thank you enough!"

In May, the Pet Support Center staff assisted **1,530** KCMO residents with in-person services (an average of 49 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 **5 minutes**.*
- ❖ *We took in **638** stray/lost animals from the public in May.*
- ❖ *The Pet Support Center kept families together for **161** animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s), **126** animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, **115** were diverted through in-person conversations by our PSC staff, and 15 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter.*
- ❖ *The Pet Support Center (PCS) staff have been working closely with the Feline Team to track cat colonies around the KC metro. PSC staff have been collecting information from the public about community cats and areas in need of TNR services.*

A total of 417 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into the shelter thanks to supportive services provided by KCPP staff!

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 (292 pets),
2. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (261 pets),
3. Health of owner/family or health of pet (237 pets),
4. Housing Issues including cost of housing, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (217 pets).

Pet Support Call Center/Pet Helpline Performance

May 2024	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	3,388	735	4123	18%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	67	42	109	39%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	790	233	1,023	23%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	4,245	1,010	5,255	19%
OUT < Helpline – Main	989	201	1190	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	329	81	410	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1,318	282	1,600	N/A
Total Performance for May 2024	5,563	1,292	6,855	19%

Our Pet Support Center team answered **4,245** live phone calls, made **1,600** outbound calls, and resolved 175 voicemails.

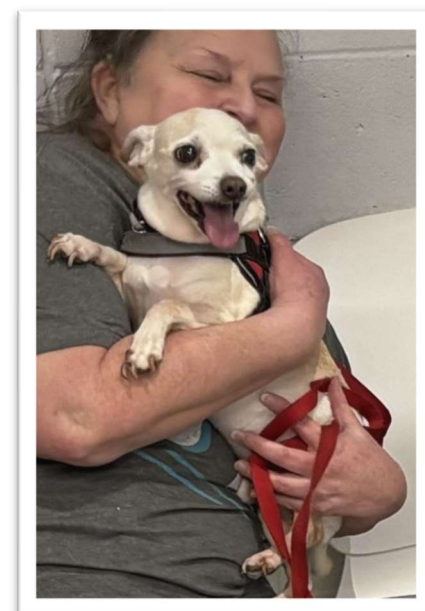
Return-to-Home Team

- ❖ Admissions staff reunited 17 lost pets with their owners PRIOR to impounding them thanks to identification.
- ❖ The team conducted 286 ownership investigations in an effort to send lost pets back home in May.
- ❖ 137 (22.4%) of the 611 lost animals (313 neonate kittens excluded) brought to the shelter in May were returned to their owners. *Nearly twenty-five percent (25%) of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while 10% of lost cats arriving were reclaimed/returned to their owners.*

Returned-to-Home: Three Happy Dogs

One of the many happy reunions in May was a family that had 3 dogs brought to the shelter when they fell on hard times and were evicted from their home. All three dogs were terrified when they arrived at the shelter, especially little 11-year-old Thor.

Thankfully, this family was able to find a place to live relatively quickly, and we were more than happy to send all the beloved pups back home with their family where they belonged. Little Thor (right) was all smiles when he was back in his mom’s arms!



Rehoming Support Services

In May, our team received 125 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted **59** owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 4,029 requests for ReHome services since November 2021.*

- *We received 431 requests in May 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 392 families with 668 pets benefitted from our four (4) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in May:*

1. Pet Care Assistance Program (PCAP)

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$3,192.00** for 17 families (24 pets) was provided by KCPP in May.

- ✓ 16 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received
- ✓ Healthy Pets KC medical assistance granted: \$462.00
- ✓ Shelter Reunification assistance granted: \$2,730.00

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.*

283 families with 536 pets benefitted directly from these resources provided in May.

- ✓ 718 lbs. of cat food and 5 lbs. of cat treats
- ✓ 2,106 lbs. of dog food
- ✓ 290 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 61 collars and 34 leashes
- ✓ 33 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 12 kennels/crates and 1 doghouse
- ✓ 4 dog toys, and 220 miscellaneous pet care items

3. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ 79% of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in May were reclaimed by owners who were eligible for the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
- ✓ *Since June 2021, we have subsidized \$302,304.00 in reclaim fees for 2,885 families with 3,391 pets.*

In May, \$8,870.00 was subsidized by KCPP in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 92 families with 108 pets.

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: 19
- ✓ New clients who contacted PFL or were referred to PFL by others: 2
- ✓ Number of new pets met: 56
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter appointments scheduled: 7
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter surgeries completed: 7
- ✓ Total number of touchpoints/conversations with PFL clients: 81
- ✓ Supplies given (leashes, food, shelters, etc.): 207 items

- ✓ Medications or services given (dewormer, nail trim, microchip, vaccines, etc.): 108
- ✓ Completion rate of spay/neuter: 100%
- ✓ Conversion rate of altered pets whose pet families request spay/neuter services: 95%

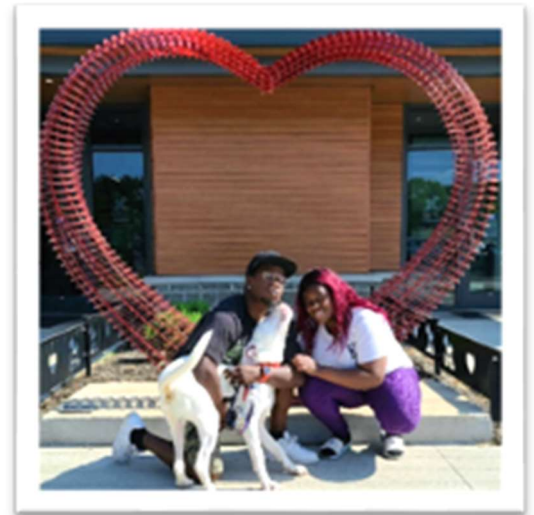


Keeping 'Em Together: Draco

When a community member loses their pet, our hearts ache for them and our staff does everything we can to help find the missing pet and get them home. Unfortunately for one community member that loss and reunion was preceded by a bigger tragedy.

There was a break in at their home and the intruder shot and killed her son. When the police arrived, his dog Draco was taken to KC Pet Project to keep him safe. Dealing with such a tragedy, and not being able to return home until it was cleared by the police, made things unbelievably difficult for this family working through their loss. We kept Draco safe for them in our shelter until the family was able to sort things out as they made plans to go stay with Grandma in another state.

The family stayed in constant contact with our Pet Support and Return to Home teams. Working together with the family, we were able to provide the support needed to get Draco settled into his new home after such a traumatic experience. Our Pet Care Assistance Program helped cover the reclaim fees, so they didn't have any additional financial burden from an already difficult situation. Though their journey is long, the staff at KC Pet Project was able to make sure they could stay together as a family.



Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 55
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 141
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters: 22

- ❖ 141 post-adoption support follow up emails sent
- ❖ 18 behavior support phone consultations performed
- ❖ 63 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- ❖ Assisted 15 people with behavior help or lessons given for recently adopted or foster dogs

An average of 171 dogs every day participated in canine playgroups!

In the month of May, the playgroup program set a new record for the number of dogs participating in a singular day. On May 23, 2024, our Playgroup Coordinator, Matthew Holt, facilitated **214 dogs in morning playgroups!** Although this was a milestone we did not hope to achieve, this is a huge achievement for the department that shows the skill and adaptability that our team has.

Canine Operations & Adoptions

We had **946 separate individuals/families** at our KC Campus for Animal Care in May 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 May was **8** minutes.
- ✓ The average wait time for an Adoption Counselor to finalize the adoption was **24** minutes.
- ✓ The average total time spent at KCCAC to meet and/or adopt a dog was **69** minutes.

426 dogs and puppies were adopted last month – that’s about the same number of dog adoptions as last May.

- ✓ *Dog adoptions are still up more than **7%** year-to-date.*

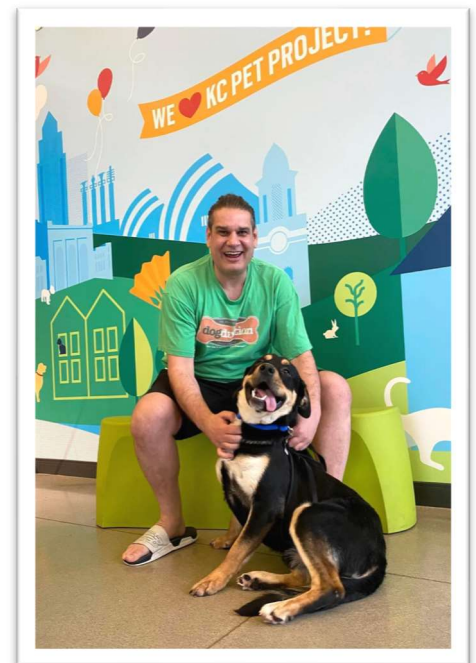
For the first 5 months of 2024, returned adoptions are down significantly – with a **24.4% reduction** -- and we believe is due to the quality of matchmaking that is occurring between our Canine Care team members and potential adopters, as well as the post-adoption follow up that occurs.

In the month of May, the Canine Care & Adoptions departments trained staff in dog walking, dog to dog introductions, and showing dogs to potential adopters. We promoted Supervisor of Canine Care, Ronni Weber, to the position of Manager of Canine Care & Adoptions. We have also hired a new Supervisor of Canine Care that will start in June. The Canine Care team continued monthly team meetings to increase communication and education across the department.

At the May Canine Care Team meeting, we reviewed policies and procedures. Foster-to-adopt continues to gain in popularity, with **24** dogs participating in the program.

KCCAC Adoptions Customer Service Survey rating: **4.85/5.0** stars (6 surveys submitted in May)

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



"I adopted Casanova on April 13th and it was a great experience. He is such a sweetheart and doing so well in my home. He has also been a great match for my other dog. They are the best of buddies. Thank you for all you do at KCPP! "

"We couldn't have asked for more. Smart, friendly, dedicated staff who educated us and answered our questions. The facility is beautiful with plenty of room for meeting your new pet and talking with staff."

"Experience was absolutely amazing. Thank you so much for everything you do and matching us with our perfect dog."

"We love her so much and appreciate what you are doing for animals. Keep it up!"

Canine Foster Care Program

Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported **155 dogs** (36% of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes at the end of May.

- ✓ During the month, **367** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes!
- ✓ We welcomed **72** new dog foster families.
- ✓ We had **53** dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

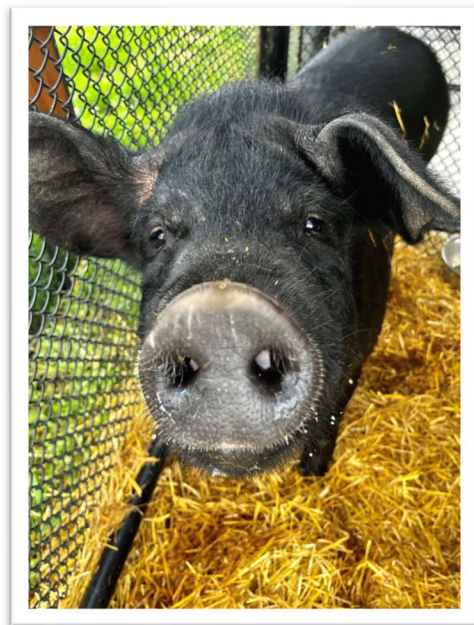
In the month of May, we started seeing an increase in the number of underage puppies and nursing or pregnant dogs coming into the shelter. We sent 3 pregnant/nursing moms and a combined total of 67 underage puppies to foster, including **Chloe** and her puppies (right). We also worked closely with the vet clinic to send 19 dogs with special medical needs to foster homes to open kennels in the clinic for incoming dogs.

We saw several of our long-term foster dogs get adopted this month! One of these dogs was Leonidas, who came to KCPP in June 2023. After staying in the shelter for a month, he left for foster in mid-July. After nearly a year in our care, he was finally adopted at the end of May! We also sent several “At-Risk” dogs to foster – including Ajax, who came to us at the beginning of March. He lived in the shelter for two months before leaving for foster, and then was adopted just 4 days later!



Volunteers took 192 dogs on a Dog's Day Out in May!

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



In May, 42 dogs and 1 pig were transferred to these shelters/rescue organizations: *Boxer Paws Rescue, Critter House KC, Great Plains SPCA, Kansas City Pig Rescue Network, Mid America Boston Terrier Rescue, Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, Paws-N-Claws Iowa, Wayside Waifs, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary*

Small Animals & Farm Animals

We processed **10** small animal adoptions last month – 1 chicken, 5 guinea pigs, 2 rabbits and 1 turtle.

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. Sixty-six (66) puppies/small dogs and forty-seven (47) large breed dogs were moved to off-site locations this month to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center.

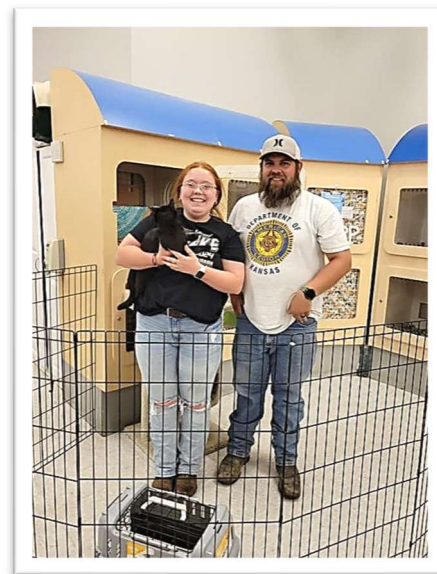
Nine (9) small animals were moved to our Petco Adoption Center.

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

Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer in of **80** cats/kittens from *Bastrop County Animal Services in Texas (NEW), East Newton Animal Coalition, Joplin Humane Society, Kurth Memorial Animal Services in Texas (NEW!), Midwest Animal Res-Q in Raytown, and Permian Basin Animal Advocates in Texas*. The average length of stay for adult cats in a Petco Cat Habitat in May was **3.1 days**, and the length of stay for kittens was just **1.6 days** at the Habitats!

- ✓ We processed **93** cat/kitten adoptions from our Petco Cat Habitat stores (a 41% increase from last month), as well as **14** 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 Olathe Petco store once again had the highest number of adoptions in May with 17 adoptions, followed by the Lamar store with 16 adoptions.
- ✓ Petco Cat Habitat volunteers gave 289 hours of service to the program, a value of \$8,248.50 to KCPP.

Shiny Rock (right) was originally found on our KCPP campus, and we knew she wasn't one of our regular community cats. We immediately recognized how brave and sociable she was with people, so her pathway plan changed to being an adoption candidate. She was doing great meeting new people but was quickly becoming more and more stressed by other cats housed near her kennel. With the recommendation of being the only cat in her new home, she was transported to our Olathe Petco, where she could show off her best purr..sonality. Within 3 hours of arriving at the store, a new family had already fallen in love with her. Congratulations Shiny Rock!



Feline Foster Care Program

Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported May was a month full of young kittens! We sent **417** (407 kittens and 10 adult cats) to foster homes last month – a **178%** increase in underage cats arriving since last month!

At the end of May, **393** cats/kittens (72% of the cats at KCPP) were in 100 foster homes, and we onboarded 11 new foster homes.

We had a surge of very young kittens arriving this month. Of the 407 kittens we sent to foster homes, *329 were under 6 weeks old!* That's a 28% increase over last May for kittens under 6 weeks old. We also saw a 16% increase in underweight kittens compared to last May. Despite this increase in kittens, we didn't have any kittens spend more than one night in the shelter before going to a foster home! We are so grateful to have such an amazing group of foster homes to take on the care of all these tiny fragile lives.



Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported a busy May – with **818** cats/kittens arriving last month! We had **310** cats adopted – a 2.6% increase over last May.

- ✓ **437** families arrived in May at our KCCAC location that were interested in adopting cats.
- ✓ The average wait time to see cats was 10 minutes.
- ✓ Nearly **44%** of all visitors who met with a Feline Matchmaker adopted a cat that day.
- ✓ Visitors spend, on average, nearly 37 minutes meeting cats before deciding to adopt.

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 owned/community/outdoor cats coming in for spay/neuter surgeries has now more than doubled from this time last year – with **576** cats having already come through for services!

Lady Gage (right) came into our care October 30, 2023, when an employee of a retirement community brought her to us. Lady G had been spotted in their courtyard and was not a known member of their cat colony. When it began raining and Lady G did not find cover, the employee was convinced she was a displaced inside cat. She was terrified and spent a lot of time frozen and shut down. She eventually learned to trust us, thanks to her love of treats and Churu, and won the hearts of a wonderful couple. The couple adopted a second extremely clingy, cat loving cat to be Lady G's counterpart in their home on May 21st.



Gerald (left) was brought in as a stray in November 2023. He was limping and reportedly had a cough. Gerald remained under medical care to determine the extent of his illness and injury. He had a lot of kennel frustration and really didn't enjoy living anywhere near other cats. Doctors determined that Gerald's condition was stable, his limp was non-painful, and his attitude improved in a room by himself, so he could be made available for adoption. He found the perfect family on May 26th!

Submitted by,

T. Johnson

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