

KC PET PROJECT

Impact Report for September 2024 Activities

Sheltering Statistics:

Dog & Cat Totals for Jan - Sept	2024	2023	Difference
Total Intake	11,981	11,643	338 more
Adoptions	7,597	7,474	123 more
Returned to Owners	1,401	1,528	127 fewer
Live Release Rate	93.3%	93.1%	0.2% higher
Owner Surrendered Pets	2,118	2,398	280 fewer
Stray animals brought in by public	4,482	4,843	361 fewer
Cats/kittens transferred IN	992	928	64 more
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	7,300	6,480	820 more
Average Length of Stay for Dogs	19.3 days	20.3 days	1.0 day fewer
Average Length of Stay for Cats	15.9 days	18.8 days	2.9 days fewer

September 2024 - Animals In & Animals Out

- ❖ We received or provided care for **1,419** new dogs and cats that arrived in September (684 dogs, 715 cats), along with 1 chicken, 1 duck, 7 goats, 2 guinea pigs, 1 pigeon, 2 rabbits, and 2 snakes.
- ❖ **923** pets were adopted in September (411 dogs, 493 cats, and 19 other pets). Dog adoptions were 9% lower than last September but are still up **4.5%** over last year at this time. Cat adoptions were also down slightly last month.

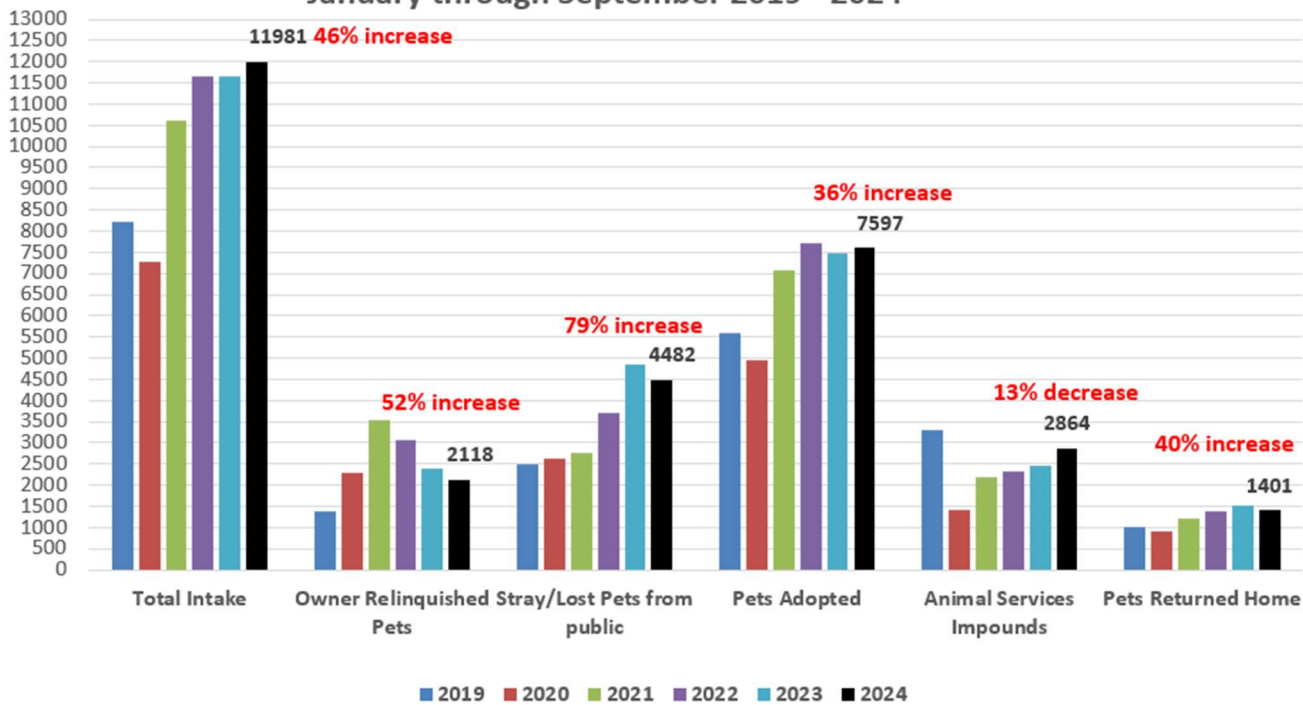


- ❖ We achieved a **93.6%** Save Rate in September (93.9% dogs, 93.2% cats). Our Save Rate so far in 2024 is **93.3%**.
- ❖ We provided **34** free spay/neuter surgeries for pitbull-type dogs that were reclaimed from our shelter by their families.
- ❖ **398** dogs/puppies and **208** cats/kittens were sent to foster homes last month.
- ❖ The Return-To-Home team had an **8%** increase in the number of lost/impounded dogs reunited with their families in August.
- ❖ The number of pets impounded by our Animal Services team is **17%** higher than last year at this time.

Our veterinary team performed 862 spay/neuter and specialty surgeries in September – including TNR services for 109 community cats (a 51% increase over last September)!

Data Trends 2024

KCMO Shelter Data Trends for Dogs & Cats January through September 2019 - 2024



- Intake for animals is still running **46% higher** than what we saw in 2019.
- **Adoptions** are also still at the highest levels in our 12-year history – still **up 36%** 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 79%** from 2019 totals.
- **Pets Surrendered by their Owners** are **52% higher** than 2019 totals for this period.

Animal Services Division Update for September 2024

Officers worked **2,102** total case activities last month, travelling a total of **18,790** miles throughout the city, impounding **310** animals, and returning an additional **54** lost pets back to their homes without having to impound them.

- ❖ Our Animal Cruelty Investigations Team investigated and closed **223** animal cruelty cases, including 43 reports of animal abandonment, 154 reports of neglect, 25 reports of cruelty, and 1 report of dogfighting.
- ❖ Our Dispatch team efficiently handled nearly **3,300** calls, maintaining an answer rate of 91% and an average wait time of just 33 seconds, spending 62 hours on the phones in September.
- ❖ The number of dogs impounded by Animal Services was up **14%** in September and is up **14%** over last year at this time. The number of cats impounded year-to-date is up more than **28%** due to several over-the-limit neglect cases.

From January – September, criminal citations have been issued for 124 cases of dogs creating a public nuisance, and Animal Services has already declared 32 dogs Dangerous or Potentially Dangerous in KCMO.

Enforcement & Criminal Deterrent Efforts by our Animal Services Division

In September, officers issued **ninety-eight (98) criminal citations** for violations of the Kansas City Municipal Code. *A total of **660** criminal citations through Municipal Court have been issued so far in 2024.*

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

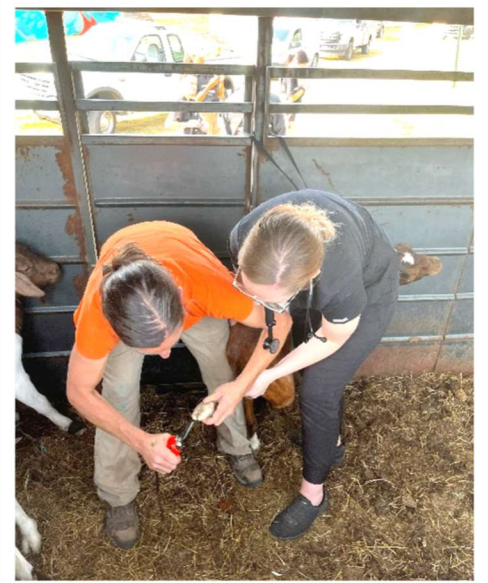
1. Dog running at large,
2. Failure to display or obtain a city license,
3. Failure to spay/neuter a pit-bull-type dog,
4. Failure to provide adequate animal care,
5. Dogs creating a public nuisance

Stories from the Field – The Great Goat Round Up of 2024

In September, the Animal Services Division carried out a large-scale goat roundup operation in Berkley Riverfront Park. In early August, the division began receiving reports from the community about a number of loose goats wandering the riverfront area. Prior to these reports, the division had been aware of a herd of goats being used to clear brush in the area, but all those goats had been accounted for by the contractor and were removed after the project ended.

Throughout August, multiple attempts were made by Animal Services Officers to capture the remaining 10 goats, but due to the vast area and rocky terrain they roamed, the goats evaded capture.

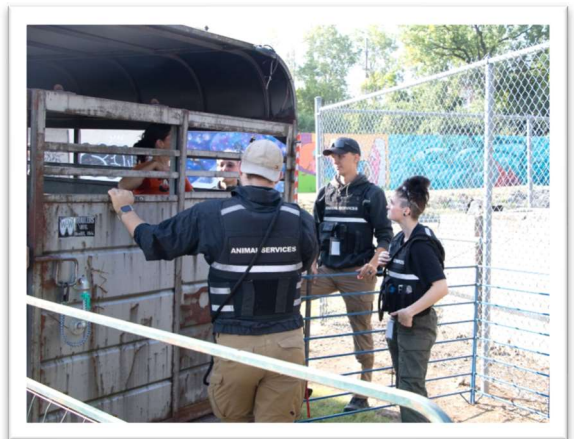




Three goats were eventually rescued after becoming trapped in a small enclosure, but seven still remained at large. Ear tags on the goats proved unhelpful at finding the owner who had abandoned their herd of goats in this area.

On September 11th, Animal Services Officers teamed up with Port KC employees and local goat expert Margaret Chamas for a full-scale roundup, starting early in the morning. Officers utilized the natural terrain, corral fencing, and livestock panels to create barriers, pushing through dense brush along the steep and rocky southern banks of the Missouri River – herding the goats into a livestock trailer.

Officers battled heat, hornet nests, sharp rocks, thick vegetation, and uncooperative goats. After several hours, the last two wayward goats finally entered the trailer, and the gate was secured. All seven goats received on-site medical evaluations from our shelter's veterinary team, including immediate medical care for a goat with an injured hoof, and all seven goats were taken to the shelter to complete their mandatory five-day stray hold. Since no owner came forward, the goats were adopted out to new homes, and we hope their wandering days on the rocky riverbanks of Kansas City are over.



Marketing/PR/Communications/Community Events

- ❖ We launched additional promotions for our October 5th Cowboy Saturday event in the Crossroads. We are expecting more than 300 attendees.
- ❖ We hosted our Fall in Love adoption event from September 27-29th and 130 pets found homes during the event.
- ❖ The 15 and the Mahomies Foundation sponsored our Tackle Pet Homelessness adoption special from September 20 -23 and 151 pets found new homes during the special!
- ❖ September started off on the final day of the Clear the Shelter Adoption Special where 180 pets were adopted!
- ❖ Tori gave a presentation to the Volunteer Management Institute for Nonprofit Connect in September to talk about how we communicate with our volunteers.
- ❖ Tori was a co-host on radio station 90.9 The Bridge's fall funding drive to promote KC Pet Project and Saturday.
- ❖ In September we had 26 news stories and 84 broadcast mentions for a total reach of **197,579,320 million** people.

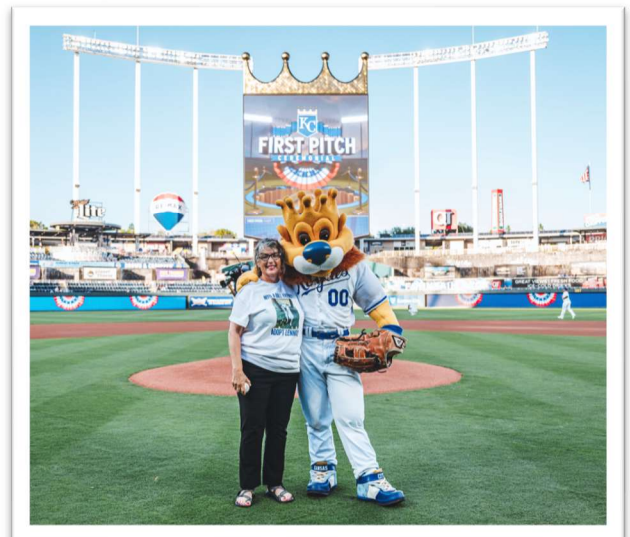


Website Statistics	Social Statistics
Users – 69,000	144,000+ followers on Instagram
New Users- 63,000	202,000+ followers on Facebook
Sessions – 132,000	1.2 million TikTok followers
Page Views – 624,000	

At the **Bark in the Park** event at the Kansas City Royal's game on September 3rd, we honored our KCCAC board chair, Kristi Wyatt (below), in the Buck O'Neil Legacy Seat and our long-time volunteer Teddy Wright (below right) was chosen to throw out the First Pitch!

At the event, we had an information table, cute foster puppies, dog treat giveaways, and our Animal Services team handed out engraved pet ID tags.

Teddy Wright also organized the **Patch for Paws** pumpkin sale at the KCCAC Campus to raise funds for our Canine Enrichment Program.



Volunteer Program Updates

In September, **754** volunteers gave **4,966.66** hours of services, the equivalent of 28.75 full-time employees.

- ✓ 283 volunteers gave hours at KCCAC
- ✓ 225 volunteers gave hours as part of a business or group
- ✓ 67 volunteers gave hours at our Zona Rosa Adoption Center
- ✓ 102 volunteers gave hours at our Petco Cat Habitat locations
- ✓ Remaining hours were given by fosters, court-ordered community service workers, and remote volunteer work

Total value of volunteer hours in September: **\$138,752.79**

Businesses and groups that volunteered brought 225 people to the Campus and gave 549.5 hours of service:

Liberty Academy (which brought in three separate groups in September), T-Mobile, Federal of Prisons Regional Offices, Faith Christian Academy, BesaMe Wellness, Boulevard Brewing Co., UMKC Pre-Dental Society, UMKC Pre-Dental Hygiene Academy, VML, Southland CAPS, Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day Saints, and the KC Crew.

On September 27th we had three groups doing canine enrichment: Southland CAPS, VML, and a second Southland CAPS group. Their contributions helped fill our freezers with three weeks of dog treats! Canine friends Joplin, Tilt and Miko met the groups and thanked them for their efforts at the end of their visits!



Boulevard Brewery employees (above) joined us on September 19th and did landscaping work, trash collection, and other campus tasks. Shelter dog Joplin thanked them for their hard work for KCPP!

T-Mobile staff (above right) joined us on September 12th for kennel cleaning, puppy holding, hot dog cutting, and more. Not only did they donate their time, but they also brought us a \$5,000 donation!



Volunteer Recruitment and Retention:

Total active volunteers: 1,682

- ✓ We received 305 new volunteer signups in September
- ✓ Four (4) new volunteer orientations were conducted for 67 attendees
- ✓ 142 volunteers participated in 251 hours of training sessions, including in-person mentoring sessions for 101 volunteers.
- ✓ Seventeen (17) court-ordered community service volunteers gave 549.5 hours in September, which was a value of \$15,682.73.

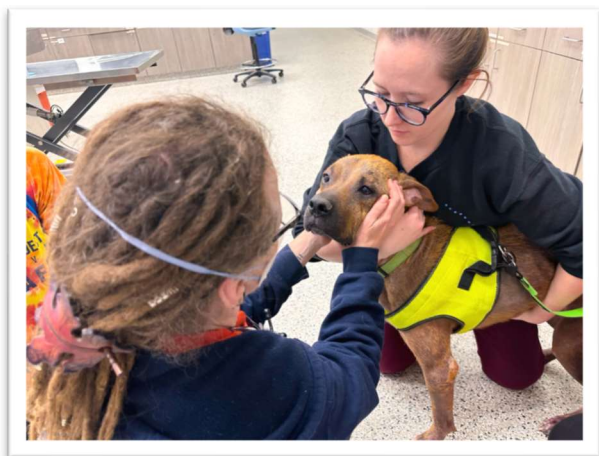
The all-volunteer photo team at our main Campus continues to work hard to get great photos of our available dogs for their adoption profiles (like Shayna, right). The team, led by volunteer Linda Schroeder, comes together each Sunday to use their professional photography skills to help get a lot of dogs photographed each week. In September, they photographed **228** dogs – an average of 46 dogs every Sunday!



Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in September 2024

Surgeries		Medicine		Parvo Ward	
Community Cats Neutered	51	Wellness exams	61	Parvo pups treated	15
Community Cats spayed	58	Emergency exams	66	Parvo pups graduated	12
Reclaimed pets neutered	19	Foster pet exams	73	Save rate for parvo	80%
Reclaimed pets spayed	15	Rechecks performed	294	Clinic Administration	
Shelter Animals Neutered	357	Medical concerns addressed	417	Communications with fosters	127
Shelter Animals Spayed	330	Post-adoption exams	6	adopters	95
Speciality Surgeries	32	Other Exams	381	Medications filled	366
Total Surgeries	862	Total Exams	1298		

Our doctors have performed **7,300** spay/neuter surgeries and **415** specialty surgeries so far in 2024. *This is a 13% increase in the number of spay/neuter surgeries performed last year at this time.*

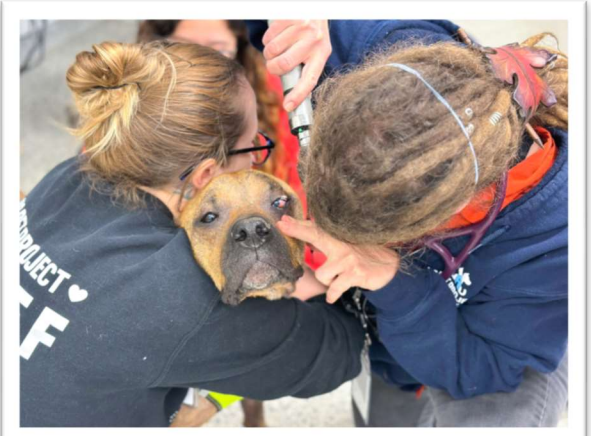
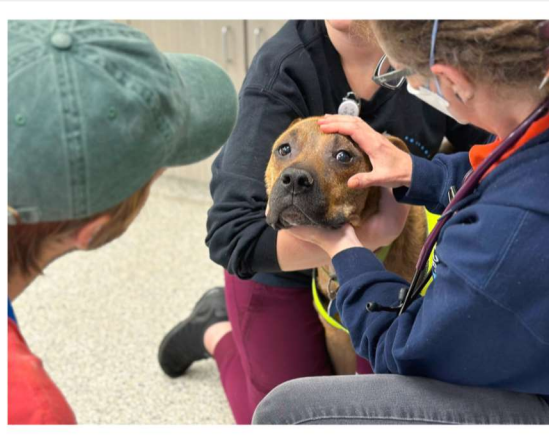


Lifesaving Stories from the KCPP Veterinary Clinic

Joy to the World (left) came to our shelter on September 22nd as a stray dog in dire need of medical care. She was severely emaciated, suffering from painful skin allergies, and had lost most of her fur. Despite her hardships, she quickly captured the hearts of our staff and volunteers with her incredibly sweet and gentle nature. After spending weeks in our vet clinic receiving treatment, it was a joyous occasion when she was finally adopted by a loving family!

However, a few days after her adoption, her new family noticed some discharge in her left eye. Concerned, they brought Joy back to our shelter’s vet clinic, where our vet clinic team examined her.

While we do our best to address emergent issues and provide animals with the veterinary care they need before adoption, we aren't able to detect every underlying condition. Joy's visit to our clinic was also a beautiful reunion with the team that



cared for her. Seeing her thriving in her new home, surrounded by love, is the ultimate reminder of why we do what we do. We're so thankful to Joy's family for being vigilant and for giving this sweet girl the home she deserves!

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** (1,610 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Zona Rosa Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (720 Google reviews)
- ✓ KC Pet Project - Petco Adoption Center: **4.4/5.00** (228 Google reviews)

Colin Sutter, Customer Engagement Coordinator, reported **785** emails were received in September inquiring about fostering a pet or pets in foster homes. An additional **571** emails were received through our Contact email address, mostly regarding pets available for adoption or the adoption process.

We received **36** adoption updates last month, including these notes from adopters:

“Had such a wonderful experience when I brought one of my guys from our Firm Foundations Ministries program who was in need of an emotional support animal. He checked out the dogs online first from the list of dogs that had been there the longest. He had been rescued and wanted to do the same and pay it forward by adopting Ingrid. It was love at first sight when she met him. I had to hold back tears. The staff was amazing from start to finish!”

“We decided to name her Sophia Petrillo Perkins. She’s doing amazing in our home and getting used to our routine. She’s been excellent with our kids... She seems to already know sit and lay down, but needs to work on walking on a leash. Overall, we couldn’t have asked for a better dog and better experience at KCPP!”

“Cheshire is such an incredible boy! He has a long road ahead healing from stress, but I’m willing to take as much time as he needs. He does really well with the family and his fur-siblings. He is such a handsome boy, and he’s loved unconditionally. He’s definitely in his forever home. Thank you all so much!”

Pet Support Center – Customer Satisfaction & Services Provided

- ✓ **2024 Rating: 4.758/5.0 stars**
- ✓ Historical rating: 4.468/5.0 stars: 20 surveys submitted in September; 1,364 submitted since September 2020

“You guys are saints. We’re all in this together.”

“Everyone I have ever encountered here has been beyond stellar. However, Paige set a new standard! Her friendliness and her understanding of my deafness were highly appreciated.”

Pet Support Call Center/Pet Helpline Performance

September 2024	Answered	Unanswered	Total Calls	Abandoned Rate %
IN > Helpline - Main Queue	3,114	614	3,728	16%
IN > Helpline - Spanish	46	37	83	45%
IN > Helpline - Lost and Found	715	160	875	18%
Helpline INBOUND Performance	3,875	811	4,686	17%
OUT < Helpline – Main	967	207	1,174	N/A
OUT < Helpline – Lost and Found	353	102	455	N/A
Helpline OUTBOUND Performance	1,320	309	1,629	N/A
Total Performance for September 2024	5,195	1,120	6,315	18%

Our Pet Support Center team answered **3,875** live phone calls, made **1,629** outbound calls, and resolved 142 voicemails.

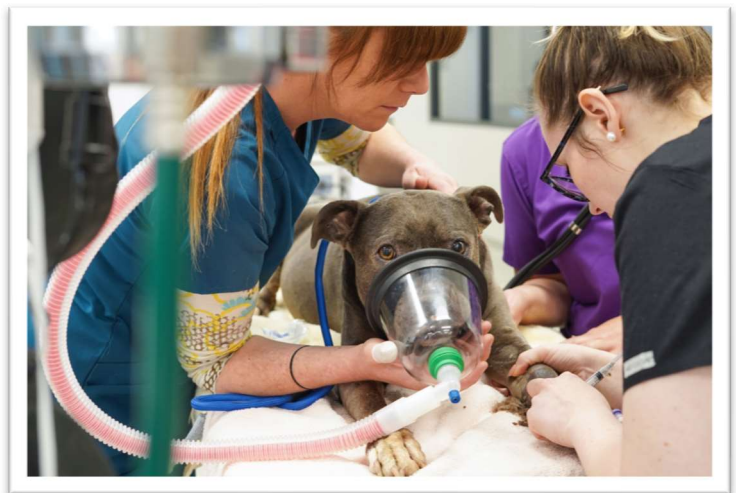
In September, the Pet Support Center staff assisted **1,404** KCMO residents with in-person services (an average of 47 families a day) who came in for pet relinquishment services, stray animal impounds, microchipping, lost and found/return to home, pet licensing, bringing in sick or injured pets, pets 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 3 minutes.*
- ❖ We took in **501** stray/lost animals from the public in September.
- ❖ The Pet Support Center kept families together for **326** animals whose owners originally contacted KCPP to surrender their pet(s), **113** animals were diverted through return-to-field, trap-neuter-return, and safety net programs, **123** were diverted through in-person conversations by our PSC staff, and 13 additional animals were returned to grateful owners through subsidized programs after being surrendered to the shelter.

A total of 576 animals stayed with their families last month instead of coming into or staying at the shelter thanks to supportive services provided by KCPP staff – a 195% increase from September 2023!

The top 4 reasons pets are being surrendered in 2024:

1. Lack of financial resources or inability to access resources for their pets, including costs for veterinary care and unplanned litters (668 pets),
2. Health of owner/family, health of pet, and euthanasia requests (467 pets),
3. Personal reasons including changes in lifestyle, or the pet was incompatible with the living arrangements of other people or other animals (392 pets),
4. Housing Issues - including cost of housing, loss of home, moving/relocating, eviction, and housing restrictions (337 pets).



Return-to-Home Team

- ❖ Admissions staff reunited 22 lost pets with their owners PRIOR to impounding them thanks to identification.
- ❖ The team conducted 316 ownership investigations in an effort to send lost pets back home last month.

- ❖ 141 (23%) of the 620 lost animals (136 neonate kittens excluded) brought to the shelter in September were returned to their owners.
- ❖ Twenty-seven percent (27%) of lost dogs were reunited with their families, while only 3% of lost cats arriving were reclaimed/returned to their owners. Another 16 dogs considered “at risk” returned home after a quarantine or scheduled surrender.
- ❖ In September, fourteen (14) dogs were enrolled in the **Friendly Finder Program** which allows finders to foster dogs they have found as strays. This encourages finders to be more involved in the reunification process and helps prevent overcrowding in the shelter. The Pet Support Center team continues to fine tune our Friendly Finder Program to help encourage finders to foster found pets and make it easier for staff to plan for these pets’ return to the shelter. Finders are now automatically enrolled in a Foster Orientation, scheduled for the day after stray hold ends. We are now accepting Small Mammals (Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, etc.) for the Friendly Finder program. These changes led to 14 members of the public agreeing to be Friendly Finders in September, more than any previous month.

Returned-to-Home: Sarasota

In September, our Animal Services team impounded a dog as part of an active case, and the dog was found to have a microchip implanted by KCPP. The Return-To-Home team was able to search through several years of records and locate the previous owner, who adopted the dog from KCPP in 2021. The contact information for the owner was outdated, but our diligent KCPP staff uncovered contact information for the adopter’s sister who immediately contacted the owner to come to the shelter to reclaim her missing dog! Sarasota was so happy to leave the shelter with her mom.



Rehoming Support Services

In September, our team received 130 requests for our private rehoming services. Eligible pet owners posted 47 owned pets for adoption through our ReHome website. *Our team has received 4,548 requests for ReHome services since November 2021.*

- *We received 409 requests in September 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 395 families benefitted from our five (5) KETKC Subsidiary Programs in September.*

1. Pet Care Assistance Program (PCAP)

Pet owner financial assistance totaling **\$3,621.88** was provided by KCPP in September.

- ✓ 19 Pet Care Assistance Applications were received
- ✓ Healthy Pets KC medical assistance granted: \$1,076.88
- ✓ Shelter reunification assistance granted: \$2,545.00

2. Pet Resource Assistance Program

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

156 local families with 290 pets benefitted from pet food resources provided in September.

- ✓ 1,305.5 lbs. of dog food and 124 lbs. of dog treats
- ✓ 535 lbs. of cat food
- ✓ 60 lbs. of kitty litter
- ✓ 51 collars and 24 leashes
- ✓ 16 individual doses of flea/heartworm medicine
- ✓ 11 kennels/crates and 1 doghouse, plus 210 miscellaneous pet care items

3. Home Away from Home (HAFH) Program

No new families were enrolled in our Home Away from Home emergency boarding program in September.

4. 3-Day Reclaim Fee Forgiveness Program

- ✓ 74% of the animals reclaimed from the shelter in September were reclaimed by owners who were eligible for the Reclaim Fee Forgiveness program.
- ✓ *Since June 2021, we have subsidized \$337,569.00 in reclaim fees for 3,237 families with 3,804 pets.*

In September, \$8,800 was subsidized by KCPP in Reclaim Fee Forgiveness for 87 families with 104 pets.

5. 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: 8
- ✓ Number of new pets met: 13
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter appointments scheduled: 3
- ✓ Total number of spay/neuter surgeries completed: 3
- ✓ Total number of touchpoints/conversations with PFL clients: 26
- ✓ Supplies given (leashes, food, shelters, etc.): 69 items
- ✓ Medications or services given (dewormer, nail trim, microchip, vaccines, etc.): 17
- ✓ Conversion rate of pets whose families request spay/neuter services: 100%

Pets For Life Stories – Home is Where They Love You

In September, PFL Coordinator Mariana Vasquez went to E 24th St and Hardesty Ave to assist with resources for one family but ended up meeting five (5) families with pets! Mariana said, “The smiles, care, love and happiness I saw in those families were priceless. Michael and his friend adopted Snowball and “Little Puppy” and have been living happily together. Snowball has proven to be an escape artist, but I found the perfect harness for her to keep her safe at home.” All those beloved pets, and two more families with pets in this small campground, were given 5 bags of dog food, 5 leashes, 5 collars, 2 harnesses, 5 bags of dog treats, and 3 fleas/tick medications for their pups.



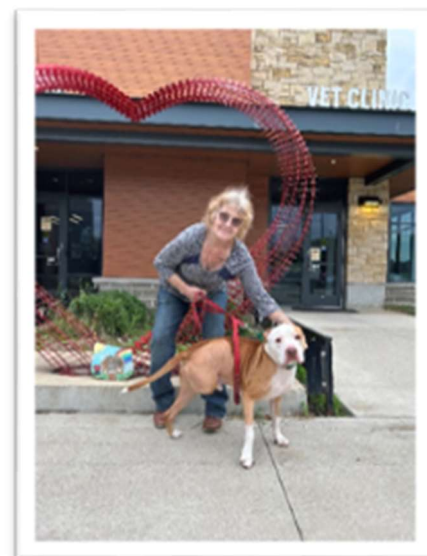
Keeping 'Em Together: Bowser and Kimberly

When Kimberly woke up and her best friend, Bowser, was missing, she was “beside herself.” Bowser was her best friend and protector, a lovable dog who made her smile. When she got the call that Bowser was found, she was so overjoyed until she heard that Bowser had been hit by a car.

When Kimberly arrived at the shelter, Bowser was just recovering from emergency surgery. Bowser’s back right leg had taken the brunt of the impact, requiring amputation. Bowser would need to stay in our hospital for monitoring while his wounds healed. Recovery had its ups and downs, with Bowser’s appetite and strength gradually returning. Kimberly visited Bowser, and he would noticeably perk up and his tail would wag.

When it came time to return home, Kimberly discussed his cost of care with our staff. As the sole member of her household, she would need help to cover the costs of saving his life. KC Pet Project’s Pet Care Assistance Program was designed to help with these types of costs to help Bowser go back home to the family that loved him.

After nearly a month in our clinic hospital and re-learning the world as a three-legged dog, Bowser hopped his way down the hallway to a crying Kimberly. Staff couldn’t decide who was happier – Kimberly or Bowser!



Canine Behavior & Enrichment Department

- ❖ Dogs assigned to Behavior Team for assessment: 36
- ❖ Pre-adoption behavior consultations conducted: 132
- ❖ Number of dogs introduced to adopters: 9

- ❖ 132 post-adoption support follow up emails sent
- ❖ 15 behavior support phone consultations performed
- ❖ 121 behavior support emails/correspondence sent
- ❖ Assisted 5 people with behavior help or lessons given for recently adopted or foster dogs

During the month of September, the behavior team made modifications to our dog walking program based on insights from Dogs Playing for Life's visit in August, refining how it's taught to handlers. We're excited to announce our first mentorship, hosted at KC Pet Project in partnership with Dogs Playing for Life, which will bring 10 individuals from across the country to learn from DPFL staff.

Canine Operations & Adoptions

We had **903 separate individuals/families** at our KC Campus for Animal Care in September who were interested in meeting dogs available for adoption.

- ✓ Nearly **42%** of all visitors who met with a Canine Matchmaker adopted a dog that day.
- ✓ The average wait time for a Canine Matchmaker in August was **9** minutes.
- ✓ The average time it took for an interested party to meet and decide on a dog to adopt was **33** minutes.
- ✓ The average wait time for an Adoption Counselor to finalize the adoption was **35** minutes.
- ✓ The average total time spent at KCCAC to meet and/or adopt a dog was **72** minutes.
- ✓ Canine staff cared for an average of **267** dogs daily at our Campus location.
- ✓ **411** dogs and puppies were adopted last month – that’s **9%** lower than last September.

*An average of **186** dogs every day participated in canine playgroups!*

*Dog adoptions are still up **4.5%** year-to-date!*

Returned adoptions are still down significantly – with a **23% reduction** so far in 2024 -- 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 September, the Canine Care & Adoptions departments trained in dog walking, dog to dog introductions, and showing dogs to potential adopters. The Canine Care team continued monthly team meetings to increase communication and education across the department. We reviewed new protocols for matching our dogs with potential adopters' resident dogs based on dog sociability and play style. We also introduced a new feeding protocol to increase safety measures. Foster-to-adopt continues to gain in popularity, with **39** dogs participating in the program.

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

"We loved getting Roo and everyone we talked with... we are so thankful! "

"KCPP Staff and Volunteers are excellent. Even hearing other staff/ volunteers with others interviewing to foster and or volunteer or adopt/ rescue, they each were nice, friendly, knowledgeable, listened well, and very helpful in so many ways. I'd recommend anyone wanting to adopt to come to KC Pet Project. The medical care and concern provided by the veterinarians, and everyone mentioned above for all animals in their care is top notch! It was an enjoyable experience, and we found our fur baby that completes our family. I haven't listed everything but go there and you'll surely find the fur friend to share your home with forever. You will not be disappointed! "

Canine Foster Care Program

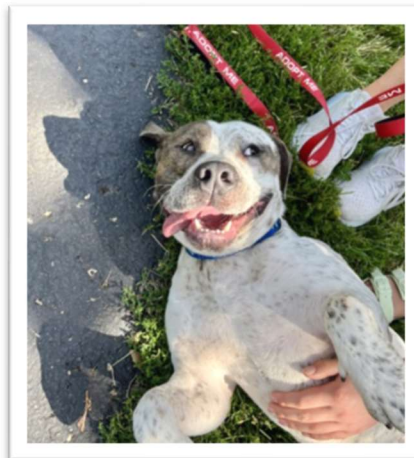
Tabitha Urban, Director of Canine Operations, reported that **158 dogs** were in foster homes at the end of September.

- ✓ During the month, **398** dogs/puppies were sent to foster homes!
- ✓ We welcomed **73** new dog foster families.
- ✓ We had **82** dogs/puppies adopted directly from foster homes.

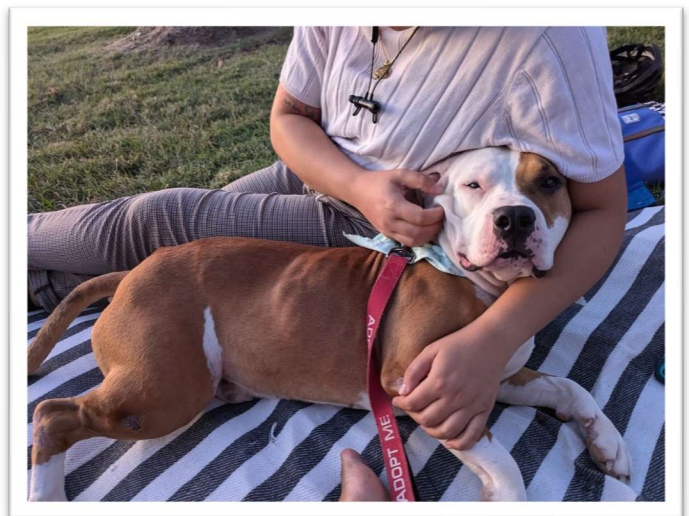
Volunteers took 218 dogs on a Dog's Day Out in September!

During the month of September, the Foster Department sent **nearly 400 dogs** to foster! This includes Dog Day Outs, but our number of dogs in long term foster homes increased to 158 this month. This is a great improvement from the 130 dogs that were in foster last month. We saw our adoption from foster home numbers increase this month.

Merlin (far right), one of our very at-risk dogs, left for a foster home in September! Merlin came to us at the end of July and was slowly declining living in the shelter. He was very popular for Dog Day Outs, and finally someone came along that could take him long term - and he's been thriving in his foster home ever since!



Speckles (right), another long stay dog, left for foster this month as well. Speckles first came to us in May and was with us for about a month before being adopted. He sadly came back as a stray at the beginning of August and was sitting in the shelter for a month and a half before leaving for foster. He's currently enjoying being spoiled by a family of four while waiting for the right person to come adopt him!



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

In September, 51 dogs were transferred out to these shelters/rescue organizations: *Chain of Hope, Critter House KC, Lawrence Humane Society, Mid America Boston Terrier Rescue, Pawsitive Tails, Paws-N-Claws Iowa, The Animal Rescue Alliance (TARA), Wayside Waifs, and Whispering Willows Senior Dog Sanctuary.*



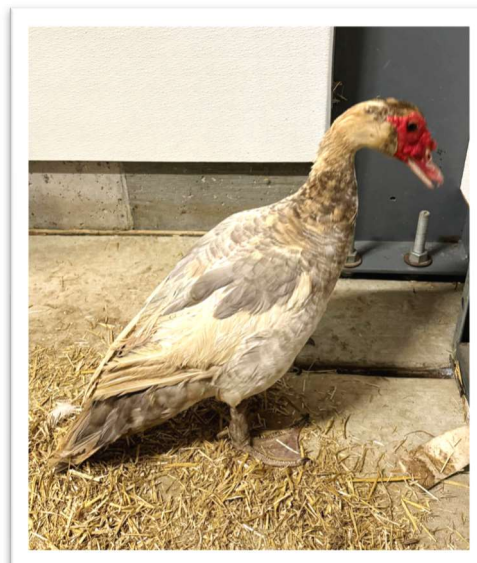
Small Animals & Farm Animals

We processed **19** small animal adoptions last month – 6 chickens, 1 duck, 8 goats, 3 guinea pigs, and 1 snake. 🐍

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.

Fifty-one (**51**) puppies/small dogs and forty-two (**42**) large breed dogs were moved to off-site locations this month to our Zona Rosa Adoption Center. Four (4) small animals were moved to our Petco Adoption Center.

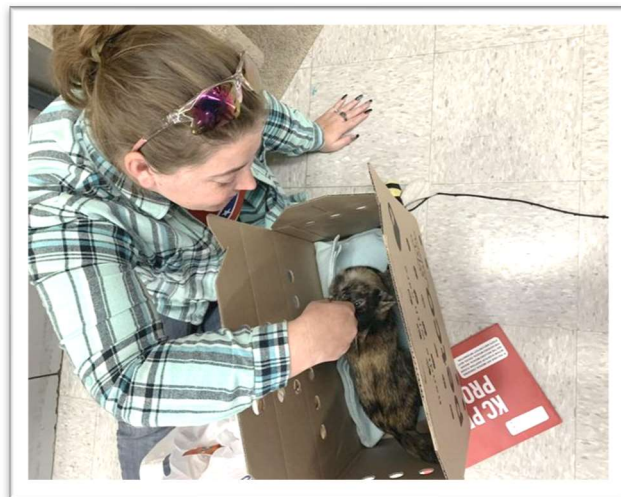


Petco Cat Habitats | Whiskers Cat Café | Feline Lifesaving Transfer Program

Gage Mofield, our Petco Program Coordinator, oversaw the transfer in of **175** cats/kittens from *Austin Pets Alive!, Craven-Pamlico Animal Services Center (North Carolina), Humane Society of Scott County (Iowa), Joplin Humane Society, Liberty Animal Shelter, and Rudimentary Rescue & Lucky's Cat House (Tennessee).* This was nearly double the number of cats/kittens we transferred in last September!

- ✓ The average length of stay for adult cats in a Petco Cat Habitat in September less than 5 days, and the length of stay for kittens was just **3.7 days** at the Habitats!
- ✓ We processed **196** cat/kitten adoptions from our Petco Cat Habitat stores, as well as **5** adoptions from Whiskers Cat Café.
- ✓ The Barry Road Petco store had the highest number of adoptions in September with 29 adoptions, followed by the Blue Springs Petco store with 28 adoptions and the Olathe store with 24 adoptions.
- ✓ Petco Cat Habitat volunteers gave **741** hours of service to the program, a value of **\$21,263.68** to KCPP.

Ex Machina (right) arrived at the Olathe Petco store and quickly made it known she wanted to be an only pet! This caused her to stay a little longer than some of our other kitties, but the perfect adopter arrived in September and the rest was history. Ex Machina even jumped straight into her cardboard carrier without any hesitation! She went to a home that is willing to give her plenty of time to adjust and she will even go camping when she's ready!



Feline Foster Care Program



Feline Foster Program Coordinator, Leslie Bauer, reported sending **208** kittens to foster homes last month.

At the end of September, 226 cats/kittens were in foster homes (59% of the cats at KCPP). We had 28 adoptions direct from foster homes last month.

We've seen an increase this year in the amount of kittens arriving with poor body conditions. We've already sent more kittens with poor body conditions to foster homes this year than we did all of last year combined! We've also seen a 95% increase in bottle baby kittens with poor body conditions over last year at this time. Underweight kittens who arrive need additional care in foster homes, especially if they are also battling illnesses such as respiratory infections or diarrhea. We are so grateful to have foster families who are willing to care for these fragile babies!

Feline Operations

Jennifer Dreisewerd, Director of Feline Operations, reported the number of community cats receiving spay/neuter services in September was up **51%**.

- ✓ We've increased the number of community cats receiving spay/neuter services by **87%** over last year at this time!
 - ✓ Owner surrendered cats are 23% lower than they were this time last year.
 - ✓ Stray cats being brought in by the public are nearly 10% lower so far this year.
 - ✓ We had **493** cats/kittens adopted in September – a slight decrease from last September.
-
- ✓ **383** families arrived at our KCCAC location in September that were interested in adopting cats.
 - ✓ The average wait time to see cats was 13.5 minutes.
 - ✓ **41%** of all visitors who met with a Feline Matchmaker adopted a cat that day.
 - ✓ Visitors spent on average 43 minutes meeting cats before deciding to adopt.



Orange Cupcake (left) was here for exactly one month, during which time he had a few teeth removed, tried to “act his age” and ended up reimagining his image. Hungry for cupcakes and tacos? (food truck business plans pending). 😊

Cowboy Curtis (right) arrived as a stray in September and took himself a bit too seriously. He took it upon himself to make sure adoption contracts were in order and spent the bulk of his time here doing office work. He tried to make work “fun”, but he was insistent on the paperwork being completed on time.



Community Cat/TNR Program

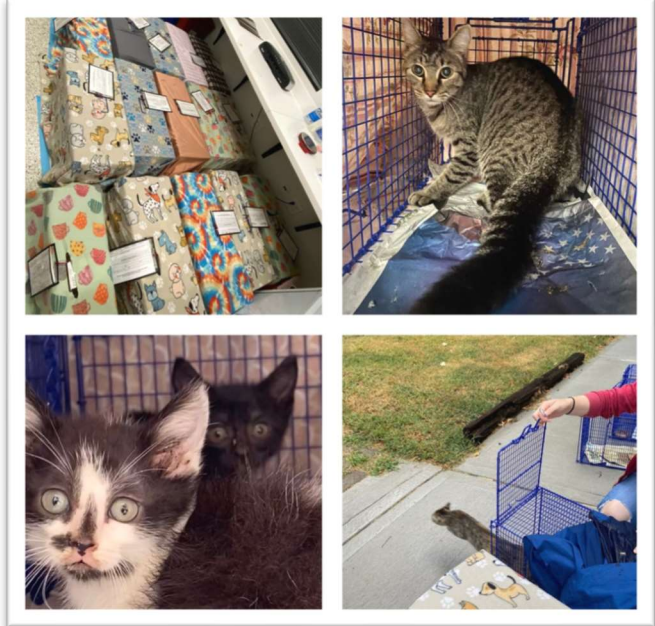
Seventy-two (72) cats received Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) services from KCPP in September! We assisted 6 different colonies with 10 active caretakers.

During the month, we delivered:

- ✓ 301 cases of wet cat food
- ✓ 194.5 lbs. of dry cat food
- ✓ 3 winter cat shelters

One of our caretakers reported a critically sick community cat we had previously provided TNR services for. Their personal veterinarian recommended humane euthanasia; however, our caretaker could not afford the cost of that service. We assisted her with compassionate end of life care for her beloved community cat and delivered to her memorial paw prints afterwards.

Our team worked on several unique situations in September -- including assisting a large townhome community with multiple cat colonies around it and assisting multiple colonies within the woods behind restaurants which all required adapting our plans to best fit the cats needs and increase our chances for success.



Submitted by,

TJohnson

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KC Pet Project