

WHISKERS



Cash, adopted on 06-06-2019



2020

Too Young for Lifesaving Surgery



Due to San Antonio's generally mild weather, kitten season in our community rarely comes to an end. On average and depending on the availability of foster homes, the San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS)

foster program generally houses between 70 and 150 pets in foster care. Many of these pets are too young to be adopted or are on the verge of life-improving medical procedures. For four very young kittens, it was both.

Fred, Wilma, Betty, and Barney were barely 4 weeks old when they came to the SAHS in need of care. They were rescued by their foster parents after they were discovered on a very hot and dry August day alone and vulnerable to the elements.

During their evaluation, staff diagnosed the kittens with feline eyelid agenesis — a birth defect where the upper

eyelid is not formed. This defect means their eyes are open and exposed to irritants. This condition can cause pain, inflammation, limited vision, and sensitivity to light.

When this story went to print, these four young kittens were still too underweight and too young to be considered for surgery. Eventually, they will see a specialist to help correct their condition, and while they are healing, they will remain in the care of one of our dedicated foster parents.

Your continued support helps kittens like Fred, Wilma, Betty, and Barney who are still growing and healing with their foster families. Your contributions will provide foster supplies while they are still needed and the lifesaving surgeries that will give them the second chance they deserve.





San Antonio Humane Society
4804 Fredericksburg Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78229-3628
210-226-7461
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 for Saving Lives!

Thanks to the generosity of our valued supporters, we raised over \$97,000 at our 2019 Friends for Life Luncheon! It costs about \$35/day to provide quality care for each of our pets, so these funds will cover over 2,700 days of nourishing food, warm shelter, and endless belly rubs for dogs and cats in need.

We want to give a special thanks to our **Diamond Sponsor, VCA Animal Hospitals, and to our Gold Sponsors, Don Elliott and Denise Pride, the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation, and the Mays Family Foundation.**

We are also grateful to our **Silver Sponsors, DaHill Xerox Business Solutions Southwest, San Antonio Zoo, Frost Bank, Valero Energy, H-E-B, Richard Braune, and the Kinder Partnership** for helping to make the 2019 Friends for Life Luncheon a huge success!

From Our President/CEO

Hello Friends,

I'm writing to tell you about Gabe and Banjo, two dogs who came to our shelter in dire need of medical care. Gabe was hit by a car and had three broken legs, and Banjo was found by a good Samaritan on the side of a road with both front legs broken. Thanks to the hard work of our clinic staff and surgeons, Banjo and Gabe were patched up and on their way to healing within days. They healed together, and were adopted together as happy, healthy best friends.

We never would have been able to help Gabe and Banjo — and thousands of others like them — without the support of donors like you, who amaze all of us at the SAHS with your generosity! Thank you for saving Gabe and Banjo, and thank you for continuing to help the homeless pets of San Antonio who need you now more than ever.

Thank You and Best Wishes,

Nancy F. May, President & CEO

Found Abandoned with a Three-Pound Tumor

Roughly 75% of the adoptable pets surrendered, transferred, or brought in as strays to the SAHS are not spayed/neutered. With hundreds of thousands of pets roaming the streets unaltered, thousands more puppies and kittens are born without a home every year.

In 2019, the SAHS conducted over 19,000 spay/neuter surgeries and we are projected to exceed that number after the completion of the Leeu Naylor Medical Building on our Fredericksburg Road campus. Not only does surgery reduce pet overpopulation, but it also prevents pets from being at an increased risk of certain cancers and infections that could greatly reduce their lifespan.

Gertrude, a senior Bulldog mix found abandoned and alone, is living proof of this reality.

She was transferred to the SAHS from the City of San Antonio Animal Care Services (ACS) with large tumors on her underbelly. These large growths were mammary tumors and they are common in female dogs who have not been spayed. When Gertrude was discovered by ACS, she was wandering the streets as a stray. There were many obvious physical traits that showed she'd had multiple litters in her lifetime.

Because she's a senior, and due to the size of the tumor, we had several concerns for Gertrude going into surgery. After two hours, the largest tumor was removed — a mass weighing in at over 3 lbs. Additionally, during her routine spay surgery, Gertrude's ovaries were discovered to be cystic and cancerous. After some initial recovery, a second mammary tumor was discovered weighing over 1 lb. and was removed successfully.

You're helping us give pets like Gertrude the opportunity to live out her golden years in a loving home.

As this story was going to print, Gertrude was still recovering from her second surgery in the comfort of



our surgery office. She receives daily walks and attention from staff and volunteers going about their business. Our staff believes, with a dedicated adopter in a loving home, Gertrude's outlook looks golden.

When the SAHS spays/neuters the thousands of pets that come into our care, we're preventing tragic experiences like Gertrude's and countless unwanted litters in our community that would otherwise have no place to call home.

Your donor dollars are lengthening the lives of pets who might otherwise suffer from painful infections or malignant cancers. When you help us spay/neuter pets in our community, you're helping us give pets like Gertrude the opportunity to live out her golden years in a loving home.

To find out how you can help more homeless animals, please visit us at SAhumane.org.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION COULD DECIDE FIESTA® ROYALTY!

**Help Homeless Pets by Donating to San Antonio's Most Philanthropic Pups
Visit SAhumane.org/ERF to View the Contenders**

El Rey Fido began in 2002 as a feel-good spin on the already long-established Fiesta Royalty title of a similar name: Rey Feo. But what began as a pun has since evolved into an annual fundraising effort that raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for countless needy dogs and cats at the SAHS.

The El Rey Fido fundraising competition culminates with one top-fundraising dog being crowned El Rey Fido and four runners-up joining the Royal Court. However, these philanthropic pups won't be able to raise their lifesaving funds on their own — they need your support!



Visit SAhumane.org/ERF to meet the contenders! And don't miss your opportunity to meet Fiesta Royalty and party with a purpose during Fiesta 2020 at the El Rey Fido Coronation, an official Fiesta event happening April 18.

The Impact We Make Together

4,500+



Pets adopted into loving forever homes.

7,700



Kids educated about responsible pet ownership.

19,000+



Spay/neuter surgeries performed to reduce the homeless pet population.