

# WHISKERS

Wendy, adopted 12.02.16

2017



## “Lockjaw” No More — Zena’s Story



As with many of the injured pets that come into our shelter, we could only speculate how 18-month-old Zena came to us in the state that she was in. Initial evaluations and X-rays showed that Zena had previously suffered from serious physical trauma to her face, and with those

injuries left untreated, her jaw bone healed incorrectly and left her unable to open her mouth — a disfigurement she was forced to suffer through for over a year. Eating and drinking was a chore for Zena that she carried out through

the side of her mouth. Her barks were muffled, playtime was limited to frustratingly nudging toys around with her muzzle, and doggie kisses were an unknown concept to her.

However, thanks to contributions from generous donors like you, Zena was recently able to undergo orthopedic surgery using donations from our Michaels Medical Rescue Fund. With daily jaw rehabilitation and encouragement from our staff, we were recently fortunate enough to get a first glimpse of Zena’s pearly whites, and we are looking forward to many more firsts on her successful road to recovery.





San Antonio Humane Society  
4804 Fredericksburg Rd.  
San Antonio, TX 78229-3628  
(210) 226-7461  
www.SAhumane.org

## OUR MISSION

To protect and improve the lives of dogs and cats by providing shelter, care, adoption, rescue, spay/neuter programs, and community education.

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# Thank You!



**Special Thanks to our Presenting Sponsor, VCA Animal Hospitals, and our Gold and Silver Sponsors, Nu Star Energy, Beldon Roofing, Silver Eagle, and Valero Energy Foundation for helping us make the 2016 Friends for Life Luncheon such a huge success!**



**Be sure to save the date for the  
2017 Friends for Life Luncheon  
October 10, 2017**

**at the Mays Family Center at the Witte Museum**

## From Our President/CEO

Hello Friends,

Let me take this time to say that I am very thankful for your continued support as we move from one successful year to the next. During last October's Friends for Life Luncheon, many of you helped us raise over \$96,000 for our dogs and cats. In November, you helped us raise over \$5,800 from nearly 2,000 guests at our first ever Pawchella event featured during ABC News' *Good Morning America* Mission PAWsible campaign! On Giving Tuesday, you donated over \$9,000, making it our biggest Giving Tuesday by far! And by contributing your wonderful reviews and stories online, you helped us earn our 2016 Top-Rated Award from GreatNonProfits.

Your generosity continues to ensure all of our wonderful pets receive the utmost care they deserve as they wait to find their new forever homes. Pets like Zena and Lucas, whose story you'll read in this newsletter edition. We are looking forward to working with you this year to save and adopt out thousands more lives at the San Antonio Humane Society and to spay/neuter thousands more at our new spay/neuter clinic at Brooks City Base. It's because of you that we are able to realize our mission year after year.

Thank you and Best Wishes,

Nancy F. May, President/CEO

# Have a Heart for Heartworm-Positive Dogs



Lucas (formally known as Inigo-Montoya) found himself at the San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) on more than one occasion: first as a surrendered pet and then as a stray. On his second return to the shelter, it was discovered that Lucas was afflicted with heartworm disease, and we were heartbroken.

Not because his affliction was terminal, but because adopters are more inclined to overlook heartworm-

positive dogs in favor of other healthy dogs, thus extending their length of stay at the shelter. This is in spite of the treatability of the disease.

In fact, generous adopters who bring home a heartworm-positive dog from SAHS are able to continue their adopted dog's heartworm treatment at local VCA Animal Hospitals, free of charge, saving potentially hundreds to thousands of dollars.

Although Lucas suffered from heartworm disease, his

personality was that of a buoyant and friendly young Collie mix happy to go on his daily walks. "He was just so amazed by everything," says Karenn about the first time she spotted Lucas. "He was so happy, even though he was there, and I knew I had to take him."

Although Karenn had some initial concerns about adopting Lucas, she says her experience getting him heartworm-free was easy, "When I took him [to a VCA Animal Hospital], they treated him so nice and I felt so comfortable taking him there. The process was fast and . . . they answered all my questions. I had to leave him over night and they were very good in informing me how he was doing."

Karenn adopted Lucas in August of last year, and she says he's changed her life for the better, "I have so many fun stories about Lucas! He has definitely changed my life." Nowadays, Lucas spends his time being chased and cuddled by his Yorkie pet sibling.

Karenn hopes potential adopters will look past a dog's heartworm-positive diagnosis to see the needy and deserving pet underneath, "These are probably the animals that need the most love," she added.

Thanks to donors like you, Lucas, and other heartworm-positive dogs like him, are able to get that love and the heartworm treatment they need while they await adoption.

## Your Charitable Donations Save Lives



In 2016, thanks to contributions made to the Heartworm Fund, nearly 200 dogs were able to receive treatment for heartworm disease at the San Antonio Humane Society.

Depending on the severity of the disease, these treatments can cost upwards of hundreds to thousands of dollars.

Have a heart: Donate today!

[SAhumane.org/Donate](http://SAhumane.org/Donate)



# You Help Us Care For Animals Every Day



Brooke has called the shelter home for over 250 days, and since she's been in our care, she's received the food, shelter, medical treatment, and cozy comforts that we give to all of our dogs and cats while they await their forever homes.

for before adoption. For some, those days until adoption are longer than most.

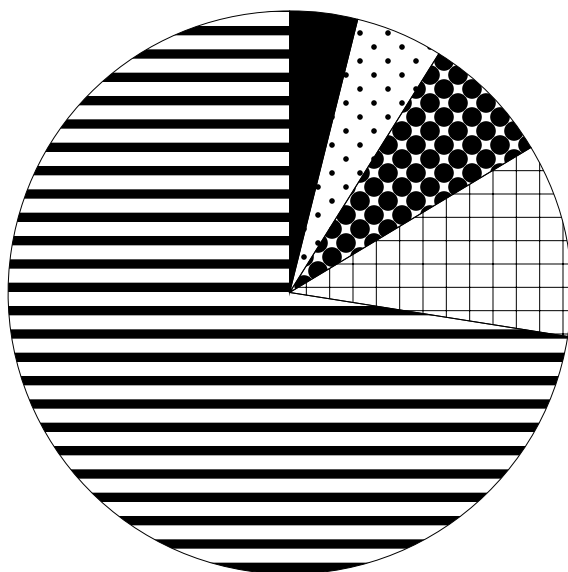
It's thanks to dedicated supporters like you that we are able to ensure every pet that comes through our doors receives the resources they need so they are loved and cared






Join our *Giving Circle* of friends and set up an automatic contribution each month, quarter, or year at [SAhumane.org/Donate](http://SAhumane.org/Donate).



# Your Dollars Helped Us Educate More Than 5,000 Children and Adults in 2016

Community education is an important pillar in our mission to making our city a more humane place for our dogs and cats. Education — especially children's education — will help ensure we are building a humane future for our community.



-  200+ Campers enrolled in our Spring and Summer Humane Camps
-  250+ Students participated in After-School Programs at SAHS
-  370+ Men and women educated through Adult Humane Education
-  550+ Children and adults educated through Shelter Tours
-  3600+ Students and teachers reached through In-School Presentations

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