

Cuddle Chronicle



Spring 2025

A NOTE FROM SUSAN TRABUCCHI, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Since I arrived in late January, I have received a warm welcome from members of the board, staff, volunteers, donors, community leaders, and countless others who care deeply about Homeward Pet. As a long-time lover of animals whose household has been dominated by several remarkable dogs, I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to help guide the organization through a critical moment of leadership transition.

This kind of transition can feel a bit disorienting, so let me assure you that first and foremost, I am here to ensure that our core programs and operations continue to run smoothly. I am also here to help us take a collective step back – a metaphorical deep breath – to consider our strengths, identify opportunities for improvement and growth, and prepare the organization to recruit its next leader and launch an exciting new chapter.

Now in our 35th year, we have made a remarkable difference in the lives of so many animals – and the humans who get to care for them. Every day that I am here, I learn more and more about the distinct and critical services Homeward Pet provides not just to our local community but also to the larger region.

As I dive deeper into our organization and work, it's also clear that we have struggled for several years now to meet our annual budget – despite a lean operation. Where we can continue to find efficiencies and savings, we will do so. What we really need, however, is to increase revenue from individual donors, foundations, corporations, collaborations and partnerships. If you have supported us in the past, thank you. If you can continue to support us, thank you in advance. And if you have friends, family, colleagues, and others who might be interested in our work, please let us know how we can help make an introduction!

I look forward to meeting you in the weeks ahead. In the meantime, if you have thoughts, suggestions, or ideas as we chart a path forward, please do not hesitate to reach out to me by email susan@homewardpet.org or mobile 425-417-5334.

Thank you again for all that you do for Homeward Pet.
With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Trabucchi".

Susan Trabucchi
Interim Executive Director
Homeward Pet Adoption Center



HAPPY TAIL: MOOSE (NOW ATLAS)

“One of the volunteers at Homeward Pets Adoption Center took me home as a foster. After one week they told me I had found my forever home and that I wasn’t going back to the shelter. I didn’t really know what that meant but they were so happy with their decision that it made me happy.

I love having a big yard to run around and play fetch the tennis ball. I have a comfy spot on the couch, take long walks and go on hikes. I also like camping and boating with my family and playing with my best doggy friend Ellie. I am still working on my separation anxiety which is really hard but I am grateful I am not left alone very often. They tell me I am handsome, smart and have good manners. I have lots of nick names like best buddy, goof ball, sweet boy, and cuddle bug. I love it most though when they tell me “I love you” and give me a kiss and scratches under my collar.



Atlas, formerly known as Moose

I want to thank everyone at Homeward Pet who took care of me during my short stay at the shelter. You made me feel loved and cared for.

~ Atlas and C&S”

HAPPY TAIL: SPIKE AND TIMBER



Spike and Timber (formerly Blueberry)

“My husband and I wanted to share a happy tail on Spike and Timber (formerly Blueberry).

We adopted Spike from Homeward Pet 12 years ago and Timber 3 months ago and both have brought us so much joy. Spike went from being a nervous, anxious dog to the sweetest good boy. Timber is trusting us more each day and showing it with lots of snuggles and kisses.

~ Tyler and Valerie”

INSIDE THE NUMBERS JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025



Shelter Adoptions	99
Dogs	34
Cats	65
Shelter Intakes	126
Dogs	35
Cats	91
Home to Home Adoptions	58
Whoopi’s Fund Assistance	3
Volunteer hours	9,729
Number of Active Volunteers	305
Food Bank- donated to HPAC	
Dry Food	13,312 lbs
Canned Food	8,804
Food Bank - donated to the Community	
Dry Food	11,881 lbs
Canned Food	5,912

LONGEST RESIDENTS

Every animal that comes through our doors is well loved and cared for. It's why we're here. As with any relationship, the longer you know a being, the more you learn about them and the more you fall in love with the nuances of their personalities. Our longer-term animals become staff favorites because we know them better. And, because we know them better, we can give you so much more information about the home that would make them the happiest.

Ask your adoption counselor about the animals you see here to find out more.



PAW PACK



What do you spend \$25 on in a month?

Is that the cost of kitty litter for your cat, Marmalade? Or maybe it's the cost of a Bark Box to keep Skedaddle busy? Did you use it for a birthday gift for Amanda? Or perhaps you and an animal-loving friend went for coffee before your volunteer shift at Homeward Pet?

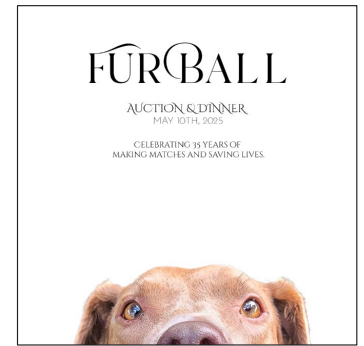
How about joining our Paw Pack Monthly Giving program? That same \$25 will help

change a homeless pet's life! Your \$25 monthly donation goes even further because, paired with other monthly donors, your donation could be the tipping point to allow us to offer a life-saving surgery, to purchase specialty food for a medically fragile pet, to provide necessary vaccines to a litter of puppies or kittens, or to provide a loving foster home with all the supplies they need to care for a shy dog or cat.

Please consider committing today. The homeless animals we care for every day need you. Simply check the monthly giving box on the enclosed envelope or donate online through this link: (www.homewardpet.org/monthly-gift) or QR code.



EVENTS



MONKEY – A SUCCESS STORY

Monkey arrived at Homeward Pet with 5 other kittens in early October of last year. A sweet, little 3-month-old tuxedo, Monkey had the most perfect markings you've ever seen. And the sweetest temperament to match.

Monkey received his complete health exam on the day he we took him in, and everything looked great. He was cleared for adoption and made available the same day. And, no surprise, he was adopted just a few days later.

An unfortunate surprise came after just 2 months in his new home.

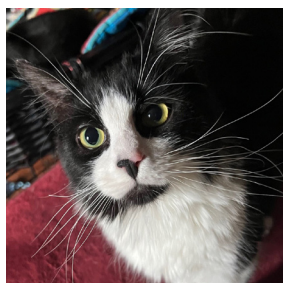
Monkey suffered a seizure that landed him at the emergency vet. Then, other symptoms appeared. He became a little wobbly on his feet, he was low-energy, he appeared sickly. He was not the bold, athletic, happy kitten they'd adopted. A follow-up visit to his regular vet brought the bad news: Monkey had contracted Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FiP).

A few years ago, this diagnosis would have been a death sentence. There was no treatment for FiP. However, in the last few years, a treatment has been developed. Last year, a pharmacy in New Jersey began compounding the medication. The problem: the treatment is very expensive, and Monkey's family was not able to afford it. They'd already fallen in love with little Monkey and could commit to palliative care, but not to the treatment.

Wanting to leave no stone unturned, they contacted Homeward Pet. With our Adopter Support and Pet Retention programs working together, a life-saving plan was put into place. Monkey would be surrendered to Homeward Pet for the initial treatment. He'd be placed in the home of an experienced foster family (who'd already had success treating a cat for FiP), and Homeward Pet would take full responsibility for the cost of care, including medication and retesting.

And, once Monkey was on the road to recovery, he'd be returned to the adopting family that loved him so dearly.

Treating FiP requires twice-daily medication for 12 weeks! By the end of week 1, Monkey was already showing signs of improvement. Less wobbly. More active. By week 3, he was running the hallway with the resident cats (FiP is not contagious). By week 5, he owned the place – spending his days playing and sleeping in the company of 4 young cats and a Pug.



At week 6, a recheck of his blood work showed that his health had improved immensely. We were able to gift his adopter with the call they'd been waiting for – Monkey could return home to finish his treatment. Our staff was there to witness the happy reunion between an adopter and the kitten he considered his soul mate.

Homeward Pet is proud to be more than just a shelter. Every pet that comes through our doors receives compassionate care and a second chance at a happy, healthy life. But we don't stop there. We stand by our adopters, providing resources and support after adoption to help keep pets and families together. From life-saving medical treatments to foster care and pet retention programs, we go the extra mile to ensure no pet is left behind.

Your generous support makes this possible. By donating to Homeward Pet, you are providing vulnerable animals the opportunity to receive care, heal, and rest comfortably on their journey to find the loving homes they deserve. Join us in making a difference—because every pet deserves a chance at a happy, healthy life in a loving home.

Please use the enclosed envelope to help us create more amazing stories of love and of health, of family and of reunion.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook (@homewardpet) - 22,970 Followers

Instagram (@homeward_pet) - 7,595 Followers

You Tube (@homewardpet) - 121 Subscribers

BlueSky (<https://bsky.app/profile/homewardpet.bsky.social>) - 8 Followers
(newly added platform in February)

TikTok (@homewardpet) - 293 Followers

Linked In ([linkedin.com/company/homeward-pet-adoption-center](https://www.linkedin.com/company/homeward-pet-adoption-center)) - 892 Followers

Next Door (nextdoor.com/pages/homeward-pet-adoption-center-woodinville-wa) - 235 Followers

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