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For Immediate Release

Neglected Puppy Near Death Makes Miracle Turnaround

San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) Saves Petunia for a Second Chance at Life

SA, TX (March 22, 2018) When Petunia first came into the San Antonio Humane Society, she was suffering from a medical emergency that would nearly end her short life.



At only 10 months old, Petunia was a clear victim of neglect. Her leg was broken and had been for some time. Open and infected wounds covered her delicate paws, and every breath shook her broken body as though it would be her last.

“It was likely a car accident,” says Surgical Services Supervisor, Samantha Delicati, “and it caused her stomach, liver, and intestines to move into her chest through a tear in her diaphragm.” An injury that requires immediate medical attention.

Although our staff moved quickly to treat Petunia and get her the surgeries needed to save her life, her chance of survival was low and it was difficult to be optimistic.

She responded poorly to surgery and required overnight monitoring at a pet emergency clinic. Being left untreated for so long, her abdomen shrunk exponentially and she continued to have difficulty eating and breathing.

“She vomited black bile for hours,” says Delicati, “it was nothing like I had seen before and every time I checked on her I had to brace myself for the worse.”

Petunia’s health deteriorated to a point of incredible uncertainty, and SAHS staff were forced to consider whether her quality of life warranted humane euthanasia, “When I took her home that evening for monitoring, I went prepared knowing a decision might have to be made to end her suffering.”

But morning came for Petunia, and so has spring! After months of healing, rehabilitation, and love, Petunia has made a complete miracle turnaround. She’s finally able to be a care-free puppy and ready to be a companion to a loving family. Though her care and stay at the San Antonio Humane Society was long, difficult, and costly, we are grateful the hard work of our surgical and clinic team was not in vain: “She’s such a happy pup now,” says Natasha Hernandez, Animal Health Supervisor, “She’s really found her voice, and she deserves a good home.”



Petunia would do well in a home that is ready to help her grow: she’s all puppy. She pulls on shoelaces, begs for attention, and loves belly rubs.

For more information about this pet in need, please contact Felicia Niño, SAHS Public Relations Manager at [210-226-7461 ext. 125](tel:2102267461) or fnino@SAhumane.org.

About The San Antonio Humane Society

The San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) is a nonprofit, no-kill organization that has served Bexar County and its surrounding areas since 1952. It is not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) and does not receive regular financial support from them. Every year, the SAHS shelters, medically treats, and rehabilitates approximately 5,000 animals who have been injured, abused, surrendered by their owners, or found as strays, and they remain at the SAHS until adopted. Their mission is to protect and improve the lives of dogs and cats by providing shelter, care, adoption, rescue, spay and neuter programs, and community education. More information can be found at SAhumane.org.