

Cuddle Chronicle



Summer 2023

HARVEY DENT

Pain-Free for the First Time in a Long Time

Jim Keller/Operations Director

Earlier this year, we received a call about an injured, 7-month-old, Cattle Dog mix. Our rescue partner, Yakima Valley Pet Rescue had done some x-rays, which revealed a fractured hip that they were not equipped to support through the time needed. We knew that our clinic at Homeward Pet and veterinary partners in the community could help. My wife and I offered to foster him through his surgery and recovery, and Harvey Dent came to Homeward Pet the following week.



The day after Harvey arrived, I took him to Animal Emergency Services in Kirkland, one of our outstanding veterinary partners, where the plan was to do an FHO (femoral head ostectomy) surgery to repair the hip. Unfortunately, during surgery, complications were

discovered. The injury had healed in a way that made the FHO impossible without risking life-long pain and nerve damage. They consulted with Dr. KAM at Homeward Pet, and the decision was made to amputate Harvey's leg and give him the guaranteed pain-free life he deserved.

The following morning, Harvey woke up, stood up, and moved on, not missing a step while figuring out how to balance and walk - and eventually run

and jump - with three legs. Dogs are so impressive that way. They don't miss what they don't have.

The veterinarian prescribed a cone and quiet for two weeks (not easy for a 7-month-old herding breed). He could only go on very short walks. Just hanging out, pain meds and warm compresses. Through it all, Harvey was so sweet and smart. He gave gentle thank you kisses to everyone. He was good around our other older dogs. His fascination with our cat never went beyond a "what is that?!?". Soon enough they were all spending time together in the kitchen or TV room.

Now, multiple weeks in, Harvey is living pain-free for the first time in a long time, loving his long walks almost as much as he loves jumping on the couch to roll on his back for tummy rubs.

Harvey's story is not as unusual as you would think. From needing more care than originally thought to receiving specialized veterinary intervention, Harvey's story represents hundreds of dogs and cats who have and will find their way to Homeward Pet.

Your donation to Homeward Pet ensures that animals, like Harvey, receive the time, attention and care they need.

And yes. We adopted Harvey.

LETTER FROM NANETTE

Everything we do is because of you.

For 33 years, Homeward Pet Adoption Center has found homes for animals that need more; more time, more attention, more care. Homeward Pet meets every dog and cat where they are. This means that shy cats will be given spaces to hide with limited exposure while working with trained behavior staff and volunteers. It means that, in order to support positive, normal behaviors, all dogs are regularly walked, given expanded spaces and their minds kept active with enrichment and training.

Every animal is immediately seen by a licensed veterinarian upon entry to Homeward Pet and receives all their needed vaccines and immunizations. Every animal is spayed or neutered, if not already altered, before adoption. And every animal will receive any additional veterinary care needed for a healthy life and a successful outcome including diagnostics and treatments such as ultrasounds, x-rays, dental work, mass removal, medications and treatments, including utilizing out of shelter veterinary specialists.

Everything that Homeward Pet does is to ensure every dog and cat is healthy and happy and experiences their best life.

Everything we do is because of you.

Without you we couldn't do what we do.

With you, we can accomplish anything.

Best,



Executive Director
Homeward Pet Adoption Center



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook (@homewardpet) - 22,076 Followers

Instagram (@homeward_pet) - 6,114 Followers

Twitter (@HomewardPet) - 1,252 Followers

You Tube (@homewardpet) - 112 Followers

TikTok (@homewardpet) - 233 Followers

Linked In (linkedin.com/company/homeward-pet-adoption-center) - 740 Followers

Please consider giving us a good review on Yelp and Google Business.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Photo Contest - 7/11-7/31

First Annual "There's No Place Like Home – 5K Rescue Run" a dog-friendly 5K Walk/Run benefiting Homeward Pet! Coming Fall 2023

See our Community page on our website for information on third party fundraisers: homewardpet.org/community

FROM SCARED AND HISSY TO BLOSSOMING

A look inside the Homeward Pet Cat Behavior Program

On a cold day in February, Homeward Pet staff didn't notice the weather as they were busy preparing for a special guest. Volunteers bustled about the cat room setting up litter, food, and creating hiding spaces in a small, private suite,

We were excited, because we had been trusted with the chance to change young Gamma's life. We had gotten the call that one of our shelter partners was having a hard time finding adopters that could handle her fearful behavior. We are known for our ability to work with shy or fractious animals. We agreed right away to take her into our care.

When Gamma arrived, we quickly moved her in a towel-covered carrier from the car to her new private suite. After setting the carrier down, our staff member removed the towel, unlocked the carrier door, and left the suite to give Gamma a chance to explore on her own. The plan was for Gamma to spend her time alone in her private suite, decompressing. The Cat Behavior Team could view her through the windows, but left her largely alone.



During the next few days, the Cat Behavior team met to create a more personalized care plan. These are plans put together for all 50 animals in the shelter. These plans guide interactions, training procedures, and goals for each animal.

After a few weeks, Gamma was cleared for very limited human interaction. Once a day, a trusted staff member sat in Gamma's room – as far away as possible – to give

her the opportunity to interact on her own terms. There were no expectations. Soon, she started coming out of her hiding places to investigate. She was curious, but not ready to be touched yet. After many quiet sessions, the same staff member started to try to pet Gamma with an 'extended petter'. This is a long stick, similar to a back scratcher, that extends our reach and is less scary than a human hand. On that very first day, Gamma let her head be nuzzled by the 'extended petter'.



Gamma has been working through her behavior care plan. She has made huge strides, from a scared, hissy, always-hiding cat, to playing kitty video games on a tablet, chasing felt mice around the room, and quirking her neck adorably at her care team.

Recently, Gamma was moved to the Cat Colony, a large windowed room facing the lobby at Homeward Pet. Gamma has surprised everyone. She interacts through the windows with many of the people who peer in. She is far from the fearful and reactive being who entered our doors so many weeks ago.

The dedication, effort, love, and patience that our Behavior Teams put into our animals is showcased through Gamma's story. She has truly received a second chance at life because of them.

While Gamma is still blossoming, she is currently looking for a patient adopter; one who will continue to let her set the mood for all interactions. If you, or someone you know thinks you are the right fit for Gamma, please make an adoption appointment today!

HAPPY TAIL

"We wanted to give an update on Daffodil. You'll remember, she was a scared little cat with bright blue eyes, who had a very rough start to life.

When she first came home, we started her off in her own room where she could get used to the new smells and sounds. Each day we went in and held treats out. When she was comfortable with treats, we progressed to pets.

Our other cat, Binx, was not a fan of having a new kitty in his house. We let him sniff some of her blankets and after a few weeks they would sniff each other from under the door, paw at each other, and chat!

Once she was comfortable, we let her explore the rest of the house. We bought a baby gate to keep her and Binx separate. Binx would hiss and make these goofy sounds at her but she didn't care. After about three weeks, Sarah came home to the gate knocked over and Binx and Cece grooming each other!! From then on both cats were together.

One day, we realized she wasn't responding to "Daffodil", so we looked at her paperwork and Sarah yelled out "Cecelia???" And Cece yelled back "OMG HELLO THATS

ME?!" From that point on she would scream meow whenever we said "Cece", so now she's officially Cece!!!

Progress was slow. She would approach us, and wouldn't let us pet her, but would rub up against us or the nearby wall and talk to us. After about two months, when Binx would jump on us for cuddles, she would approach our feet and snuggle up to them, just barely touching them!!!

She's still skittish, but, even if she's a bit nervous for the rest of her life, we will still love her.

We cannot begin to express how thankful we are for you and her foster parents. You helped create the wonderful Cece that blesses every day of our lives with her zoomies and cuddles.

~ Sarah, Nate, Binx, and Cece"



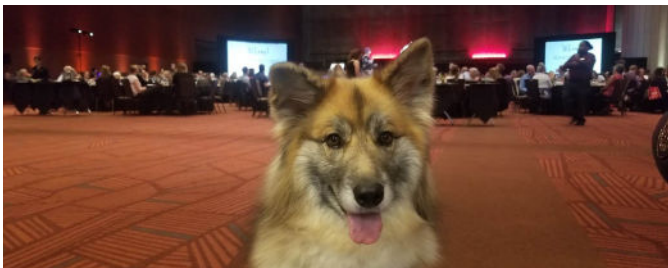
LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

Homeward Pet Adoption Center has been an institution in the Woodinville area for over 30 years – largely because of our dedicated team of financial supporters. While monetary donations are a great way to support the life-saving work of Homeward Pet, many donors also decide to include Homeward Pet in their estate plans. These lasting gifts give you the opportunity to ensure their passion and commitment to animals continues past your own life.

Our Legacy Donors are inducted into the Peggy Barnish Legacy Circle, ensuring that your legacy lives on. Additionally, you earn entry for your animals into our Companion Legacy Program, where we take ownership of your beloved companions after your passing and help them find their new forever homes.

If you have left Homeward Pet in your estate plans, or if you want to learn more, please reach out to Development Director, Julia Hodges, julia@homewardpet.org.

FUR BALL RECAP



"On May 20th, 330 of our closest friends donned their evening best, and joined us at the Meydenbauer Center for our 25th annual Fur Ball Auction & Dinner. Thanks to all those who came, who volunteered, and who donated for the auction. While we are still tallying, our current total is a fantastic \$350,970! Thank you again for supporting the animals in our care."

INSIDE THE NUMBERS 2023 YEAR TO DATE



Shelter Adoptions	345
Dogs	92
Cats	253
Home to Home Successes	73
Dogs	49
Cats	20
Other	4
Shelter Intakes	1,137
Dogs	248
Cats	889
Volunteer Hours	18,487.48