

YEAR-END REPORT

Orange County Animal Services 2024

North (A539077) was adopted on July 30, 2024, after nearly 150 days in foster care.

More on page 13.





ANIMAL SERVICES AT A GLANCE

91%

live release
rate for dogs

88%

live release
rate for cats

overall live release rate 89%



14,854

domestic animal
impounds



31,483

requests for
citizen response
handled



66,517

shelter visitors

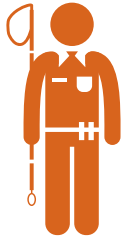


\$101,081

awarded in
grants to
non-profit
organizations
helping Orange
County pets



**ANIMAL SERVICES
CURRENTLY HAS
110 FULL-TIME
POSITIONS** split
across four teams
– Enforcement,
Kennel, Clinic and
Communications.



**RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING
CHAPTER 5 OF THE CODE OF
ORDINANCES FOR ORANGE
COUNTY, FLORIDA**, which
encompasses nearly 1,000 square
miles and has a human population
of nearly 1.5 million residents.



**THE SHELTER IS
SUPPORTED BY A
NETWORK OF**



330

volunteers

402

foster
parents

127

rescue
groups

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER



Hello Readers,

I'm pleased to present the 2024 Year-End Report for Animal Services reflecting the hard work and dedication of our staff, volunteers, rescue partners, adopters and foster families. Together, we've accomplished so much.

In 2024, nearly 15,000 pets entered our shelter. Despite an increase in dog intakes, we maintained a live release rate of 91% for dogs and 88% for cats - an achievement demonstrating the efforts of everyone involved. These figures represent thousands of animals adopted, fostered, rescued and reclaimed. Our team appreciates everyone who has contributed to their care.

A highlight of the year was when Orange County Animal Services was recognized as the 2024 "Outstanding Shelter of the Year" by the Florida Animal Protection and Advocacy Association. This peer-selected honor underscores the hard work of our team and drives us to keep improving.

This year, we faced challenges in placing some of our medically or behaviorally complex pets, but thanks to adopters and foster families, we've been able to give most of them a chance at a better life.

Our volunteers have been essential to our success, assisting with everything from dog walks to adoption events. Their commitment makes a real difference, and we are grateful for the support.

I'd also like to thank our staff, whose professionalism and teamwork have been key to our triumphs. Despite being at capacity for much of the year, you've consistently provided exceptional care for the animals in our shelter.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the upcoming construction of a new Animal Services shelter, set to begin in late 2025. Under the leadership of Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings and the Board of County Commissioners, this new facility will help us improve operations and provide a better experience for both animals and staff. We are grateful for the support of our leadership in advancing this project.

This Year-End Report highlights our achievements and reminds us of the work still ahead. I look forward to continuing our progress and working with all of you to improve the lives of the animals in our care.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Diane Summers

Diane Summers

ENFORCEMENT

31,483
Number of
activities handled

1,462
Number of
citations issued

239
Number of court cases

2,668
Number of bite reports

Number of
wildlife and pocket
pets relocated

346
Back to Nature

78
Other Partners

53
Fallin' Pines
Critter Rescue

53
Audubon Center
for Birds of Prey

530
ANIMALS

The Animal Services Enforcement Operations Team includes 24 Animal Services officers, four Senior Animal Services officers, a dispatch team, program coordinators and a program manager. The Enforcement Operations Team responds to calls for citizens assistance on a priority basis and does so 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



Pets in Hot Cars - During the summer of 2024, Orange County Animal Services (OCAS) faced a troubling number of incidents involving pets left in hot cars, to which Animal Services Officers responded. As temperatures soared, so did the risks to pets that were left in vehicles by their caretakers. The extreme heat of Florida summers can turn a parked car into a deathtrap within minutes, a reality that has sparked renewed efforts by OCAS to raise awareness, intervene in emergencies and enforce penalties.

One of the most heart-wrenching cases occurred on May 4, when OCAS was called to a Disney Springs parking garage to rescue four Bernedoodle puppies. The puppies had been left inside a car for over 90 minutes while their owner dined at a nearby restaurant. Despite being in a covered parking garage with a window cracked, the puppies were in distress due to the oppressive heat. Tragically, one of the puppies was found unresponsive and had to be euthanized after failed attempts to revive her. The remaining three puppies survived due to immediate medical care and were adopted by staff from the Central Florida Tourism Oversight District's Fire Department, who had assisted in the rescue. The story gained national attention, which resulted in outrage over the incident and appreciation for the rescuers.

Sadly, this tragic incident was not an isolated event. OCAS responded to several similar cases in the weeks following, including a Shih Tzu puppy left in a car at Goodwill on Lake Underhill Road in Orlando, where temperatures inside the vehicle reached a dangerous 140 degrees Fahrenheit. The puppy, which was severely overheated, required medical attention at the Veterinary Emergency Clinic and was later placed with a rescue group. Other incidents included dogs left in cars at popular tourist destinations, where dogs were confiscated, and the cases were turned over to law enforcement for investigation.



OCAS has made a significant effort this year to educate the public about the dangers of leaving pets in cars. The shelter also collaborated with Orange County Fire Rescue to demonstrate just how quickly the temperature inside a vehicle can escalate. In a public demonstration on August 2, 2024, OCAS veterinarian, Dr. Carmen-Susan Glotfelty-Ortiz, explained that temperatures inside a parked car can rise by 20 degrees Fahrenheit in just 10 minutes, and 40 to 50 degrees in one hour. Program Coordinator Rick Hunyadi spoke as well and volunteered his truck for the event. Pets, unlike humans, cannot regulate their body temperature efficiently, making them highly susceptible to heatstroke.

OCAS urges the public to immediately contact law enforcement if they witness a pet trapped in a hot car, as animal cruelty charges can result from such neglect. Sheriff John Mina of the Orange County Sheriff's Office stressed the importance of taking swift action: "Leaving your pets unattended in a hot car is animal cruelty, and at the Orange County Sheriff's Office, we take that crime very seriously."

By shining a light on these preventable tragedies, OCAS hopes to reduce the number of cases in the future, ultimately keeping both pets and children safe from the dangers of hot vehicles.



CLINIC

17,314

Number of vet exams performed

10,664

Number of prescriptions written

8,243

Number of technician procedures

7,436

Number of spay/neuter surgeries performed

515

This includes trap-neuter-return surgeries:

172

Wait Til 8 program surgeries

1,097

Number of spay/neuter vouchers issued

629

Number of x-rays taken

222

Number of pets sponsored for heartworm treatment through partnered clinics



The Animal Services Clinic Team is comprised

of three full-time veterinarians, two part-time veterinarians, two supervisors, a group of technicians, two receptionists and a chief veterinarian. The Clinic Team handles spay/ neuter surgeries,

preps animals for departure with their adopters and rescue groups, triages animals as they arrive and conducts exams for ongoing medical issues for pets in the shelter's care.



Animal Services Specialist Miranda Running-Finger welcomes guests to the clinic lobby.

The Animal Services Clinic is key in carrying out the shelter's thriving foster care program. In addition to pets fostered by members of the public, a total of 354 pets were fostered by Animal Services employees. Thank you to team members Caroline St. Clair, Eleanor Edwards, Leigh Anne Marsh, Yalina Baella, Danielle Fay, Gwen Bulinski, Tomye Armstrong, Ryan Potts, Ivy Martinez, Amy Sullivan, Stasia Finley, Diane Summers, Lorenz Small, Kristin Tsukamoto, Bailey Buchhold, Darlene Rivers, Sophie Goad, Colleen Rodriguez, Jessie Pena, Lydia Quinn, Faith Galvez, Lauren Biel, Leslie Mosquera, Mario Stazzone, Miriam Amico, Riley Jones, Bryant Almeida, Dr. Carmen-Susan Glotfelty-Ortiz, Charles Reynolds, Crystal Kincaid, Desi Eichner, Gabrielle Furtak, Jazmine Lopez, Kendal Deakin, Kristen Booth, Makayla Cobia, Perla Mejia Cabrera and Yasmin Suazo (ordered by number of pets fostered throughout the year).



On January 19, 2024,

during a cold snap, a local resident used a space heater to help warm her family, as well as her 17 cats. Due to an error with the space heater, a fire broke out in the home, and both Orange County Fire Rescue and Orange County Animal Services provided urgent response. While the human residents were unharmed, the cats were not. Several of the cats died during the fire or shortly thereafter due to smoke inhalation, and the remaining cats were in urgent need of medical intervention.

Animal Field Assistant Charles Reynolds immediately transported the cats back to base at OCAS, where shelter veterinarian Dr. Carmen-Susan Glotfelty-Ortiz and a team of technicians got to work to assess their conditions. The OCAS Rescue Coordinator Heidi Matos began reaching out to the network of cat rescue groups and sharing their medical needs. Thankfully Liberation Cat House, Live to Purr Another Day Rescue and CLP Animal Rescue were able to rally and take in the cats, most doing so the same day.



Izzie (A552350)

was brought into Orange County Animal Services on July 23, 2024, by a local resident who reportedly found her by a dumpster. Her appearance caused immediate concern, as she had a visibly distended abdomen. She was immediately brought to the clinic and examined by the OCAS veterinarian, with assistance from clinic supervisor Natalie Dubel and technicians. X-rays revealed ascites, a condition where fluid builds in the belly (*abdomen*). In this puppy's case the condition was thought to be the result of a serious intestinal parasite infestation. An abdominocentesis was performed, removing nearly a gallon of fluid from the belly, and helping to ease the discomfort of the pup. A Forever Home Animal Rescue took little Izzie into their care the following day.



During the evening hours on February 7, 2024, a local resident observed a dog struck by a car, resulting in injuries to his front left leg. She put the dog in her car to keep him safe and called OCAS. This dog was impounded and became known as **Kelce (A541532)**. After evaluation by our clinic team, it was determined Kelce required amputation. Dr. Leili Haas performed the surgery on February 14, 2024, and a foster home was lined up for Kelce's aftercare. Kelce recovered beautifully and was eventually adopted by his foster parent.

KENNEL

Number of domestic animals impounded by intake type:

7,618

Strays

2,508

Owner Surrender

1,017

Owned

1,005

Confiscated

614

Adoption Returns

140

Transferred in from Rescue

6,798

Total Dog Impounds

7,786

Total Cat Impounds

Behavior Observations Logged:

1,575

By Behaviorist

12,590

By Other OCAS Staff

392

By Volunteers

14,557

TOTAL

2024 TOP PERFORMING VOLUNTEERS:

| | NAME | HOURS VOLUNTEERED |
|-----|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | KEN SCHIELDS | 1,347 |
| 2. | MICHAEL DAVIS | 512 |
| 3. | GILLIAN ROSS | 459 |
| 4. | WILLIAM MURPHY | 456 |
| 5. | GIANNINA ZANELLI | 370 |
| 6. | MARTIN LOCHTE | 358 |
| 7. | MARK SIEGEL | 211 |
| 8. | STEPHANIE SCHIELDS | 210 |
| 9. | KATHY HAUSER | 191 |
| 10. | LISA FRANCHINA | 187 |



Volunteer Highlight: - William Murphy

"In 2024, we welcomed volunteer groups who were interested in taking dogs on walks around our retention pond. On Wednesday mornings, we invite businesses in the community to come out to OCAS and walk some of our shelter

dogs around the lake area, which is about 2/3 of a mile. The program really took off with the help of Lead Volunteer William Murphy. William has enthusiastically stepped up and taken the lead with this program, coming in early to make a list of dogs that most need a walk, organizing supplies to make the event run smoothly and keeping track of 10 - 15 volunteers while they are walking grateful dogs and pups!

Groups can walk about 15 - 20 dogs during their two-hour volunteer shift. Without William's organization and help, we wouldn't be able to offer this initiative that's proven engaging for the public and beneficial for the shelter dogs. We have had many groups come out to walk dogs, including frequent visits by staff from Universal, Target, Jet Blue and Marriot." - Volunteer Coordinator *Crystal Kincaid*

15,681

Number of volunteer hours



8,702

Number of community service hours



One topic of increasing discussion, awareness and importance is dog behavior. OCAS strives to achieve a live release (*adoption, rescue, reclaim*) for as many pets as safely possible, while also balancing a commitment to public safety. Accurately assessing a dog's behavior and working to improve that performance is essential to successfully reaching that goal.

Recognizing and improving shelter dog behavior is a common goal between our kennel and volunteer teams. In fiscal year 2024, the two teams worked together in new ways to improve the behavior and wellbeing of the animals Orange County Animal Services:

Behavior Team

OCAS is fortunate to have a full-time certified behaviorist, Savanna Palmer, who is aided by two part-time individuals. Savanna is tasked with assessing dogs as they complete quarantine following a bite, or those with identified behavior struggles, and makes recommendations about their suitability for adoption or rescue placement. She is dedicated to getting to know the evolving OCAS shelter dog population, and she often forms strong bonds with the dogs.

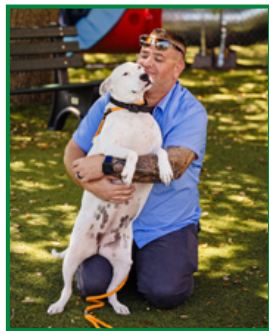


“Wags for Walks”

In 2023, Volunteer Isabella Venezia introduced the “Wags for Walks” program, allowing UCF students to take shelter dogs out for walks at local parks. This gives the dogs a break from the shelter environment and provides valuable feedback on their behavior outside the kennel. The program is an effective way for students to get involved with the shelter and support the dogs in the shelter's care. Isabella's work with this program earned her the “**Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**” award at the 2024 Florida Animal Protection and Advocacy Association banquet.



Playgroups



The kennel team works closely with volunteers to run weekly dog playgroups. These playgroups provide dogs with an opportunity to interact with other dogs in a controlled environment. Playgroups help staff and volunteers assess the dogs'

behavior by identifying how they interact with other dogs. Volunteers assist by running dogs to and from the playgroups and monitoring their interactions, providing essential support for these important sessions.

Dog Day Out



Volunteer Coordinator Crystal Kincaid launched the “**Dog Day Out**” program in fiscal year 2024, allowing volunteers to take dogs to local parks and other dog-friendly locations. These outings provide useful insights into how dogs behave outside the shelter

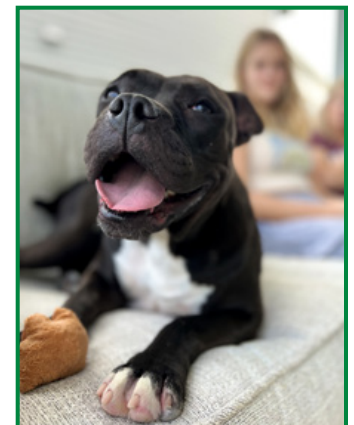
and have engaged new and existing volunteers with a fresh way to help.

Project Dog List

In 2024, the kennel team launched the “**Project Dog List**,” which identifies dogs with behavior challenges that may benefit from additional handling. These are often long-stay dogs who struggle with the stress of being confined to a kennel. Volunteers focus on taking these dogs out more frequently to reduce frustration and help improve their behavior. This initiative has led to calmer, more manageable stays for some of these dogs, with better outcomes.



Through these programs and the combined efforts of the kennel team and volunteers, we have improved the care and behavior of many of the dogs in our shelter. By focusing on behavior assessments, enrichment and outings, we continue to help animals adjust to shelter life and prepare for adoption. The collaboration between the kennel team and volunteers has been key in making a positive impact on these animals' lives.



COMMUNICATIONS

66,517

Number of shelter visitors

8,086

Number of pet adoptions

1,234

Number of pets reclaimed

- Approximately 23% of dogs were reclaimed by their owners compared to 15% of cats

1,775

Pets fostered

354

Pets fostered by Animal Services staff

179

Number of new foster parents recruited this year



Orange County Animal Services



The Animal Services Communications Team

includes a group of Animal Services specialists, two supervisors, a program coordinator for adoptions, a program coordinator for foster care, a program coordinator for rescue placements and a program manager. This team is often the first face many people encounter at the shelter, as they serve at the front desk, helping to facilitate adoptions and reunifications between owners and their missing pets.



Social Media Efforts

85,043



followers on
FACEBOOK

@orangecountyanimalservices

76,199

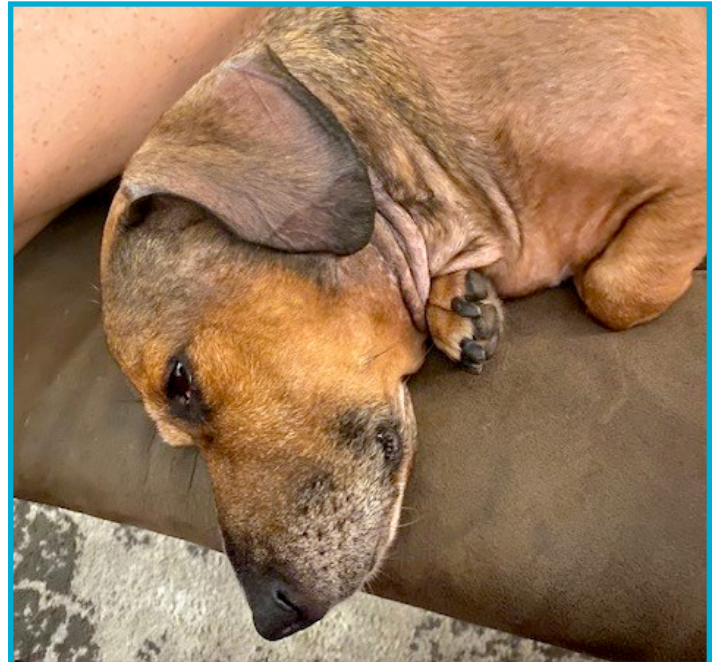


followers on
INSTAGRAM

@orangecountyanimalservices



Adoption Highlight:



Animal Services Officers in the enforcement section work three shifts, covering 24 hours of the day. The third shift officers respond to priority calls, and any other needs that can be handled while not interrupting people while they are typically sleeping. For third shift officer Chase Suero, the early morning hours on August 2 certainly brought surprise.

While driving through the Pine Hills area Officer Suero observed a pack of coyotes running through a parking lot. They appeared to be running after something small so Officer Suero opted to follow and investigate further. As he drove up, his suspicion was confirmed, the coyotes had cornered a small animal at the entrance of a closed business.

By pulling his truck right up to the scene he spooked the coyotes, and they ran off. Officer Suero walked up to the small animal and discovered a nervous dog, shaking in the corner, terrified but otherwise unharmed.

This is how OCAS met Mister William, estimated to be around seven years old.

Typically small, cute dogs are adopted quickly, with little effort needed to market them for placement. The shelter receives dozens of emails daily about small dogs for adoption, and a significant number of visitors are searching for these dogs. Staff didn't expect Mister William to have a lengthy stay, especially since he was so sweet and loved both people and other dogs.

Several weeks later and he was still available. Veterinary Technician Tomye Armstrong asked Public Information Officer Bryant Almeida to share Mister William's story on the shelter's social media page. The post proved successful, with nearly 400 people sharing his story to help him land a new home. Soon after, he was adopted!

His adopter, Marie Hertrich, recently followed up with us to share: "Mister William has become the heartbeat of our home. From the moment he arrived, he transformed our world with his gentle spirit and boundless love. Each morning, he starts his day with a hop through the yard, his little legs carrying all the joy and excitement of a soul who knows he is deeply loved. Those morning kisses are like tiny love letters, reminding us how lucky we are to have him.

Our sweet boy has learned so much - mastering his special stairs to protect his precious back, proving how smart and determined he is. The couch has become his kingdom, where he snuggles close, radiating warmth and comfort. At night, he nestles into bed with us, a living, breathing symbol of trust and companionship.

His relationship with our January rescue is something truly special. They're more than pets; they're family, connected by a bond that goes beyond words. And oh, that morning ritual with his beloved banana, followed by those irresistible "sad eyes" that somehow always earn him a tiny pancake - he's got us completely wrapped around his little paw.

We call him our little sweet potato, a term of endearment that barely captures how much he means to us. As the holidays approach, our excitement grows. This year, our family feels complete with Mister William, our furry miracle, our source of endless love and joy."

We're so thankful to Marie, and the many others who opted to give our shelter pets a second chance to have the love and lives they truly deserve.



Foster Spotlight:

“North (A539077) arrived at the shelter in December of 2023, and while she was very friendly with people, she was very reactive to other animals and struggled to be adopted in the shelter environment.

In March 2024, Bailey Buchhold offered to foster North to help give her a much-needed break from the shelter. What originally was supposed to be a few weeks, turned into over four months of continuous foster care. Bailey worked with North on training and reactivity. She was constantly promoting her on social media and providing us with important information about her improved behavior out of the shelter and with nice photos so we could continue to promote her as well.

Eventually, she found the perfect adopter and facilitated a meet and greet that led to a successful adoption without North ever having to return to the shelter! Thanks to Bailey’s dedication and hard work, North was able to find her forever home. Without Bailey’s help, this likely wouldn’t have been possible.”

– Foster Coordinator Amy Sullivan

1,775

Pets Fostered

Most active foster homes
of 2024 by animal type

Cats

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Caroline St. Clair | 71 |
| Eleanor Edwards | 68 |
| Beth Otto | 66 |

Dogs

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Ryan Potts | 11 |
| Denise Renouf | 8 |
| Karen Harper | 6 |



Rescue Spotlight:

“I would like to start by saying that I’m very grateful to all our rescue partners who have been amazingly responsive, despite of all the hardships they have encountered throughout the year. It is very difficult to highlight ones over others, but I think it would be fair to mention two rescue partners that have helped us with the placement of a big number of dogs. I’m referring to Milo’s Dog Rescue of South Florida and Furever Bully Love Rescue.

Milo’s Rescue pulled 41 dogs this year. They took many litters of puppies and moms, dogs with mange and pneumonia, and some on oxygen. Isela has taken seven 4-week-old puppies without a mom and neonate kittens, which she takes with her to work, if need be.

Furever Bully Love Rescue has been amazing mostly with dogs that have behavioral concerns but has always been opened to help us with severe medical cases as well. They pulled 33 dogs this year. They like to be in communication with us and send us updates throughout all the progress they accomplish with their dogs. They thrive in training dogs with dog-dog aggression issues. They recently pulled a dog, Linda, thought to be a hospice case. She was completely shut down in the shelter, had heartworm disease, geriatric, with lenticular sclerosis, mild muscular atrophy and more. Tanisha got her to eat after finding “the perfect mixture that she likes” and her veterinarian administered Linda a pain injection that has her trotting around with a new pep in her step.

2024 has been a challenging year, but we certainly appreciate all the great rescue partners we have.”

– Rescue Coordinator Heidi Matos



1,463 Rescue Placements

Top-pulling rescue groups of 2024 by animal type

| Cats | | Dogs | |
|----------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|----|
| Wednesday’s Community Cats | 193 | Milo’s Dog Rescue of South Florida | 41 |
| CARE Feline TNR | 133 | Furever Bully Love Rescue, Inc. | 33 |
| Purrrfect Angels Rescue | 90 | Creegan Canine Rescue | 30 |

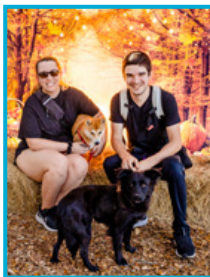
HERE ARE JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS



5TH ANNUAL FURRY FALL FESTIVAL

On October 25th, 2023, OCAS hosted its 5th annual Furry Fall Festival. This amazing and lighthearted event brings all our staff and community together for a day of celebration and fierce

competition. Our staff took part in two major competitions: the Best Halloween costume, and the Battle of the Doors. A trophy was handed out to the best and scariest costume of the day, and another trophy went out to the best decorated department door. Both contests are highly anticipated by staff and volunteers. Adoption fees were also waived for the duration of the event, and our staff hosted activities for visiting kids, like face painting, pumpkin decorating, and candy bag giveaways.



10TH ANNUAL BARKTOBERFEST

On October 29th, 2023, in celebration of all the amazing rescue groups that work with the shelter, OCAS took to Lake Eola for our 10th annual Barktoberfest event. OCAS promoted

rescue adoptions with some 35 rescues, vendors and food trucks. The Animal Services mobile clinic was also present to provide free rabies vaccinations and microchipping for the community. The weather was beautiful, and as always, Barktoberfest was one of the shelter's largest and most popular events of the year.

SPEED DATING ADOPTION EVENT

For the first time ever, OCAS hosted a one-of-a-kind adoption event. We are all familiar with speed dating, where it's possible to meet multiple people in one day by having micro dates. We wanted to bring that same experience to our adopters on Valentine's Day. We had seven of our dogs spend the entire afternoon outside in the play yards, so adopters would be able to meet and interact with all of them, and possibly fall in love.

FAPAA AWARDS

The annual Florida Animal Protection and Advocacy Association (FAPAA) Conference and Awards Banquet took place on February 23 - 25, 2024. Several OCAS staff members attended the conference to continue their education in the field and learn the latest and best practices. Our agency was also honored and awarded for our accomplishments and achievements. Those awards were:

- i. Animal Control Officer of the Year - **Jacqueline Caraballo**
- ii. Supervisor of the Year – **Monica Martinez**
- iii. Volunteer of the Year - **Isabella Venezio**
- iv. Outstanding Agency of the Year - **Orange County Animal Services**





KEN TV NEWS HIGHLIGHT

On March 4, our friends at WESH 2 News highlighted longtime volunteer Ken Shields! Anyone who has followed or visited the shelter over the past decade knows Ken. For those who don't, he is the shelter's most active volunteer, logging more than 9,000 volunteer hours since 2015. Ken is always here, in rain, in sweltering temperatures and on the rare frigid days too. He's a spot of sunshine for staff, volunteers and pets. There's no one else like him and OCAS is eternally grateful he has opted to spend the free days of retirement with us.

ST PATRICK'S DAY ADOPTION EVENT

On Sunday, March 17, OCAS hosted a St. Patrick's Day-themed adoption event, extending operating hours to 7 p.m. and reducing adoption fees to \$17. Fifty-seven adoptions took place during the 9-hour event that day!

MEGA ADOPTION EVENT

On the weekend of May 17-19th, OCAS took part in a huge event in Plant City, the 2nd Annual Mega Adoption Event. Several county shelters participated, and the event boasted more than 300 available dogs. Each day a line of hundreds of people formed outside the building, with families ready to see which dog was their best match. An incredible total of 58 dogs were adopted at the event, and another 80 were adopted from the shelter that same weekend.

ADOPT FOSTER VOLUNTEER DONATE SHARE BILLBOARDS

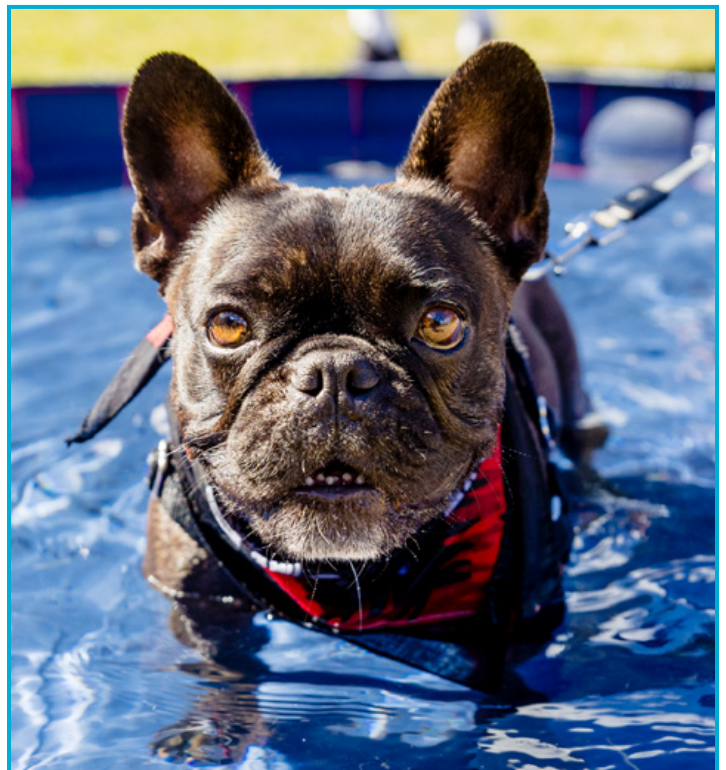
In June, OCAS partnered with OutFront Media and announced the start of a new billboard campaign. These billboards highlighted the five pillars of community assistance for animal welfare: adopt, foster, volunteer, donate and share. These billboards helped to demonstrate that there are actions of all different commitment and time levels that people can do to help animals in need.

WEBB ENGINEERING ADOPTION WEEK

Thanks to the incredible generosity of Webb Engineering and Associates, adoption fees for all animals were fully sponsored for the week of July 1-7th, 2024. The shelter adopted out a total of BLANK animals during that time.

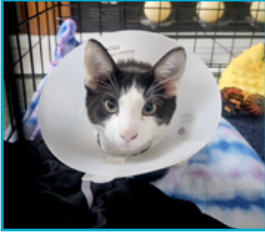
CLEAR THE SHELTERS

OCAS partnered with Hill's Pet Nutrition and NBCUniversal for the annual Clear the Shelters event on September 5th, 2024. This nationwide adoption event helps find homes for thousands of pets every year. Adoption fees were lowered or waived, and the event has proven to be incredibly successful not just for the pets at OCAS, but at shelters all over the country. The WESH 2 News team also came by to promote our adoptable animals with live features and interviews.



Thank you to everyone who adopted a shelter pet this year!

Below are a portion of updates we received on our OCAS alumni after adoption.



Bandit A534579

Adopted on October 4, 2023: Update on our newest family member. He is doing wonderful, adapting well to our family. We decided to name him Bandit. He is in his forever home and we will love him unconditionally. Thank you again.



Oliver A532224

Adopted on October 21, 2023: Thank you for following up! We named him Oliver and he's been doing great. He has a lot of energy and he wouldn't let us sleep the very first days haha.

Now that we introduced him to our other cat they play fetch until the both get tired and everyone is finally sleeping at night!



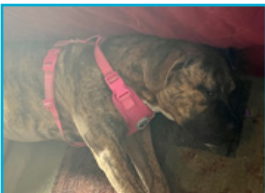
Qiuqiu A536707

Adopted on November 13, 2023: Qiuqiu is doing great at our house! Adapting so fast and so happy!



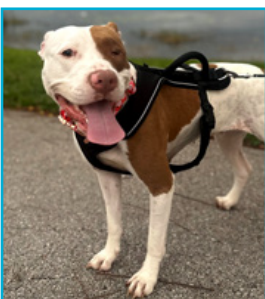
Jaguar A537452

Adopted on November 27, 2023: We adopted A537452 a couple days ago, when we first got him he was super shy and very scared and now he is living his best life climbing in our Christmas tree and is a perfect addition to the family. His name is now Jaguar.



Brandy A537899

Adopted on December 7, 2023: Brandy is a little spoiled, learning basics but a little mischievous. She doesn't want to go out front door but loves going in backyard and playing with my other pets and grandchildren.



Nouva A537494

Adopted on January 5, 2024: This is an update for "Coco". Her new name is Nouva and it's fits her perfectly, she brings a lot of energy and love to our home and we couldn't be more happier to have her in our lives.



Miss Pawsitive Chi (formerly known as Starfire) A539496

Adopted on January 17, 2024: I came to get Krystal. But she was adopted the evening before. Sad but determined, I

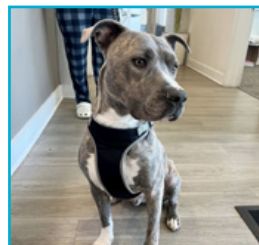
said, I'm taking the first cage I come to. LUCKY ME!!! It is Starfire. She is proof that love is what you make it, looks don't matter and personality is everything! I didn't care what the first cage o came to looked like... I was there for love. Your staff was fabulous. Especially my adoption coordinator. She is an asset to your team. Her knowledge, demeanor and shared joy in the process made the experience meaningful. I'm happy to say cat A539496 is know known as Miss Pawsitive Chi. "Chi-Chi". She has renewed my positive chi and is healing my heart. So thankful.



Maui A541807

Adopted on February 15, 2024: I made the adoption of Sebastion (who is now called Lucky) and Éric (who is now called Maui) and as you can see in the photos they are super well and happy

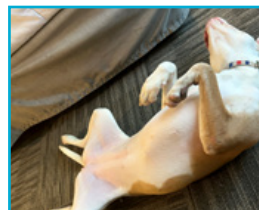
in our house. They are happy and we are even happier for them will be so affectionate with us too. As a form of gratitude on their part. Thanks to Orange County, today our family is more complete with our 2 youngest children with 4 legs. Thank you for such a special gift. May you continue to do this incredible work.



Briddle A540574

Adopted on February 19, 2024: Good afternoon about a couple of days ago we walked into the shelter not knowing what dog we actually wanted until we saw a Gorgeous boy named peanut.

We played with him briefly and got to meet him and knew he was the one for our little family. He was very shy and scared to go home at first. Peanut now has been renamed to briddle and is listening and responding to his new name. Briddle has now opened up from his shell and is an amazing dog. He is patient quiet a good listener and listens very well to commands. I'm so happy we got to meet him and take him home now he is in the care of two amazing young owners living his best life.



Cali A536079

Adopted on February 19, 2024: Cali is amazing me and her already made a bond with each other she's a perfect fit for me.



Juniper A541336

Adopted on March 1, 2024: Update on Coco Melon! Her name has been changed to Juniper! She is also starting her heartworm treatment starting

Wednesday! Juniper is settling in well with our home and schedule, including joining me at work during longer days. Thank you for helping me find my forever dog.



Izzy Stevens A544529

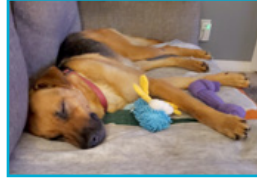
Adopted on April 3, 2024: Izzy is getting along so well with our current pup!!! She is just a cutie and her spunky personality is coming out! I couldn't be any happier with her and I'm glad she home with us. This is her furever home!



Daisy A528778

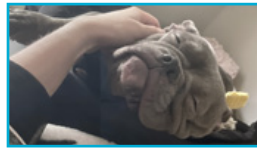
Adopted on March 3, 2024: Penny is doing amazing. We have renamed her to Daisy. She responds perfectly. She is adjusting beautifully. We are so happy that we have added her to our family. She gets along beautifully with our other dogs in the household. She was having

some anxiety with the crate training, but has since overcome it in this short period of time and we're very proud of her. So far we have brought her swimming and she is definitely not a water dog haha. She prefers sunbathing. We also brought her on a farm adventure since we like to book a lot of field trips for our dogs through the Sniffspot app. She really enjoyed that as well. I hope you enjoy Daisy's update as well as some photos I have attached. Thank you for giving us our new best friend.



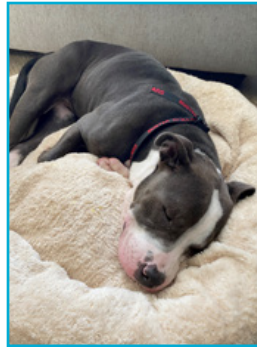
Shelby A546800

Adopted on May 17, 2024: Shelby is doing so great and has been a wonderful addition to our family.



Hippo A547698

Adopted on May 23, 2024: HIPPO is so happy! The sweetest cuddle bug.



Chanel A548750

Adopted on June 10, 2024: My new name is Chanel. I'm polite, sweet natured and most importantly obedient. I immediately made their home my home and my mom is currently awaiting the arrival of my personalized collar. I have a big backyard that I love to sunbathe

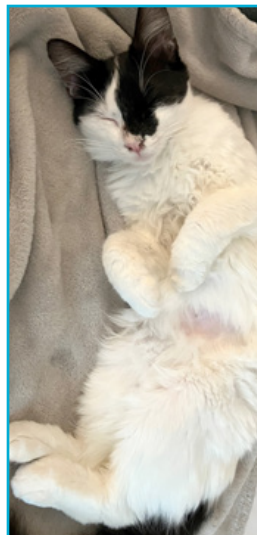


Dexter A490377

Adopted on March 23, 2024: Here is an update on our handsome boy Dexter. He is adjusting very well. He had his vet visit last week and they adored him! He had a great visit he is doing well health wise, just has some allergies

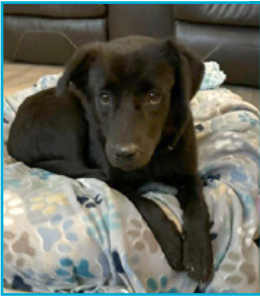
and skin concerns but we have been giving him allergy supplements and using special shampoo and topicals that are working and relieving his itching! Dexter is the sweetest, most loving pup. He is fully house broken and will either go to our doors or come find us and whine at us to let him out (sometimes he tricks us and just wants to go roll around in the yard or stare at the squirrels). He is very much a Velcro dog and loves attention, in fact he demands it and if you stop petting him he lays his head on you or whines. Dexter LOVES his peanut butter sandwich treats, cheese, and pup cups. He has been so amazing, he has fully adjusted in such a short span of time and we are forever grateful to your center for giving us such an amazing addition to our small family. I have attached some photos as well! Thank you again for such a great experience!

in and just roll in the grass, because I'm goofy like that. Shout out to the really kind bald guy. He was super nice and informative. Even concerned that Chanel might be returned but I had to reassure him that I'm locked in. So it's death do we part. I couldn't catch a video of her doing the zoomies because it was literally just a blur on video. You guys do great work and are under appreciated, but want you guys to know that the animals appreciate you and I appreciate you as well.



Franky A549652

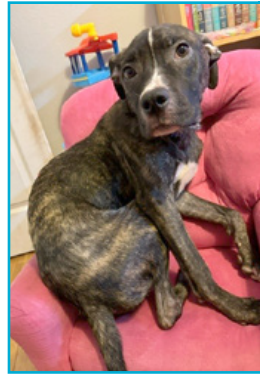
Adopted on June 16, 2024: We recently adopted our new cat Franky and he's so happy! We adopted him because we noticed our other cat was lonely and depressed and we thought she needed a friend. After we brought home Franky they almost instantly became friends! We were so worried they wouldn't get along but they are so happy together and we are so happy that our new cats love each other.



Lady Chrissy A550486

Adopted on July 1, 2024: Bonnie aka Lady Chrissy is doing great. She is walking very well in a leash now, has only had two accidents inside and is fantastic with our 1-year-old granddaughter.

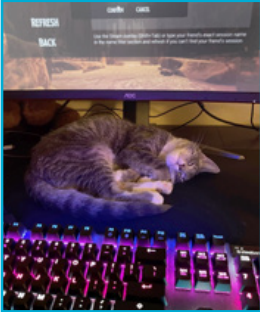
Thank you for making it so easy.



Zelda A553210

Adopted on August 18, 2024: We are happy to report that Bashful, now called Zelda, is settling in beautifully! It is very clear she has lived in a house before and is very comfortable getting on the furniture and sleeping in our beds. She is eating enthusiastically and we feel like she looks even better

than when we got her. We are continuing her diet of double her serving size. She has loved every person she has met so far and gets along great with our other dogs. Thank you so much for all that you do to connect the public with their perfect dog. I tell everyone that the shelter is a magical place where you are guaranteed to find your match. We didn't even set out to meet her the day we visited. But she was our dog!

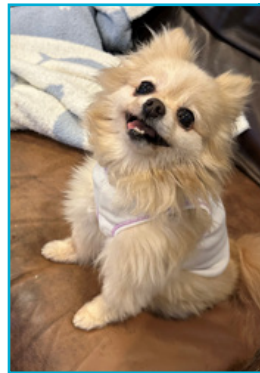


Mylo A550570

Adopted on July 6, 2024: Katara, whos now name is Mylo, is the best addition we could have ever made. Since day one when we met him at the shelter we knew our other two cats were going to love him, and it is like

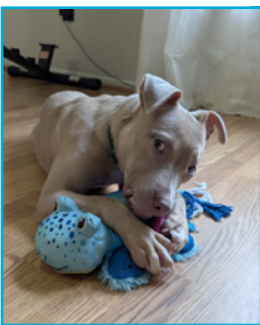
that in reality. We have two other

female cats, one that is a year old, and the other that is a five year old. They softened to him at the same day we brought him, and take care of him and play with him very carefully like they know that is just a kitten. He is very well behaved, purrs every time he is touched and gives kisses and cuddles every single day. He is curious but also very fun to be around, and clumsy sometimes when he is about to take a nap. He loves to be on mamas chest or belly when is about to be night time, and loves to be underneath dada's legs when he is watching Netflix. We are definitely still learning about him, but while we do it, we love him more and agree on how amazing was the experience of adopting our new baby from the shelter. He is the best cuddle bug ever, and we are the perfect cuddle family for him.



Maggie A554881

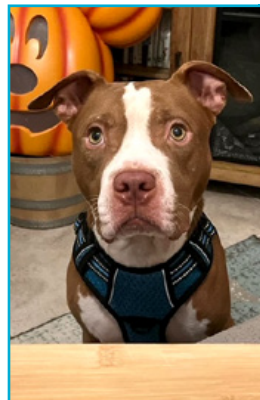
Adopted on September 7, 2024: This is our sweetheart, Maggie! She has fit right in at our home and has the best disposition! Her vet check went very well, she is a very healthy girl. We are over the moon to have her and she seems to love us, too! Thanks so much to everyone that helped her join our family!



Suki A552496

Adopted on August 3, 2024: Hi, I adopted Suki from your shelter last Saturday and I wanted to update that she has adjusted perfectly and is such an amazing girl! Within 4 days of being with us she is potty trained and using the doggy door, she loves our

dog and is learning how to play with our cat. I'm so grateful for the opportunity to adopt from the shelter and give this young girl the best life she can have!



Rogue A552446

Adopted on September 17, 2024: Rogue is doing great! He has quickly become a part of our family and stolen our hearts. He has been to our vet and his surgery incision and cuts on his shoulder and leg have healed very nicely. We are so happy he has found his furever home with us!

**Animal services
looks forward to
continuing to engage
with the community
in 2025!**



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