making Albuquerque a model community for homeless pets

Albuquerque has achieved national recognition from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for the life-saving work both Animal Humane New Mexico and the City of Albuquerque’s Animal Welfare Department (AWD) have been doing in our community. The ASPCA has selected us to be 1 of 6 communities in the country to participate in their Community Partner Program. Other communities in the program include Charlotte, NC; Louisville, KY; Miami-Dade County, FL; New York City; and Sacramento, CA. Our partnership was formally launched on Tuesday, February 11th at a press conference in the City Council Committee Room. I presented along with ASPCA’s CEO, Matt Bershadker, Mayor Richard J. Berry and AWD Director Barbara Bruin.

The Albuquerque community has achieved an overall Live Release Rate (LRR) of 82.8%. LRR is total dog and cat intakes divided by the total number of pets leaving our shelters alive. To put our LRR in perspective, the LRR for New Mexico shelters combined is only 51%. The goal of our partnership is to increase Albuquerque’s LRR to 84.8% by introducing new programs to reduce shelter intakes, increase adoptions and increase reuniting lost pets with their owners. By improving our programs in Albuquerque, we will be able to share lessons learned with our peers at other shelters throughout New Mexico.

Teams from the ASPCA, Animal Humane and AWD met in October to brainstorm programs that would benefit our community’s pets the most. The first challenge is that, on average, 60% of the dogs in our shelters are Chihuahua and Pit Bull type dogs. Given the overabundance of these breeds in our shelters, they are often in our care for weeks instead of days. And while these are the #2 and #3 most popular breeds in New Mexico, uncontrolled and accidental breeding has resulted in an overabundance of these dogs in our shelters.

One of the great benefits of this program is that the ASPCA brings in their team of experts to evaluate our existing shelter programs, processes, and facilities to help us improve our outcomes for the pets in our care.

Based on our challenges, we have defined 3 desired outcomes for our partnership in Year 1.

Outcome #1:
Increase targeted services such as spay/neuter for Chihuahua and Pit Bull type dogs in hotspot areas, to reduce intakes. To achieve this outcome, we will hire a full-time staff member to visit neighborhoods with the highest intake rates. We will hold health fairs and go door-to-door to provide vaccinations, collars and ID tags and education to encourage owners to spay or neuter their dogs. All of these services, including the surgeries, will be provided for free thanks to the generous funding by the ASPCA. The salary of the outreach coordinator will be underwritten by the ASPCA as well.

Outcome #2:
Build a foundation for decreasing intakes. Stray intakes make up the majority of AWD’s shelter population. The focus of this outcome will be a program called “A Ticket Home” for improving our services to return strays to their owners. We will promote microchipping owned pets, especially cats, where reclaims are a dismal 2%. We will also receive funding for collars and tags, and for marketing to raise the visibility of found animals so owners know to visit one of our shelters to locate a lost pet.

Outcome #3:
Increase adoptions and transfers to achieve a community-wide 84.8% LRR. This program is also focused on increasing adoptions for Chihuahua and Pit Bull type dogs, as well as cats. There will be support from the ASPCA to underwrite the costs of preparing pets for adoption including spay/neuter, vaccinations, and microchipping. Special adoption events and incentives will focus on gaining new homes for these pets in the neighborhoods where they are the most popular.

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Animal Humane and AWD hosted these experts in early February and our consulting visits will continue throughout our participation in the program, which may last 1 – 5 years. Each year, goals will be set, programs will be designed, and significant funding will be provided by the ASPCA.

We are grateful for the opportunity to work with the ASPCA on making Albuquerque a model city for the care and re-homing of cats and dogs and will keep you posted on our progress! **Your support has helped us achieve many great milestones and continues to impact thousands of homeless pets each year.** Thanks to you, 2014 will be another year of advancement for New Mexico’s cats and dogs.

Working together, we are saving more lives!

Peggy Weigle, Executive Director

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**a fond farewell and oodles of appreciation**

In 2006, Animal Humane hired a very special member of our Team, Boni Galarneau. Initially, Boni worked in our Donor-subsidized Veterinary Clinic, moved into our Animal Care Department, and was later asked to revitalize our Foster Care Program. Under Boni’s passionate supervision, our Foster program grew. Boni’s tenacity for recruitment and training brought in over 200 dedicated foster families. She also saved our organization thousands of dollars thanks to her ongoing requests for donations of critical necessities such as puppy pads, towels, baby wipes, and bleach. During her tenure, Boni developed partnerships with other shelters, rescue groups, veterinarians and hundreds of volunteers. A passionate pet lover and dynamic fundraiser, Rio Rancho Animal Control is lucky to have hired Boni onto their Team as their Kennel Supervisor.

“Boni is a ‘one and only.’ We miss her dedication, energy and compassion for the small, the young and the aged. Her impact on our Foster Care Program will live on for years. We know she will transform the lives of Rio Rancho’s shelter pets. Go Boni!” – Peggy Weigle

We’ve run the reports, and under Boni’s supervision **nearly 9,000** puppies, kittens, cats and dogs benefitted from our Foster Care Program. Several hundred of those were tiny bottle babies that Boni herself took home to nurture and feed. We miss having Boni in our daily lives. However, we are excited to continue an impactful partnership with her and Rio Rancho Animal Control. We know that Boni’s wisdom, skill and experience will make an incredible difference for thousands of Rio Rancho’s homeless pets.
Rosa with Big Dippa, adopted from Animal Humane

A sniff and a shake
Rosa Briones, Director of Retail Operations

Running a high volume Thrift Shop and retail location for a comprehensive organization such as Animal Humane New Mexico is no small task, but Rosa Briones does so with a huge heart and vast experience. Rosa has more than 14 years in the retail industry, and worked at JCPenney until 2011. She supervised many departments including women’s and children’s clothing, accessories, their catalog and Home Store. Rosa is excited to bring all of her skills in customer service, merchandising and retail strategy to Animal Humane, as she truly loves knowing that she is making a difference in the lives of homeless pets. A self-proclaimed dog person, she shares her life with a Teacup Chihuahua named Bella. When Rosa is not using her skills to market and design an incredible retail environment, she is an avid football and soccer fan. Her favorite teams are the Dallas Cowboys, Manchester United, and Chivas USA. She invites everyone to visit her at our Thrift Shop to donate, shop and see all the amazing changes she and her passionate team of staff and volunteers have made.

Celebrate someone you love with a brick, tree or park bench!

Help us conclude our $5,000,000 capital campaign and become a permanent part of our 45 year-old campus with unique naming opportunities in our beautiful Central Park—to be completed this coming summer! Starting April 1st you may visit ProjectHumaneNM.org to help us cross the finish line while honoring those closest to your heart.

Spring cleaning

It’s that time of year—time to go through your closets and garage, time to clean out unnecessary clutter and prepare for a fresh start this spring. Our Thrift Shop, located at 4646 Menaul Blvd. NE, is the perfect place to take your gently used clothing, furniture, household goods, antiques and collectibles—even cars and boats! Donations are always needed, are 100% tax-deductible, and proceeds benefit the homeless pets in our care.

Donating your vehicle is an excellent way to help save lives and simplify your own life! The better the condition of the vehicle the faster the sale, and greater benefit to pets in our care. We accept vehicles of all kinds: automobiles, boats, motorcycles, recreational vehicles and more.

We’re open 7 days a week from 9 am - 6 pm, and donations are accepted Monday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. Need help transporting large donations or furniture? We will gladly assist in picking up your donations for FREE! Please call 505.938.7915 to schedule your pick up.

Shopping

Our Thrift Shop is 6,000 square-feet of bargains and treasures. From dishes to vinyl records to electronics, pet supplies and automobiles... every purchase benefits the at-risk pets we serve. If you need a hand hauling your large purchases to your home, we offer a delivery service within Albuquerque for $30. Visit our Thrift Shop the weekend of March 14-16 for a Grand Reopening filled with special deals and activities!!
Our Donor-subsidized Veterinary Clinic served 32% more low-income families with comprehensive veterinary care for their treasured pets.

**TOTAL: 5,553**

**LENGTH OF STAY**

Intakes were down by 3%

Owner surrenders decreased by 11%

Returns hit an all-time low of 5%

**TOTAL: 4,573**

**PETS ENTERING OUR CARE**

Length of Stay decreased by 5 days for dogs and 3 days for cats

**2013 Adoption Employee of the Year: Angelica Maldonado**

Every day, our dedicated Team of Adoptions Advisors works diligently to find the perfect home for each of the thousands of pets that comes through our doors annually. Once a year we recognize one of these spectacular employees for their hard work in placing pets in new homes, accepting pets into our care, and helping them to transition and evolve into loving companions. **The Adoption Employee of 2013 is Angelica Maldonado.** Angelica found the right match for 222 pets in 2013 and continues to improve the lives of our current pet residents. She is devoted to daily care, enrichment, and social activities with our dogs that have shut down emotionally or behaviorally. Angelica has helped turn around multiple shy dogs with her slow approach and gentle manner. Angelica started her journey at Animal Humane as a volunteer and was quickly picked up by our Adoption Department as our weekend receptionist. The next available Adoption Advisor spot went to her and we never looked back. She is constantly finishing month after month in one of our “Top Dog” (leading Advisor) spots so it is no surprise to us that she is our 2013 Adoption Employee of the Year. In her personal time Angelica loves to travel. Her favorite place to visit is Spain, as she enjoys the culture, beauty and food! Angelica shares her home with two cats, Zeus and Salma, and a one-eyed Cattledog named Leela that she adopted from Animal Humane in December 2012. Her passion for pets is driven by how much she loves seeing their transformation from homeless and shy into perfect family pets. “I love seeing pets that enter our care, come out of their shell and then are adopted into the most amazing homes ever.” Angelica believes in our mission wholeheartedly and is doing her part to stop neglect and abuse one pet at a time.
Danielle is a super friendly little female orange and white kitty that came to us with a leg that she could not walk on and was fixed in an acute angle. She was brought to our care by a kind man who found her with two other kittens, and spent two weeks trying to find homes for all three of the abandoned felines. When he realized that Danielle's leg might be more than a birth defect, he brought all three to Animal Humane to ensure the best care and placement possible. Our expert Veterinary Team went to work to try and help sweet little Danielle. After a broad spectrum of testing her X-rays showed evidence of shrapnel in her leg, a clear indication that she had been shot. Danielle's leg had fractured and it had healed in an extremely abnormal position. Regardless of her disfigured leg, this darling kitty purred the entire time she was being held and positioned for her X-rays! Our Veterinary Team elected to remove the limb and Danielle didn't miss a beat with her purring, friendly attitude. In 21 short days, we changed her life forever.

Danielle is one of 1,239 pets that we were able to provide exceptional medical care to in 2013, thanks to the Robbie Jones Extra Love Fund. This critical resource subsidizes a significant portion of the cost to provide additional medical care and treatment to homeless pets to prepare them for adoption. Some pets that enter our care need much more than a health exam, vaccinations, microchips and spay/neuter surgeries. The Robbie Jones Extra Love Fund provides funding to pay for these specialized procedures—such as dental work, amputations or mass removals. On average, our Donor-subsidized Veterinary Clinic performs 1,100 of these types of medical procedures annually. Danielle was admitted, treated, nurtured, cherished and loved until a kind family adopted her into their home. She now lives in a lovely home with an elder feline sister and some darling children who fell in love with her instantly! We gave her extra love, and now she'll receive a lifetime of affection.

Animal Humane's Donor-subsidized Veterinary Clinic treated over 11,000 pets in 2013!
It is so easy to do...

My husband and I have always loved animals. Last year, after my husband Dean passed away, I came across a life insurance policy I bought 30 years ago. At the time of purchase, the policy was valued at $1,000, but when found it had increased in value 7x. Not only was I not depending on the policy for financial stability, I had never listed a beneficiary on the form. Thinking about what my husband would also want, I listed Animal Humane as the beneficiary. It will be a great gift one day and will continue to grow while I am alive. And when I join Dean, the policy will care for the homeless pets that need help while waiting for a loving forever home.

Having adopted Star Sapphire in 2012 as a comfort pet for Dean at home and later in an assisted living center, and having adopted DonGato from Animal Humane 10 years prior, I am warmed every day by the love of these two pets and want to give back to them and others who find comfort with animals.

We love our pets in this life and we can help take care of pets for others after we are gone. While attending to my husband’s estate, I learned that there are many options for listing beneficiaries, from Individual Retirement Accounts to checking and saving accounts—all can save more lives. It’s so easy to do.

Billie Jo Crouse

Billie & Star Sapphire, in our campus Memorial Bequest Garden

PNM — a purrrfect match for Animal Humane!

Since 1983, PNM Resources Foundation has offered grants to local nonprofit organizations to improve their facilities and become more energy efficient. For the 6th year in a row, Animal Humane has been awarded precious funding to reduce our environmental footprint. This year’s $5,000 Reduce Your Use grant is being used to insulate the roof of our former Adoption and Admission Building. When it re-opens this year as the Robbie Jones Memorial – La Casa de los Gatos it will truly be state-of-the-art; including being energy efficient and climate controlled for our resident felines. We are grateful for the ongoing support and partnership of PNM Resources Foundation, and the significant benefit their support provides to the pets in our care!
Save the Date!

To inquire about sponsorship opportunities or to contribute to our silent auction, please contact Donna M. Stumpf at 505.938.7888 or DonnaS@AnimalHumaneNM.org. Thank you!

Animal Humane New Mexico has the distinct honor of being the Primary Beneficiary of the 2014 Montezuma Ball taking place on Saturday, November 22nd. Please Save The Date and make plans to join us for a truly special evening to raise awareness and valuable funds for our life-saving mission!

In Honor of Pets

Abby
Marlisa Kohn
Allie, Max, Charlie, BC, Eddie & Lilly
Casa de Aqua
Ashen, Bonny & Penny Lane
Barbara & Richard Leitner
Athena & Barkley Loose
Antonia McCandless
Ballets & Bruises
Charley Chase
Butler
Lisa & Jay Goosby
Beauch
Bibby, Reality, Cooper & Sasha
Joyce & David Barham
Bears
Marianne Bauer
Ball
Karen & Food Green
Beatty, Ruby, Checkers & Sasha
Sherry & Michael Elza

Bo The Great’s Birthday
Ryan Strong Fitz
Buddy
Karen & Dan Blinak
Bunker & Eru
Erin & Meach Leameister
Cassie
Louisa & Gottlieb
Chama
Charles B. Parker
Chow
Nancy & Robert Fleming
Corrodi
Andrea McClung
Daisy
Louise Keitelmen
Divo
Norman & Charles Scott
Divet
Sherry & George Jenkins
Dove
Cora Lephas
Dudder
Arthur M. Peterson
Ella
Lynne Plagge & John Throne
Fargus
Tim Tyress
Fiona, Sammy & Junior
James Penius
Frederick
Barbara & Ken Flores
Jack
Ann Huff
Jennie
Ann & Dan Stevens
Joy
Cory & Pam Johnston
Kesly
Benn McCallum
Elika Mama
Lucinda Bower
Kira
John & Cheryl Chaves
L.B., Rusty & Socks
Audrey & Tom Minard
Lady
Sue & Warren Dahlbro
Lil Bear
John A. Snyder, Jr.
Lobo
Deborah & Robert Schank
Lucy
Peggy Syers
Maddie
Emi & David Armano
Paddy
Maggie
Carole D. Gill
Maya Marie
Catherine Collins

Miko & Pono
Renate McCurry
Makato
Elaine Diers
Mira
Mary L. Kleiner
Mozart
Lillian Messler
Mr. White, Valerie, Gracie & Buttercups
Virginia & David Mendez
Muffy Wiston
Kelly & Larry Borgeson
Nikki
Pamela W. McCoy
Phoebe
Anthony Novemborg
Po & Birdie
Judith Miller
Pudsey, Trey & Sam
Claudia Stobie
Rags, Riches & Zorro
Virginia & Robert Whitman, Jr
Rainbow
Jacqueline Rodgiers
Rascal
Arthur T. Chippa
Ricky
Heidi E. Thompson
Romero & Juliet
Kathy & Steven Gough
Rusia, Paul & Blue
Jacky & Jack Elder
Sadie
Jennifer & David Ochreinnder
Sadie & Bear
Larissa & Marvin Jones
Scampari
Dr. Carolyn Yahnke
Shadow
Pam & Matthews
Shumrack, Emma, Noel & Poogum
Ginny & Bobby Glibke
Sheep
Gloria Taylor & Marvin Dearr
Stumbo, Bimbo, Shlomo, Puma & Topi
Deborah Britanikey
Sandemos, Oli & Thor
Dr. Drake A. Walters
Tanay
Kathy & Larry Borgeson
T рест
Elaine L. Stewart
Tuffy
Donald Thurn
The Sullivan Pets
Sydney & Jack Sullivan
Toby & Millie
John A. Frey

The Montezuma Ball
Celebrating New Mexico’s Traditions
our donors, who chose to celebrate present and dearly departed. This list represents tremendous affection for friends & family, and whose memory is deeply moved by our donors, those close to their hearts by making a gift that will bring joy & promise to homeless pets.


"In Memory of Pets"