

# **Impact Report for November 2023 Activities**

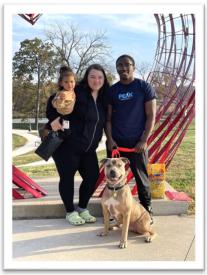
# **Sheltering Statistics:**

Dog & Cat Totals January - November	2023	2022	Difference
Adoptions	9,336	9,631	295 fewer
Total Intake	14,208	14,169	39 more
Returned to Owners	1,840	1,696	144 more
Live Release Rate	93.3%	96.1%	2.8% lower
Owner Surrendered Pets	2,866	3,619	753 more
Stray animals brought in by public	5,923	4,708	1,215 more
Cats/kittens transferred IN	1,084	1,781	697 fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	8,255	8,607	352 fewer
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	20.3 days	18.3 days	2 days longer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	19.4 days	19.7 days	0.3 days fewer

# November 2023 - Animals In & Animals Out

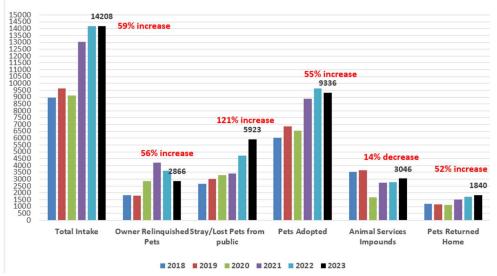
- We received or provided care for 1,225 new dogs and cats that arrived in November (718 dogs, 507 cats), along with 1 chicken, 3 goats, 3 guinea pigs, 1 iguana, 2 pigs, 5 rabbits, and 2 turtles.
- 894 pets were adopted in November (449 dogs, 445 cats, and 10 other pets) including Antonio (right). The number of dogs adopted was 21% higher than in November 2022.
- The number of stray pets arriving from the public rose again in November with a 32% increase in cats and a 17% increase in dogs.
- Despite the continued increase in the number of dogs arriving and the length of stay increasing for dogs, we achieved a 93.3% Save Rate in November (92.8% dogs, 93.9% cats).
- Our veterinary team performed 888 spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in November. Doctors performed 1,617 examinations on pets in/arriving at our shelter and treated 25 puppies and young dogs in our shelter's parvovirus ward.
- We provided spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary services for 73 community cats and 22 owned cats last month (for a total of 815 low-cost surgeries performed for community cats this year).
- **355** dogs/puppies and 122 cats/kittens were sent to foster homes in November.
- We provided free spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary services for 24 owned dogs last month that were reclaimed and reunited with their families – totaling 323 reclaimed dogs spayed/neutered at no charge by KCPP so far in 2023.

2023 has had the largest number of stray animals brought in by the public in Kansas City's recorded history.



#### Data Trends for January – November:

January - November Shelter Data for Dogs & Cats 2018 - 2023



Intake for dogs and cats is still running at the highest level recorded in our 11-year history – increasing steadily with an overall 59% increase in the number of animals arriving over the past 5 years.

Adoptions are still at the highest levels in our 11-year history – *up 55%* over the past 5 years.

Stray/lost pets brought in by the public are still at the highest level ever recorded in Kansas City – up
121% from 2018 totals. The number of stray animals arriving is already
26% higher than last year's record setting numbers.

**Lost/impounded pets** being reunited with their families through our dedicated Return-to-Home Team are **52%** higher than 2018 totals.

Our Live Release Rate (save rate) has unfortunately decreased due to the unprecedented numbers of dogs arriving, with the level of dog euthanasia currently 98% higher than in 2022. Our Live Release Rate for dogs in 2023 is 92.8%.

### **Animal Services Division Update**

- Officers worked 1,853 case activities in November, travelling a total of 13,779 miles throughout the city, impounding 286 animals, and returning an additional 48 pets back to their homes without having to impound them.
- In November, officers issued thirty-five (35) criminal citations, with 749 criminal citations for ordinance violations having been issued through Municipal Court so far in 2023.

			<b>F</b>	it in the second se
Calls from Residents Resulting in Cases	Online Reports Received by ASD	Case Follow Up Activities Performed	Total Case Activities for the Month	% of Calls resulting in Case Creation
1,331	108	414	1,853	46%

- The top four reasons criminal court citations were issued for ordinance violations in November were: 1) failure to provide adequate animal care, 2) failure to obtain a city license, 3) public nuisance violations, and 4) dogs running at large.
- Our Animal Cruelty Investigations Team investigated and closed 225 animal cruelty cases, including 42 reports of animal abandonment, 167 reports of neglect, 1 report of dogfighting, and 15 reports of animal cruelty.
- Animal Services Dispatchers answered 2,892 calls from residents last month, with an average wait time of only 26 seconds for calls to be answered. Our dispatchers maintained an impressive call abandonment rate of just 6.5% during the hours of 7AM 10PM.
- We saw an increase in November in the number of animals found abandoned, impounded due to police arrests, and animals signed over in the field by their owners/keepers due to the inability or unwillingness to provide care for their animals.

- A generous donation through Chewy and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) in November allowed our Animal Services Division to receive 30 pallets of pet foods and supplies to share with KCMO residents on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> in a drive-thru pet food donation event. The event served **202 families with 730 pets** – distributing approximately 18,000 lbs. of dog food, 8,000 lbs. of cat food, 17,000 lbs. of cat litter, and 30 wire kennels/gates.
- On November 30, our Animal Services Division partnered with the Kansas City, MO Police Department, and the Humane Society of the United States' (HSUS) Law Enforcement Training Division to co-host Advanced Animal Cruelty Training for local law enforcement, veterinarians, prosecutors, code enforcement, and animal services officers. Detectives from KCPD's Property Crimes Division, and officers from Blue Springs Animal Control, Raytown Animal Control, Independence Animal Control, Gladstone Animal Control, Liberty Animal Control, North Kansas City Animal Control, and the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office were in attendance.

# Stories from the Field – Building Dog Houses for our Community

With winter weather on the way, our Animal Services Division was already receiving more requests for resources from KCMO residents than ever before. This included requests for dog houses to provide humane shelter for outdoor dogs. On Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, KCPP's Animal Services Division held a Doghouse Building Event to build 25 large dog houses that could be donated to families in need.

An online fundraiser was held to cover the cost of lumber and supplies, and the paint was donated from a local business. Staff and volunteers worked in teams to cut, assemble, and paint dog houses to help families that would otherwise not be able to afford a doghouse for their dog. Officers will be able to deliver these houses to KCMO residents or provide a voucher for residents to pick one up at the shelter.



# Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

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

- November 28<sup>th</sup> was Giving Tuesday, and our KC Cares for Pets campaign was launched to raise funds to support the medical care of the pets we receive. We had two matching gifts from generous donors, one for \$40,000 and one for \$10,000, and through our community's generosity we reached our goal of \$100,000.
- We held our annual Black Friday adoption special with fee-waived adoptions and 123 pets were adopted during the 3-day event.
- We got a surprise \$10,000 grant from Patrick and Brittany Mahomes and the **15 and the Mahomies Foundation**. Teresa, Tori, and Chad attended the event at the Loews Hotel to receive the grant (right).
- We held our Fall in Love adoption special in November and 147 pets were adopted during the 4-day event.



- KC Pet Project took home 4 Philly Awards from Nonprofit Connect's awards program this year for excellence in nonprofit marketing in the following
  - ✓ Social Media Campaign The Story of Jolene
  - ✓ Short Video Giving Tuesday 2023

our marketing and branding strategies.

of our Giving Tuesday campaign.

\*

\*

categories:

- Special Event Invitation Love Finds a Way Gala
- ✓ Informational Brochure KC Pet Project Information Cards

Reames Photography did a photoshoot with Roadrunner (below right) to

Tori hosted 20 students and faculty from the KU Marketing Club to share

commemorate the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Roadrunner Medical Fund ahead

KC Pet Project was voted the winner of The Pitch's Best Place to Adopt A Pet in 2023! In addition, we won Runner Up for Best Fundraising Event for our Love Finds a Way gala!





KC PET PROJEC

 We had 168 news stories and broadcast mentions during the month of November with a total reach last month of 307,415,683 million people.

Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 61,000	110,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 70,000	169,000+ likes on Facebook
Sessions – 142,000	1.2 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 1,400,000	(web traffic was up in November)

#### **Volunteer Program Updates**

- ✓ In November, 776 volunteers gave 5,250.57 hours of services, the equivalent of 30 full-time employees.
- ✓ Total value of volunteer hours in November: \$149,851.18; an 8% increase from last month's total.
- ✓ Five (5) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 88 attendees.
- ✓ Seventy-one (71) new volunteers gave 257.23 hours in November and 160 volunteers participated in 223.27 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 122 volunteers.
- ✓ Twenty-three (23) court-ordered Community Service volunteers gave 288.34 hours in November.





GIVE TO CARE FOR WISPY WINDY **Businesses and groups that volunteered in November** brought 217 people to the campus and gave 701 hours of service: City Year Kansas City, Delta Zeta Sorority (UMKC), UMKC SSHP, Scarbrough Group, GEHA, Lockton, Girl Scout Troop 2788, Kearney High School National Honors Society, Rockhurst University, Alpha Phi Omega (Rockhurst University), New Frontiers at University Health, Jobs for America's Graduates, and AIA KC Pillars.

### **Volunteer Recruitment and Retention**

- ✓ Total active volunteers: **2,154** individuals, including 88 *newly active* volunteers.
- ✓ We received 268 new volunteer signups in November.

"Linda was an excellent mentor! She was kind but firm, clear but patient, and overall encouraging, welcoming, and appreciative. I felt very confident after finishing my session with her and have been proud to have walked dogs a few times since."

"Morgan was great and very informative!"

## **News From the Volunteer Department**

- Volunteers were instrumental in helping with two of our community-centered events in November: our Doghouse Building event and our Community Pet Food Donation event.
- It's the season of giving! Our amazing team of volunteers showed up on Thanksgiving Day to assist staff in animal care and operational tasks – dedicating time between both an AM and PM shift so that our animals received the care they needed, and staff could spend the holiday with friends and family. Our volunteers



also held a special enrichment event to create holiday-themed treats served in metal muffin tins for our shelter dogs, which were given out Thanksgiving evening. Our shelter pups were thrilled with a mix of healthy veggies and bone broth!



- Volunteers led the charge in creating festive holiday "Santa Paws" donation barrels that were distributed at local businesses and organizations to help gather items needed at KCPP.
- Our volunteers cooked and served a homemade luncheon for our staff providing a yummy assortment of treats for a post-Thanksgiving lunch.

## Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in November 2023

Surgeries		Medicine		Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	34	Wellness exams	432	Parvo pups treated	25
Community Cats spayed	39	Emergency exams	27	Parvo pups graduated	24
Reclaimed pets neutered	15	Foster pet exams	37	Save rate for parvo	96%
Reclaimed pets spayed	9	Rechecks performed	332		
Shelter Animals Neutered	377	addressed	229	Clinic Administration	
Shelter Animals Spayed	335	Post-adoption exams	8	Foster concerns addressed	143
Speciality Surgeries	57	Other Exams	552	Adopter concerns addressed	121
Special Cat Clinic	22			Medications filled	297
Total Surgeries	888	Total Exams	1617		

## Lifesaving Stories from the Veterinary Clinic

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Heather Kennedy gave a presentation at the Animal Welfare Symposium hosted by the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HSVMA) at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine on the topic of humane medical care for community and feral cats in animal shelters (right).

#### Spay/Neuter Collaborative of KC

On Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, we participated in the first ever community-wide spay/neuter event for owned pets in the Kansas City area. Seven animal welfare organizations came together to perform a total of 322 free spay and neuter services for dogs and cats in our community. At KCPP, **22 owned cats** were spayed/neutered, and KC Pet Project Board Member, Dr. Elise Kelly, assisted with pre-surgical exams. One of our surgeons, Dr. Robin Michael, performed the surgeries and some of our feline patients had surprises for us, including a kitty with a rare condition called *uterine unicornis* (where a cat has

only ½ of a uterus), and another kitty with an ovarian mass that we sent to the lab for evaluation. All kitties were sterilized, microchipped, vaccinated, and treated for parasites at no cost to their grateful owners.

**Hotdog Heidi** (right) came to us in August 2023 with her brother, Hamburger Harry. These two kitties were some of the sweetest we have met. Our team noticed Hotdog Heidi's ears were red and seemed irritated. Our doctors took a closer look when Heidi was under anesthesia for her spay surgery and found poor Heidi was suffering from severe infections in both ears.

After an initial course of antibiotics, her ears were still irritated, and infected. We administered a preventive to eradicate any ear mites, and we started another round of antibiotics. Instead of getting better, Heidi's ears continued to get worse. Our doctors started looking for other reasons for Heidi's symptoms. Ringworm is a fungal infection that, when present, is most often on the face or around the ears. In most kitties, it doesn't cause severe itchiness, but we decided we should still rule it out as a contributing factor. We sent hair samples to the Idexx Reference Laboratories for a special PCR test for ringworm. We also asked Idexx to identify any bacteria present and to see which antibiotics might kill the bacteria. The answers came back, and we started Heidi on a new antibiotic and a special diet as well. Heidi's ears





began to improve immediately. Despite her extended stay in our clinic and the many treatments she endured, Heidi remained the sweetest cat and was always ready to greet anyone who walked into our cat hospital. Hotdog Heidi was only on our adoption floor less than 24 hours before she was scooped up by her new family.

# 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 (1,522 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4**/5.00 (679 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project Petco Adoption Center: **4.4**/5.00 (209 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **967** emails were received in November inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **1,163** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process.

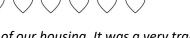
We received **66** adoption updates, including these two:

"It has been about two months now with Milo! He is doing great! He is really settling in. He loves playing with his toys, but most of all he loves getting lovings! He is really fitting in well with his cousins, my mom's two dogs."

"We adopted Satchel 3 weeks ago; he now goes by Bodie! He is settling in very well! His big sister loves having him around to play with and he loves to snuggle her and copy everything that she does! He feels so comfortable in his new forever home, he loves to go on walks, play in the yard with his sister and chase the ball around. He is very smart and loves to learn and train with his humans! He knows sit, stay, come, down, leave it, and lay down! He is such a quick learner! He also really loves wearing his PJ's now that it's getting chilly outside (photo right). We are so in love with our new fur baby and words cannot describe how happy it makes us to see him improve a little every day and get more and more settled into his furever home."

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

- ✓ 2023 Rating: 4.63/5.0 stars
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.68/5.0 stars: 33 surveys submitted in November, 1,201 submitted since launch in September 2020



"My visit was for pet relinquishment due to the loss of our housing. It was a very traumatic experience, and I was very ashamed for not being able to care for my pets responsibly. The staff who helped me were very kind and in no way made me feel shame. I appreciate the nonjudgemental interaction very much. It made a bad situation a little less horrible. I appreciate the staff and everything KCPP does for our community. I hope to be in a position someday to pay the kindness back."

In November, the Pet Support Center staff assisted approximately 1,340 KCMO residents with in-person services - bringing the total for 2023 to more than 11,642 residents/families 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.





- The Pet Support Center kept families together for 159 animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s); 127 animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, and 12 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter. A total of 298 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into the shelter due to supportive services provided by KCPP (a 35.4% increase from last month).
- We took in 425 stray/lost animals from members of the public in November.
- Pet Support Center staff diverted 90 animals from being surrendered through walk-in and in-person services for community members who visited the Admissions Department at our Campus in November. Our total number of owned pets diverted from community members seeking walk-in services is 346 pets for the year.

### **Rehoming Support Services**

In November, our team received 85 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted **66** owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 3,353 requests for ReHome services since November 2021.* 

### The top 4 reasons pets have been surrendered in 2023 were:

- 1. Lack of financial resources or inability to access resources for their pets, including costs for veterinary care and unplanned litters (1,014 pets),
- 2. Health of the owner or health of pet (581 pets),
- 3. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (519 pets),
- 4. Housing Issues including cost, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (453 pets).

November 2023	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	3,553	796	4,349	18%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	68	34	102	33%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	590	153	743	21%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	4,211	983	5,194	19%
<b>OUT &lt;</b> Helpline – Main	1236	219	1455	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	201	81	282	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1437	300	1737	N/A
Total Performance for the Month	5,648	1,283	6,931	19%

#### Pet Support Call Center Performance

Our Pet Support Center team answered **4,211** live phone calls, completed **1,737** outbound calls, resolved 420 voicemails, and completed a total of 7,708 interactions with pet families in November, a 4.2% decrease from last month's total of 8,044.

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

- The Return-to-Home team received 102 Lost Pet Reports and 61 Found Pet Reports filed online or over the phone by residents last month. They conducted 288 in-depth microchip/ownership investigations for stray animals in our care.
- 147 (21%) of the 711 lost animals brought to the shelter in November were returned to their owners. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while only 4.5% of lost cats were reclaimed by their owners.

Animal Services Officers have reunited **307** lost pets in the field so far in 2023, keeping those pets with their families and out of the shelter. The number of lost/impounded pets being returned to their families through our Return-to-Home Team and our Animal Services Officers is currently up **78% over 2018** totals!

# **Returned-to-Home: Savior is Saved**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, an Animal Services Officer received a call from the KC Police Department to pick up a small dog that was found during a suspect's arrest. Savior's owner had been searching desperately for Savior for 6 weeks after he disappeared and had contacted our shelter multiple times hoping he would be here. When Savior was brought in by our Officer, our staff immediately recognized him from the lost photos and called Savior's owner. When we told her Savior was found, she screamed with joy and many happy tears were shed when she arrived at our shelter just ten minutes later to scoop him up and take him home.

# Keep 'Em Together, KC Program Updates

A total of **605** families benefitted from our five (5) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in November (a 57% increase from last month):

# 1. Home Away from Home (HAFH) – Temporary Care Boarding Program

- $\checkmark$  12 families with 23 pets applied for temporary care assistance in November.
- ✓ 11 new safety net foster applications were received.
- ✓ Two families with 2 pets were reunited in November.
- ✓ Currently only 1 family with 3 pets is enrolled in HAFH.

687 applications have been received since the program launched in February 2021. Since inception, Home Away from Home has provided 5,159 days of enrollment and 8,071 days of temporary care for a total of 91 families with 141 pets with a **93% reunification rate**.

# 2. Pet Care Assistance Program

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$3,485.32** for 22 families (24 pets) was provided by KCPP in November.

- ✓ 20 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received.
- ✓ Home Away from Home Reunification Fees: \$299.17
- ✓ Shelter Reunification assistance granted: \$3,186.15

\*\* Our Healthy Pets KC program subsidized the costs for the 22 owned cats that were spay/neutered for KCMO pet owners on November 12<sup>th</sup> as a part of the Spay Neuter Collaborative of KC event. Total costs subsidized by KCPP for those surgeries were **\$1,350.00**.

# 3. Pet Resource Assistance Program

Derek Melies, Keep 'Em Together Coordinator, reported pet foods were shared with seven (7) community pantry partners in the metro, including the Don Bosco Center, Pet Resource Center, Lucky 13 Rescue, The Rescue Project, Chestnut Avenue Resource Center, and two local community cat caregivers.

**581** families with **1,408** pets benefited directly from these resources provided in November – this was the largest number of families ever receiving resource assistance in one month.





Our Canine Care team cared for an average of 247 dogs every day at the KC Campus for Animal Care in November.

**322** dogs and puppies were adopted in November. Dog adoptions were up nearly 22% from last November and are up 11% overall for the year.

Staff in Canine Care & Adoptions departments received training in dog walking, dog to dog introductions, and showing dogs to potential adopters. We piloted a Canine Foster-to Adopt Program aimed at finding suitable homes for harderto-place dogs by avoiding prolonged stays in the shelter or in foster care. Potential adopters are given a two-week period to determine if they wish to adopt the dog. During those two weeks, the adoptions team checks in with the

daily in canine playgroups in November.

An average of 154 shelter dogs participated

families with 2,824 pets.

# 5. Pets For Life Program:

There are currently 36 clients (with 58 pets) receiving ongoing support from Pets for Life in the Kansas City, Missouri community of 64127, since the program was launched in March 2023. Seven (7) pets have been spayed/neutered at no charge. Our previous program coordinator left in October, but a new program coordinator takes over in January 2024.

# **Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department**

- Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 80
- Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 109
- Number of dogs introduced to adopters by Behavior Team: 9
- 109 post-adoption support follow up emails were sent to adopters
- 20 behavior support phone consultations performed
- 45 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- Assisted 10 people with behavior help lessons for recently adopted or foster dogs

In November, Marissa Cox, Behavior and Enrichment Manager went to Wellborn, Florida to participate in a second Dogs Playing For Life mentorship program. Marissa completed their first mentorship program in July 2022. Marissa learned protocols for dogs with wariness of strangers and dogs with on-leash reactivity. We will be incorporating this

# **Canine Operations & Adoptions**

information into our Dog Walking Program.

- - ✓ 65.4% of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in November were reclaimed by owners who were eligible for the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
  - ✓ Since July 2021, we have subsidized \$250,169.00 in reclaim fees for 2,403
- 17,000 lbs. of kitty litter, and 30 kennels/gates were distributed during the event. 4. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program
- ✓ 39 kennels/crates and 2 dog houses ✓ 135 miscellaneous pet care items and 8 dog toys

✓ 14 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine

The Keep 'Em Together team, in partnership with KCPP's Animal Services Division, held a Drive-Through Community Pet Food event on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at KC Pet Project. Through a generous donation from Chewy and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), we received 30 pallets of pet foods and supplies. This event provided free pet food and pet supplies to 202 KCMO families with 730 pets. Approximately 18,000 lbs. of dog food, 8,000 lbs. of cat food,

✓ 18,507 lbs. of kitty litter ✓ 51 collars and 35 leashes

\$8,050.00 was subsidized by KCPP in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 88 families with 89 pets in October.

potential adopter and the shelter supplies any medical or behavioral support if needed during that time. We've had seven at-risk dogs participate in the program so far; three of the dogs have been adopted, while four are still completing their two-week period.

**KCCAC Adoptions Customer Service Survey** rating: **4.84/5.0** stars (17 surveys submitted in November, 328 responses to date)

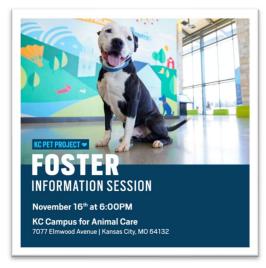
- "Everyone was very knowledgeable and helpful when it came to helping set me up with the best pet for my home. I had just lost my boy Bentley from CHF and they were caring and genuinely interested in finding me the best pet."
- > "The entire process was fantastic. The staff was friendly professional and worked quickly."
- "They were treating everyone wonderfully and I would recommend anyone wanting to adopt to come here. Thank you all!"
- "We just adopted our second dog from KCCP and could not be happier with our experience. Everyone we met or worked with was patient, professional and compassionate. It's a great facility as well, but the people working and volunteering really make it special."
- "Best place to adopt hands down!!"

## **Canine Foster Care Program**

Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported **162 dogs** (35% of the dogs in our care) were in foster homes at the end of November.

- ✓ During the month, **355** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes!
- ✓ Volunteers took **179** dogs on a Dog's Day Out last month.
- ✓ We welcomed 84 new dog foster families in November.
- ✓ We had 65 dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

We had an out-of-season spike in puppies and pregnant dogs last month sending 3 pregnant dogs and 4 nursing dogs with a combined total of 55 puppies to foster homes. We began hosting foster onboarding events to set up new fosters with foster dogs. Our Dog Day Out program continues to thrive; our volunteers are still dedicated to giving these dogs a break from the shelter.



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

Chelsae Rohrback, Rescue and Transport Coordinator reported 25 dogs, 1 pig, and 1 alligator were transferred to other rescue organizations in November.

<u>Organizations we transferred animals to:</u> Boxer Paws Rescue, Critter House KC, Great Plains SPCA, Kansas City Pig Rescue Network, KC Paws, Midwest Animal ResQ (MARQ), Missouri Pit Bull Rescue, Monkey Island Rescue, Pawportunities, Paws-N-Claws Iowa, Wayside Waifs, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary

### Small Animals & Transportation Program:

Seventy-three (**73**) puppies/small dogs and sixty-six (**66**) large dogs were moved to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center or Petco Adoption Center in November! We processed **10** small animal adoptions – 1 chicken, 1 goat, 3 guinea pigs, 1 pig, 3 rabbits, and 1 sheep.



### Feline Foster Care Program



Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported the colder weather has slowed the number of kittens coming in. In November, we sent only **122** (116 kittens and 6 adult cats) to foster homes, including Pumpkin (left).

 $\checkmark$  At the end of the month, **162** cats/kittens (50% of the cats at KCPP) were in 56 foster homes.

 $\checkmark$  Forty-four (44) kitties were adopted directly from foster homes last month.

This year was an unusual year for kittens! We saw kitten season start several weeks later than in previous years, peak early in May (rather than June), and our numbers for felines sent to foster in November were slightly higher. but our total number of cats and kittens currently in foster is lower.

We've streamlined the flow of kittens coming back from foster for surgery and adoption so they're spending less time waiting for their forever homes (lowering their length of stay).

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

Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer of 89 cats/kittens from Joplin Humane Society, Permian Basin Animal Advocates in Texas, and Lee's Summit Animal Control. This is a 39% increase from last month, but the number of cats being transferred in is significantly less than last year at this time due to the higher numbers of cats/kittens being surrendered locally by their owners.

We processed **144** cat/kitten adoptions from our Petco Cat Habitat stores, as well as 34 adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café. The Petco in Liberty, MO and Olathe, KS had the highest number of adoptions in November with 25 each, followed by the Barry Road store with 19 adoptions. The remodeled Petco store in Blue Springs, MO officially reopened for cats/kittens this month as well.



The average length of stay for kittens in Petco Cat Habits was just **2.9** days!

**Spinelli Spot** and **Sir Sriracha** (left) were two stray cats that came in together at the end of October, and they captured the hearts of our

KCPP staff, the Petco Habitat volunteers, and our Instagram followers -- gaining almost 3,000 likes on their post! The post was seen by a lovely couple, who after seeing them on the website just a few days prior, realized they were meant to be a part of their family.

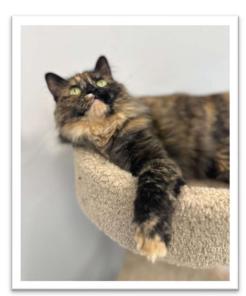
#### **Feline Operations**

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported we took in **507** cats/kittens in November, with a whoppin32% increase in the number of stray cats/kittens being brought in by the public over last year at this time.

We had **445** cats adopted this month, but adoptions were lower than last November due to several Petco stores still being under construction.

**Snowbal** (right) arrived in early October from his caregiver with a wound on his leg. He spent a month with us and quickly became a staff favorite due to his ability to stand on two legs for long periods of time to receive face pets. Once his wound was healed, he quickly found a new home in November.

**Aspen** (below) was brought to us in July after having been surrendered to a vet clinic for scratching the family dog on the nose. Aspen needed time to adjust to the shelter, but soon became the queen of the west room where she lounged on



her tower to rule her kingdom at every opportunity. She let us know she had strong beliefs about dogs and her own leadership abilities, and she found the perfect family to take her home!





Submitted by, *TJohnson* Teresa Johnson, President/CEO & Chief Lifesaving Officer, KC Pet Project