



Homeward Pet Adoption Center Matches Made. Lives Saved.

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# Thank you FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT

Throughout my 25 years being a part of Homeward Pet, what has impressed me most is the community support the homeless animals in our care receive. My heartfelt thanks goes out to every adopter, volunteer, staff member, and donor alike who has made this shelter the place of love and healing it is.

A healing program near and dear to my heart is Whoopi's Fund for Special Needs Animals, which is dedicated to providing excellent and essential care to animals who need extra medical help before adoption. In the first six months of 2018, I'm so proud to say that we've already been able to provide 485 treatments for 251 animals—ranging from full-mouth dental extractions to setting broken bones.

Whoopi's Fund was named for my Homeward alumna, a senior black lab. Before arriving at the shelter, she had spent her entire life outside on a chain. Though her medical needs went beyond a normal exam and vaccines, Homeward Pet took care of her despite the monetary cost. For the toofew years I had as Whoopi's guardian, she enriched my life with so many happy memories: playing fetch at the park, running next to me on Alki Beach, and the quieter moments we shared cuddling at home. I'm beyond grateful that I was given the privilege of being Whoopi's guardian.

Thank you, our community, for your generous donations to the care of our homeless animals! You make stories like mine and Whoopi's possible.

PEGGY NOLL

Community Development Director



#### 485

Procedures and treatments provided by Whoopi's Fund donations in the first six months of 2018

### Crumpet



Crumpet came all the way from California to find her new home through Homeward Pet. Our veterinarians diagnosed her with glaucoma, a severe eye condition that causes significant pain and blindness in both eyes. In order to have a happier, pain-free life, her eyes were removed. Now, Crumpet has learned to navigate her new world ear- and nose-first!

#### Whoopi's Fund Success Stories

Thanks to Whoopi's Fund donors, we're able to care for animals whose medical needs extend beyond routine care. Read about two of the animals helped so far in 2018.

#### **W** Noah

Found as a stray in an apartment complex, 8-year-old Noah arrived at Homeward Pet with a serious shoulder wound requiring stitches. While he healed from surgery, antibiotics resolved his upper respiratory infection. Our veterinarians also removed eight decaying teeth from his mouth. Now, Noah is able to walk and eat without pain.







## Matches Made LIVES SAVED

IT'S BEEN OVER A DECADE since I first stepped through Homeward Pet's doors. I've held many titles since then—volunteering as a Sunday morning Dog Walker, President of the Board of Directors, donor, Development Committee member, and my favorite: adopter.

During the winter of 2015 I met JoJo while walking the dogs at Homeward Pet. After getting to know what a sweet, loving boy he was, I was hooked. He was 9 years old at the time and graying, with some lumps and bumps under his golden fur.

Homeward Pet did so much for JoJo. Other animal shelters may not have had the resources to give him the medicine and diagnostics he needed—and continue caring for him even after finding the beginnings of cancer. I knew then that I wouldn't have many years with him, but that I could give him a warm and gentle home to spend his twilight years in.

I firmly believe that dogs can teach us so much about kindness and unconditional love.

He was everything you could want in a companion: smart, friendly, and the best ambassador dog you could ask for. To give him a good home for his final years was the least I could do for such a special dog who brought happiness to everyone he met.

I firmly believe that dogs can teach us so much about kindness and unconditional love. JoJo did that—for me, for my partner, Susie, and for our other dog, Libby. Before JoJo, Libby had struggled with showing affection, but soon she began to follow JoJo's approach: stroll up to me, plop his head in my lap, and wait expectantly for pets. It was wonderful to watch Libby as she started to approach me in the same way.



Martha & JoJo pose outside Homeward Pet

We can never have as long as we want with our pets. After two years with us, we said goodbye to JoJo. In the short time we had together, all he did was give, give, give.

I've adopted three senior dogs in a row. Each time I lose them, I'm prepared to think, "I'm never doing this again." But then I think of taking JoJo to the ocean for the first time, and how happy he was as he bounded in the waves. Though I was only part of his story for its last few chapters, I hope I brought him happiness. I know he brought that to me.

As a local real estate broker, I am proud to combine my two passions of real estate and animal welfare. For 12 years, I've donated 10% of my commission to the local animal rescues. I believe that we as humans have the responsibility to take care of all animals, and adopting these older dogs is a way I can help with a little piece of that. Not all animal shelters have the resources to care for older dogs, but I'm thrilled to support one that does.

#### MARTHA FAULKNER

RSVP Real Estate Broker, Sunday Morning Dog Walker & Former Board President

#### **CLEAR THE SHELTERS!**

On August 18, we joined 700 shelters nationwide, offering fee-waived adoptions as part of the Clear the Shelters campaign. 25 pets went home that day—including Cricket, whose family shares a little about their new family member.

On Clear the Shelters day, we were on the lookout for a new companion for our family after losing our 4-year-old Chihuahua unexpectedly. We had been looking for a while, because he was a special dog and we had a large hole to fill in our lives.

After a long day of looking at many events and shelters, an unsuspecting puppy named Cricket showed her face. Our plan was to adopt a little bit older dog but her kind temperament and bouts of spazzy energy stole our hearts, and we knew that adopting even a puppy would bring an opportunity for another dog to be saved from the streets like she was.

At first she was a bit shy and reserved and scared of thresholds, leashes, and people just wanting to pet her, including us. We knew that this would be short-lived with all the adventures we had planned for her.

She is now known by name by our local Home Depot staff, has visited multiple hiking trails by our home, wine-tasted in Woodinville and been to farmers markets and breweries. With this she now thinks her name is "Cute Puppy" while also knowing her name is actually Cricket.

It's hard to believe just over a month ago she came into our lives. We know she is well on her way to be the second Chihuahua in our lives to change the stereotype of shelter dogs and Chihuahuas, since she already has for many. She aspires to climb mountains and become a therapy dog someday while also harassing her older hairless brother.

**CAITLIN & SPENCER** 





