



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES

ANIMAL BENEFIT FUND PRESENTATION

FISCAL YEAR 2023/24



The Animal Benefit Fund (ABF)

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The ***Animal Benefit Fund (ABF)*** was established by the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors in 1988 as a way to accept donations from compassionate individuals who want to help our shelter animals. All funds are used to enhance the care and well-being of animals in our shelters and to enhance programs of humane welfare and education for the residents of Contra Costa County.

In FY 23/24, ABF funds were allocated to a range of projects and focused on three primary funding areas:

- Medical Assistance Program
- Spay/Neuter & Wellness Program
- Shelter Intervention Program



Medical Assistance Program

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The ***Medical Assistance Program*** was created to provide medical assistance and emergency veterinary care for animals that are in the County shelter's care.

CCAS applied \$10,000 in Medical Assistance funding to help pets with advanced medical needs beyond our shelter's ability to treat.



The Medical Assistance Fund allows CCAS to help animals with a variety of conditions, like this dog that was likely tossed/hit by a car. Photo credit: Kelly Sullivan, Richmondside

Medical Assistance Program

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Total Funds Available \$10,000

Animal Fix Clinic (\$5,000)

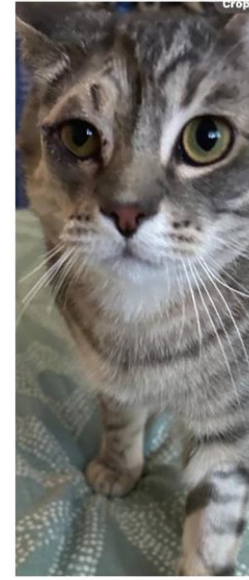
- Surpassed annual goal by five (5) animals and supported thirty (30) total animals in FY 23/24

Jelly's Place (\$5,000)

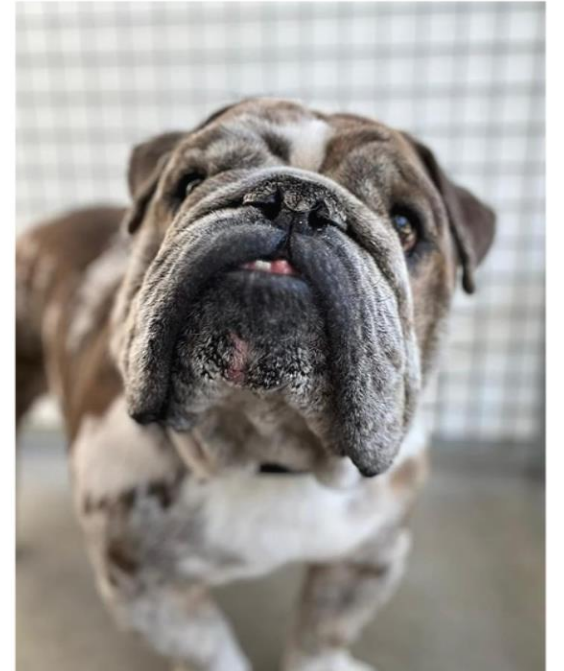
- Surpassed annual goal by two (2) animals and supported twelve (12) total animals in FY 23/24



Animal Fix Clinic treated Oliver with entropion eye surgery, which was a low-cost procedure for his owner.



Jelly's Place treated Zaza's medical needs so that she could live a comfortable and healthy life.



Spay/Neuter & Wellness Program

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In FY 23/24, the ***Spay/Neuter and Wellness Program*** helped over 1,354 residents of Contra Costa County receive low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for pets and community cats. In addition to spay and neuter surgeries, animals were also provided vaccines and microchips, if needed.

**2,195 Total
Surgeries
Provided**

(1,255 increase from
FY 22/23)

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**Partners
Participated**
(Increase of 1
organization from
FY 22/23)

Over 2,300

Vaccines/Microchips
Administered
(1,300 increase from
FY 22/23)

Spay/Neuter & Wellness Program

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Total Funds Available \$250,000 (Two Cycles)

- \$150,000 Animal Benefit Fund Funding
- \$100,000 U.C. Davis Grant Funding

ABF Funding Recipients

- Cat Support Network (\$35,000)
- Animal Fix Clinic (\$41,000)
- Paw Fund (\$35,000)
- Pawsitively S.A.F.E (\$39,000)

U.C. Davis Grant Funding Recipients

- Animal Fix Clinic (\$50,000)
- Animal Coalition Group (\$50,000)

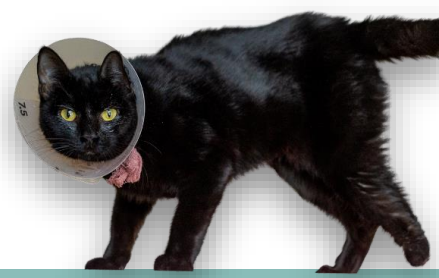


Pawsitively S.A.F.E. supported encampment animals like these two adult cats to be altered and vaccinated.



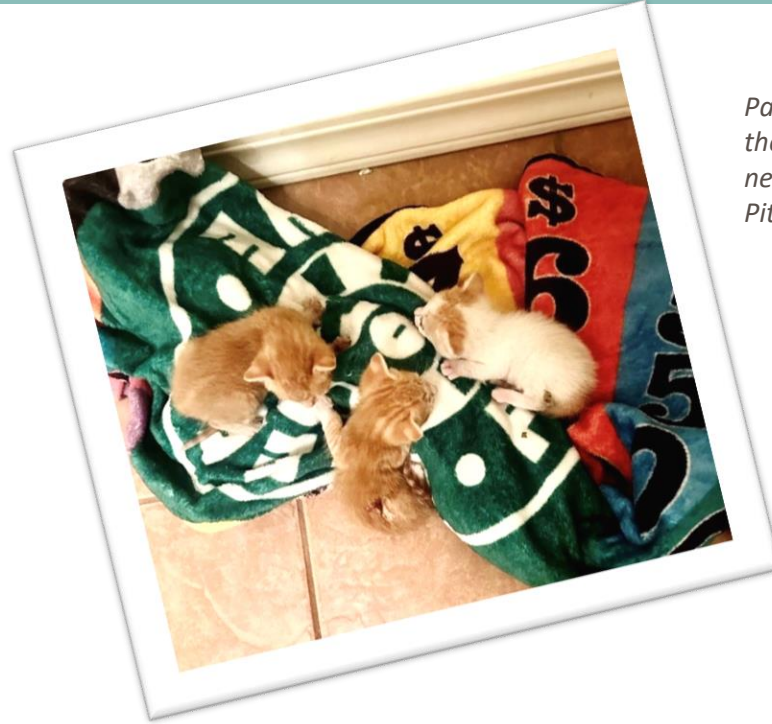
Pawfund helped support an encampment with their animal population, including transporting Luna the dog to her spay appointment.

Spay/Neuter & Wellness Program



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ABF funds were utilized to support low-cost spay and neuter surgeries across the County through local clinics, Trap- Neuter-Return (TNR) programs, and mobile spay/neuter events.



Pawsitively S.A.F.E. assisted with the care and eventual spay and neuter of these kittens found in Pittsburg.

Animal Fix Clinic helps support TNR programs through their humane trap program. Photo by Erica Danger.



Spay/Neuter & Wellness Program

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- **Pawsitively S.A.F.E.** utilized Spay & Neuter Assistance funding in FY 23/24 to spay and neuter 312 cats and kittens in Contra Costa County.
- The **Animal Coalition Group** and Animal Fix Clinic spayed, neutered and vaccinated 861 cats to help local communities address community cat overpopulation through services and education.
- The **Cat Support Network** surpassed their goal of spaying and neutering 250 cats by altering a total of 371 cats, 121 more cats than anticipated.



Pawsitively S.A.F.E. rescued this kitten from Pittsburg who was assessed, altered, and put up for adoption.

Pawfund helped support encampment animals with spay and neuter services, like for this friendly mastiff, "Feisty."



Shelter Intervention Program

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The ***Shelter Intervention Fund*** was created to assist Contra Costa County residents who want to keep their pets out of the shelter and at home where they belong. The fund is administered through the CCAS Pet Assistance Program.

During FY 23/24, Shelter Intervention Program funding was able to help County residents keep 172 pets out of the shelter and in safe, loving homes.



Pawfund volunteers assisted with coordinating and transporting Khaleesi to receive the medical care needed and now she can live comfortably mass free.

Pawfund assisted community members with education on available resources (flea prevention, dewormer, vaccines), support, and animal care direction. One such client, Khaleesi, who was a previous spay patient, needed masses removed from her legs.



Shelter Intervention Program

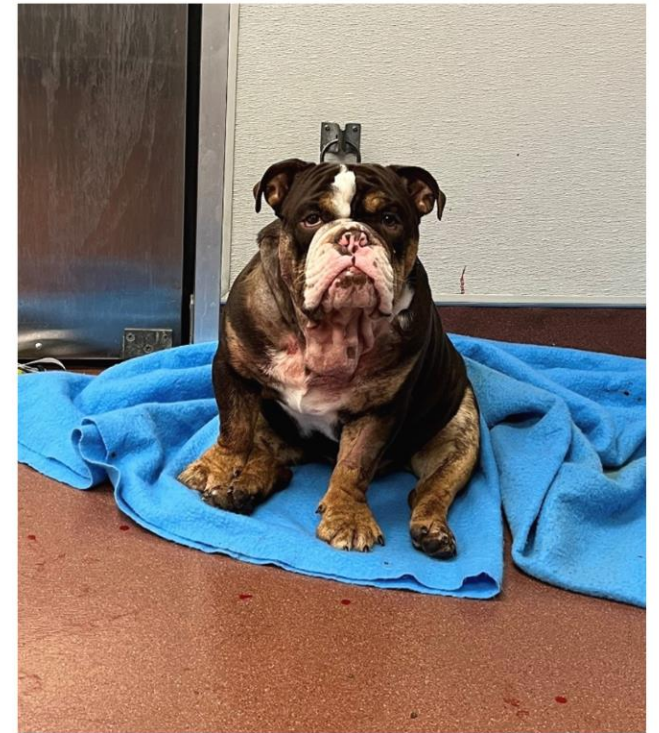
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East Bay SPCA supported “Queenie” with an emergency spay operation due to a potentially fatal pyometra.



“Wanda,” the rescued racing greyhound, was supported by the East Bay SPCA for the removal of a mast cell tumor that would have otherwise cost triple the amount from other veterinarians.



The East Bay SPCA helped “Choco” get neutered and receive stenotic nares and salivary mucocele surgery to help him breathe better.

Shelter Intervention Program

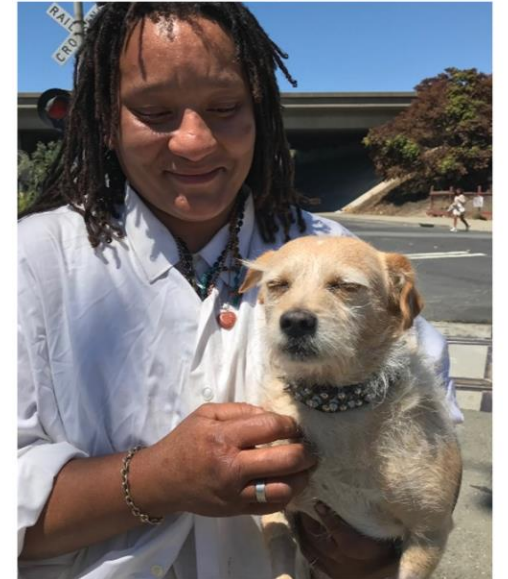
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Total Funds Available \$24,000

- East Bay SPCA (\$8,000)
- Jelly's Place (\$8,000)
- Paw Fund (\$8,000)



Paw Fund administered a vaccine to terrier, Joey.



Paw Fund assisted Joey by removing a foxtail from his nose.



Paw Fund assists "Tiny" during one of the fifty-one (51) outreach events hosted.



Pawsitively S.A.F.E. kitten pre-trapping.

Shelter Intervention

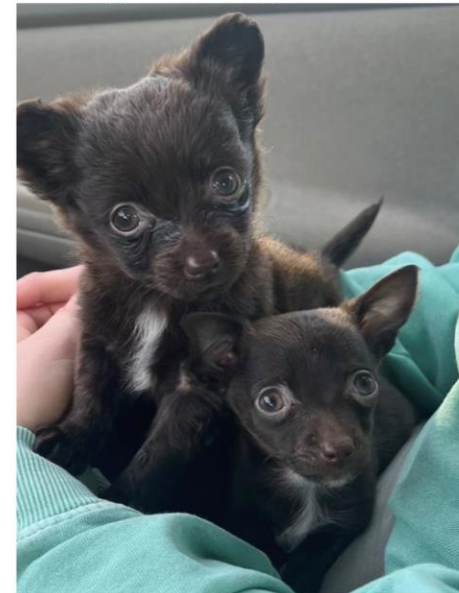
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- ❑ **Jelly's Place's** goal was to serve 16 families - by end of year assisted 19
- ❑ **East Bay SPCA's** goal was to assist 16 families - by end of year helped 14
- ❑ **Paw Fund's** goal was to assist 6 animals and host 80 outreach events - exceeded their goal by helping 18 animals and hosted 121 events.



Vaccine events were hosted to administer vaccines to unhoused encampments to target specific diseases such as Leptospirosis, as well as complete the removal of dead animals to promote health in the community.



The "Valdez" puppies were assessed, treated, and vaccinated. They become part of the network of wellness checks and rounds for Pawfund.

Community Challenges

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- Funding allocations were exhausted within the first half of the contract period.
- Lack of low-cost veterinary services and overall appointment availability.
- Increased shelter intervention services demand for high-risk population groups (i.e. unhoused and low-socioeconomic communities).
- Lack of program funding impacted owner decisions to surrender their pets.
- Increased need for “free” spay and neuter services for unhoused residents.

Next Steps

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Bella and her owner after being spayed and vaccinated by Pawsitively S.A.F.E.

- Target specific Contra Costa County communities experience high intake of animals into shelter services through spay and neuter and shelter intervention services
- Increase funding for Shelter Intervention programs through community partnerships
- Increase funding for Medical Assistance program services for veterinary and emergency care

What Our Partners Say



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"The Animal Benefit Fund has been a lifesaver for clients and their pets who visit the Animal Fix Clinic. These funds allow us to extend help to more clients who are finding it increasingly difficult to afford spay/neuter and non-routine surgical care for their pets.

With assistance from the Animal Benefit Fund, we were able to help "Mama," a 2-year-old Chihuahua who had been to the emergency clinic for a dystocia. The client had already spent most of her money on diagnostics and only had \$300 for the actual surgery. Thanks to the Animal Benefit Fund, Mama had a successful surgery with us, the client paid what she could afford, and Mama went home with her owners, happy and healthy. This is the impact that the Animal Benefit Fund has on the community, keeping pets and their caretakers together, taking economic euthanasia out of the equation, and ensuring that the residents of Contra Costa County have somewhere to get the help they need for their pets.

In addition to pets, The Animal Benefit Fund also allows us to keep our spay/neuter services for community cats affordable. Therefore ensuring that free-roaming cats in Contra Costa County are spayed/neutered, vaccinated against rabies, and healthy.

We appreciate the ongoing support that the Animal Benefit Fund provides us."
- Jean Goh, DVM Medical Director, Animal Fix Clinic

"Thank you for your generous support of Rescue Groups and Trappers in Contra Costa County. The Animal Benefit Fund grant monies in the 2023/2024 Fiscal year of \$50,000 allowed the Animal Coalition to establish strong relationships with Veterinary Hospitals and fund ten rescue groups and trappers paying for 372 spay/neuter surgeries. Funding these surgeries is critical to reduce the community cat population and allow these organizations to help others with food, keeping pets in homes and foster care programs. This funding is vital to the community."

-Kathy Steinbrecher, Animal Coalition Group

"Thanks to the support of the Animal Benefit Fund grant, Pawsitively Safe has been able to take significant steps in managing the overpopulation of community cats. For instance, we've been assisting residents at an apartment complex in Bay Point, where numerous stray cats and kittens have appeared. Without our intervention, made possible by the ABF grant, the cat population in this high-need area would spiral out of control.

At this same apartment complex, there are residents with unaltered pets and indoor/outdoor pet cats that need to be fixed. However, these residents often lack the financial means to afford spay/neuter services or necessary medical treatments. With the support of ABF funds for Shelter Intervention, Pawsitively Safe has stepped in to provide assistance, ensuring that pets can stay at home and receive the care they need. By doing so, we've helped keep pets in their homes and communities, reducing the likelihood of them being surrendered to shelters. This intervention is crucial in preventing overpopulation and supporting the well-being of both the animals and their owners."

-Holly Cuciz, Pawsitively S.A.F.E.

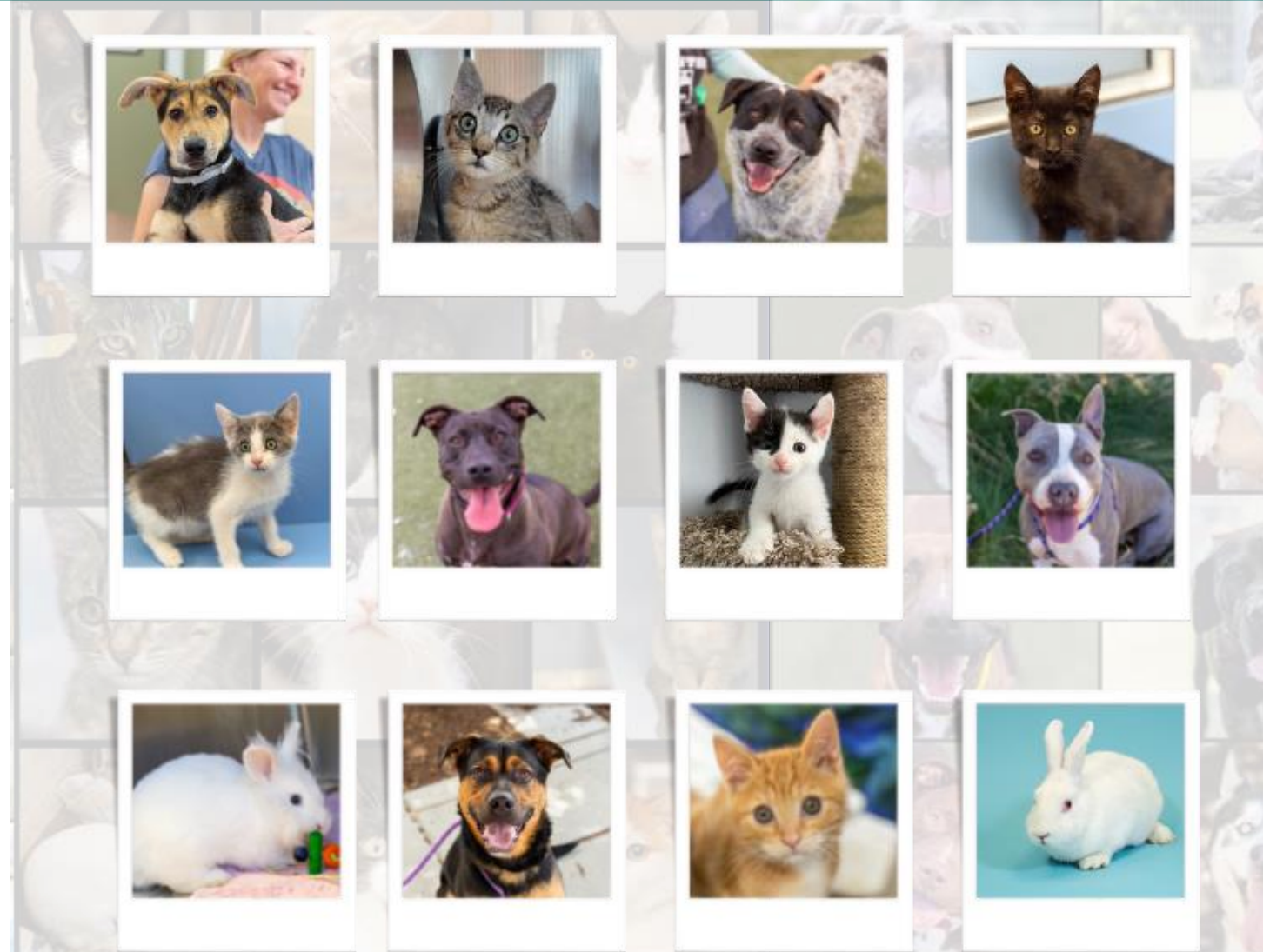
Thank You To Our Donors!

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The Animal Benefit Fund has allowed CCAS to put ideas into action, the results of which were highlighted in this presentation.

To our donors, we say “Thank You” for believing in us and for providing us the tools necessary to impact and touch even more lives.

CCAS is grateful for each and every contribution, funding that has allowed us to save and transform lives in ways we could have never imagined. We simply could not do this without you!



Questions

