



# Kitsap Humane Society **MAGAZINE**

Fall 2022 | VOL. 3

**THANKS TO YOU,  
WE'VE BROKEN  
GROUND**

**BACK TO IN-PERSON,  
A SUMMER  
OF FUN FOR  
PETS**

**4,000 ADOPTIONS,  
1 INCREDIBLE  
VOLUNTEER**





# Contents

- 2 A Letter from Lee
- 3 Thanks to You, We've Broken Ground  
Pet Lifesaving Campaign updates as we forge ahead.
- 4 Back to In-Person, a Summer of Fun for Pets  
A recap of a summer filled to the brim with community support for pets in need.
- 5 Amazing Volunteer George Luzik  
Celebrates 4,000 Families Brought Together
- 6 From Guam to Silverdale  
Boonie Pups Get New Leash on Life
- 8 Donor Profile: Alicia Hammers  
Turning her car into cash for pets!
- 9 Volunteer Turned Vet, Meet Dr. Meisha
- 10 Services Directory  
With ways for you to get involved!



From nap-time to play-time, these siblings patiently awaited their adoption this kitten season!

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9167 DICKEY ROAD NW  
SILVERDALE, WA 98383  
kitsap-humane.org

Founded in 1908 and located in Silverdale, Washington, **Kitsap Humane Society (KHS)** serves Kitsap County and beyond as more than a shelter. We work to rescue, rehabilitate, and find loving homes for thousands of animals every year. To do this, we are committed to an open admissions policy – meaning we don't turn animals in need away, and excellence in all of our services.

**Kitsap Humane Society is a 501(c)(3) organization. Tax ID Number: 91-0728353**

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kitsap-humane.org  
  
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**ON THE COVER:**  
**Butters**  
Photo by  
Abigail Dominguez



## A Letter from Lee

*What does it mean to be more than a shelter? To create second chances for both people and pets in need? To serve as a safety net for the Kitsap community and beyond?*

Even before the launch of Kitsap Humane Society's Pet Lifesaving Campaign in 2016, these are the kinds of questions my teammates and predecessor and now I, in my last year and a half here as Executive Director at the shelter, have felt compelled to find the answers to.

When Kitsap Humane Society serves as more than a shelter, both pets and people can access the resources they need not just to survive but thrive in our community

When we create second chances for both people and pets in need, our community can trust that they can easily access our services free of judgment or shame. Owned pets can stay with the families who love them, shelter pets are able to receive the care they need before finding adoptive homes.

When our shelter serves as a safety net for the Kitsap community and beyond, thousands of lives will continue to be saved, whether through our Rescue Me transfer and adoption programs, our Pet Food Pantry and Pet Protection Program, or out in the community thanks to our Animal Control Officers.

Our work is to save lives, create families, and keep pets and people together whenever possible.

With the construction of the Russ & Linda Young Veterinary Center now underway, Kitsap Humane Society is one step closer to making our work even more impactful. No longer when, but now.

This is an exciting time at Kitsap Humane Society. Our shelter campus literally buzzing with excitement as ground is broken and our pet lifesaving vision is built to fruition!

We would not be where we are today without the support of our generous community, filled with pet-loving individuals like you. Your support makes our work possible

Because of you, our Pet Adoption Center opened in 2019, replacing our old, outdated shelter. In 2020, the Heidi Harnett-Wakefield Memorial Canine Behavior & Training Center opened, creating greater opportunities, and expanding enrichment for the dogs in our care.

And now, we stand at the precipice of our next exciting endeavor, the Russ & Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center, made possible by you, which will support our community in more ways than one with low-cost veterinary care for community members in need and state-of-the-art veterinary equipment and spaces that will finally match the excellence of our work and sustains our high lifesaving rate.

This is our why, and this is what continues to motivate me to seek those answers.

Warmly,

Lee Harper  
Executive Director  
Kitsap Humane Society





# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Excitement is building for our Veterinary Lifesaving Center!

Brought to KHS after being shot in the leg, sweet Bugs and her loving owner urgently needed our help earlier this year. We were able to serve as a safety net for both thanks to our low-cost clinic pilot program, softly launched ahead of the opening of our Russ & Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center.

Although we initially thought Bugs would need to have her leg amputated, our skilled medical team was able to successfully remove the offending pellet and pin Bugs' leg thanks to our low-cost clinic pilot program. From there, Bugs was able to recover and be returned to her family.

Bugs' story is just one of many that reinforce the need for access to low-cost veterinary care when unexpected or urgent medical treatment is needed for a beloved pet. Often the cost of care is a barrier to pet owners who are low-income in our community, leaving them faced with making difficult decisions that might result in losing a beloved member of their family.

At KHS, we know the best place for a pet is most often with their loving family and that now, more than ever, it is time to provide our community with a veterinary facility that matches the excellence in our work and sustains our high lifesaving rate, including a low-cost community clinic.

In 2019, when Dr. Jen Stonequist, our Director of Shelter Medicine, and a group of community advocates worked to overturn a law prohibiting nonprofit shelters from offering low-cost veterinary services, it set in motion a vision to expand the KHS campus to include a low-cost, full-service, community clinic.

We are thrilled to share that our vision has now become a reality, we broke ground last month and construction is currently underway on the Russ and Linda Young Veterinary Lifesaving Center, slated to open in early Fall 2023.

We officially marked the beginning of construction on this game-changing clinic in early September. Surrounded by some of our greatest supporters, donors, community leaders, staff, and volunteers, we ceremoniously broke ground on our collective dream.

We were in awe and truly inspired by the turnout, the support, and the momentum made on this exciting project.



To learn more about our Pet Lifesaving Campaign, including tour visits and more, please visit [kitsap-humane.org/capitalcampaign](https://kitsap-humane.org/capitalcampaign) or contact Jamie Nocola, Director of Philanthropy at [jnocola@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsap-humane.org) or 360-692-6977, ext. 1224.

# SUMMER EVENTS BACK IN PERSON!

Team KHS was busy as ever during our summer events season! We brought back some of our beloved community events in person for the first time since 2019, as well as added some exciting new events to the roster!

Our 29th Annual PetsWALK Presented by Mud Bay was a smashing success! Over 400 animal-lovers and 30 vendors joined us in downtown Poulsbo on June 25 for a day of fun and raising funds for shelter pets. Thanks to your support, we raised over \$45,000 at PetsWALK this year! We're already looking forward to our 30th Annual PetsWALK, scheduled to be a huge celebration on June 3, 2023!

We also brought back our favorite summertime sipping event, Wine & Whiskers! Wine & Whiskers Presented by Mud Bay is a self-guided wine tour that takes place all August-long. Wine lovers from all over Kitsap County sipped delicious local vino while their purchases helped animals in need at the shelter. Plus, we debuted our newest Wine & Whiskers merchandise for supporters to sport while they sip!

The summertime sipping continued with our exciting new partnership with Silver City Brewery! Silver City Brewery generously chose KHS to be the beneficiaries of their Silver Lining Series - a series of limited-edition brews that benefit a local charity. On August 25, Silver City released "Flower Sniffin' Kitty Pettin'", a delicious rose petal wit beer that was a HIT with our supporters! The partnership was celebrated with a release party on September 1 and matching t-shirts!

We also had our first-ever Pets on the Patio event at Finn Hill Starbucks. On September 13, our coffee-loving supporters joined us for a day of sunshine, puppuccinos, and exciting raffles!

Save the date for our upcoming events including Animal Krackers on October 1, our inaugural Howl-O-Ween Pet Photo Contest starting October 17, and the return of Santa Paws in December.



# ANIMAL KRACKERS



Get ready for a night of glitz, glamor, and fun at Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort! Our 29th Annual Animal Krackers Presented by Brown Bear Car Wash is Saturday, October 1.

This elegant evening will include a dinner, auction, heartwarming stories about KHS and chances for supporters to raise their paddle to win one-of-a-kind experiences.

Participation in Animal Krackers supports Kitsap Humane Society's efforts to provide comfort and care to thousands of animals in Kitsap County and beyond, and the expert medical care and rehabilitation each one needs to become strong, healthy, and adopted into loving homes.



If you're unable to attend the event but would still like to contribute to the cause, please scan this QR code to give a gift today. Your generosity ensures that second chances start at Kitsap Humane Society.



## GEORGE AND 4,000 ADOPTIONS

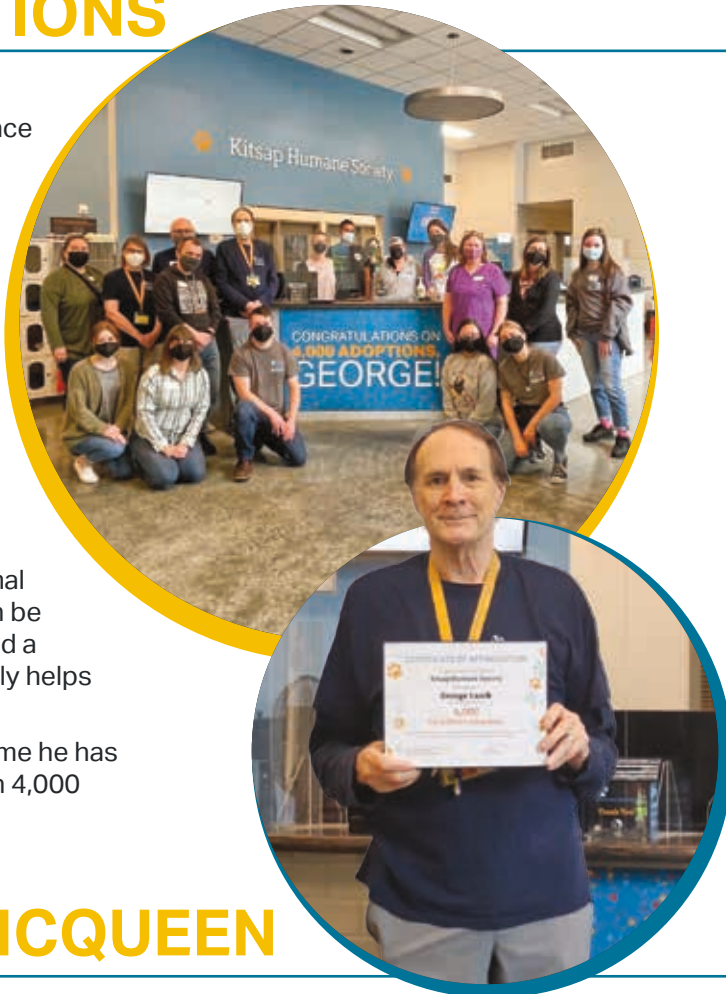
This August we had the pleasure of celebrating KHS volunteer, George Luzik, in taking part in 4,000 adoptions! A volunteer since 2013, George assists our team in matching adopters with cats and kittens. In the nearly 10 years George has been with us, he has helped 4,000 felines find their forever homes. Wow!

When asked why he decided to volunteer at KHS he said, "Well, my wife and I both retired and we were bored. At first I thought the only thing we could do at KHS would be cleaning kennels but then we found out that we could pet kitties, so we both signed up."

"My favorite part of volunteering in this role is seeing the smile on the adopter's faces when they find the cat for them."

George has been such a wonderful part of our team, "George is someone who truly loves cats and knows a lot about the care they need in a home, so he does a great job making matches that are a good fit for both the adopter and the cat," said KHS Director of Animal Welfare, Sarah Moody-Cook. "Additionally, the adoption process can be overwhelming for some people because it's a big commitment to add a new pet to your family, and I think George's calm, gentle manner really helps adopters feel at ease."

We couldn't be more grateful for all of George's hard work and the time he has committed to the pets in need in our community. Congratulations on 4,000 adoptions, George! You're amazing!



## HAPPY TAILS LIGHTNING MCQUEEN

In early April, this special pup made the long trip from Hawaii all the way to Washington to have a better chance at finding a forever home of his very own.

During his time in the shelter, we quickly learned that this energetic pup was not thriving in the kennel environment so he moved into one of our compassionate foster homes. Despite his contagious happiness and wonderful personality, Lightning McQueen was not getting much adopter interest and we knew we needed to try something different. Luckily, PetsWALK, our annual 5k event, was just around the corner and provided the perfect opportunity to share Lightning with our community.

Dressed as an adorable sushi roll, Lightning made his debut during our costume contest. Not long after, he met his forever family and the adoption papers were signed that very day! Now named Zuko, this loving pup fits right in with his new family!

"Zuko has taken to his new name perfectly—he has an incredible recall already!" said his adopter, Anne Fabe. "I can only attribute it to his own drive to please us."

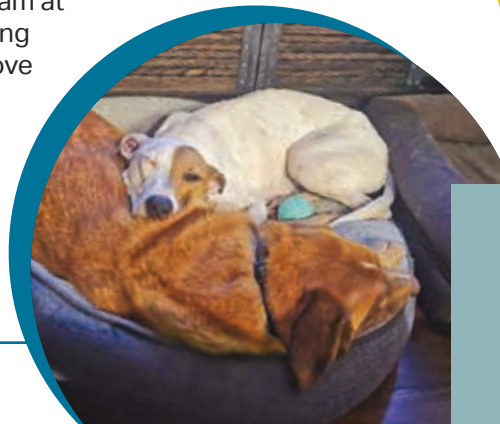
It already feels like he has always been a part of our lives."

"Zuko is so loving and goofy! He loves to play, whether it's with his toys or us or with his brother, he's always down for a fun time! He is also curious and very smart! He is by far the easiest pup I've ever had the pleasure to train, even easier than my own, Indy. He mastered 'sit' quickly and picked up 'down' fast, as well as learned to go 'up' on command (though that was quite easy considering how much he loves to hug!)."

Zuko also enjoys visiting the dog park, showing off his brand new collar, keeping his older sibling, Indy, young, and being spoiled!

"I truly believe everyone who passed on this gem of a dog really missed out and I cannot wait to see all the adventures we get up to!!!" said Anne. "Thank you all so much again for everything, for all the love y'all gave him and how easy the team at PetsWALK made it to bring Zuko into our lives. We love our lil baby!"

We are so happy to hear that Zuko is adjusting so well to life with his family! Happy Tails, sweet boy!



## RESCUE ME: BOONIE EDITION

Since launching our Rescue Me transfer program in 2014, Kitsap Humane Society has brought in nearly 14,000 at-risk pets from overcrowded and high-volume shelters around the world, including Guam thanks to our partners at Boonie Flight Project!

But what is a Boonie? According to Boonie Flight Project, this is an often asked question! Boonie is a term used to describe the mixed breed of stray dog most frequently found in the U.S. Territory of Guam.

Generally, they are a random mix of "German Shepherds, Beagles, Labs, Dobermans, Greyhounds, Corgis, Chihuahuas, and many other breeds!"

Boonies date back to dogs brought to Guam during World War II. They are most commonly medium-sized dogs, but come in all shapes, sizes, and colors! One thing they generally have in common? Goofy, floppy ears!"

Our partnership with Boonie Flight Project is a more recent one, beginning in September 2021, with a total of 6 dogs coming to Kitsap Humane Society since then. According to our Transfer Coordinator Micah Friend, due to the much longer travel times and distant location, Boonie Flight Project has limited transport that often requires much longer, private flights where they try to be as cost-effective as possible, partnering with several rescues and shelters across the country!

But it is all worth it when pups like Lera, adopted in March, get a chance at finding an adoptive home here in Kitsap County! Found playing in the road with her littermates after being dumped outside a market in Guam, Lera and her siblings were quickly scooped up by a kind-hearted person who took them in and found a foster. Soon after, Lera and her fellow puppies were on their way to Kitsap County where it did not take long before she found a home.

**"Lera is doing great and is such a good hyper girl," said her adopter. "She loves to dig holes at the beach, she loves hiking, and her favorite toys are stuffed animals. She has so many! Lera loves all sorts of dog treats and knows how to sit, lay down, and rollover. She loves her two big brothers that play with her and sleep with her every night. Lera is scared of vacuums but is slowly learning to tolerate them!"**



As of this summer and thanks to our dedicated team of transfer staff and volunteers who give generously of their time and mileage to pick up pets at airports and across state lines, Kitsap Humane Society has already transferred in 384 dogs and cats, including Lera, and has plans to continue expanding the program, welcoming new rescues, and shelters as partners, so we can save even more lives!



## PETCO LOVE LOST

1 in 3 pets goes missing in their lifetime. Don't let the unthinkable happen to you. Kitsap Humane Society is proud to partner with Petco Love Lost, an innovative nationwide database that aims to keep pets where they belong: at home with you.

Here are four steps you can take to prevent your pet from becoming lost:

1. Snap a photo of your pet.
2. Upload your pet's photo at [petcolovelost.org](https://petcolovelost.org).
3. If your pet goes missing, just one click uses pet facial recognition technology to search our national database of found pets.
4. Create a shareable lost pet alert.



Want to get involved with our Rescue Me team? Become a volunteer today! Visit [kitsap-humane.org/](https://kitsap-humane.org/) volunteer or by scanning the QR code!



# WE'LL FETCH YOUR CAR.

**DONATE YOUR VEHICLE AND  
SAVE LIVES. IT'S JUST THAT EASY!**

KITSAP-HUMANE.ORG/VEHICLE-DONATION  
360-692-6977, EXT. 1210



## A DIFFERENT WAY TO DONATE ALICIA HAMMERS

**W**e are pleased to introduce you to a wonderful KHS team member and generous donor, Alicia Hammers. While Alicia most recently worked as a Customer Service Representative here at KHS, she has taken helping our community to the next level by donating her vehicle to KHS! Just this year she donated her 2001 Chrysler Town and Country, nicknamed Blue Diamond Phillips, through our Vehicle Donation program!

"I don't always have change in my pocket; however, I donate whenever I can," said Alicia. "This allowed me to give more of a lump sum than I usually can. Plus, it saved me the hassle of doing the leg work of selling or paying to scrap her!"

"Donating her to KHS was easy peasy lemon squeezy! I just filled out the form and sent it in! KHS Director of Philanthropy, Jamie, researched the best way to get the greatest amount out of her, and the tow company contacted us right away. Instructions were simple and relinquishing was quick and easy. I wasn't even home when they came to pick her up, so I didn't get to say goodbye and thank her for the many miles, but she's off to do more good in this world now."

Alicia and her family chose to donate Blue Diamond Phillips for two reasons. First, even though their van no longer fitted their needs, they knew that their trusty vehicle would be able to serve another family, "especially while vehicle prices are so high which makes a reliable vehicle unattainable for many," she said.

And secondly, because KHS was Alicia's first job in Washington and holds a special place in her heart, "I met the majority of my local friends as co-workers at KHS and scratched a heck of a lot of chins over the years. Blue Diamond Phillips had carted me to work and a few strays along the way, too. It was fitting for her to be donated to KHS."

"I hope that the money KHS received from Blue Diamond Phillips eases at least one life, whether a pet owner or an animal that just needs one last chance at a happy, healthy life," she said.

Thanks to Alicia's donation, the pets in need at KHS have access to lifesaving care and resources. We couldn't do what we do without the generous support of our community and donations like Alicia's truly make such a difference. Thank you for supporting our Vehicle Donation Program, Alicia!



Learn more about donating your vehicle by visiting [kitsap-humane.org/vehicle-donation](https://kitsap-humane.org/vehicle-donation) or by scanning the QR code!



# FROM VOLUNTEER TO VETERINARIAN: MEET DR. MEISHA MORO!

Recently celebrating her first anniversary as a veterinarian at Kitsap Humane Society, Dr. Meisha Moro's journey from volunteer to vet is an inspiring tale that speaks to the heart of why so many of us are invested in animal welfare! We sat down with her to learn more about her path:

**KHS: What made you want to get involved with Kitsap Humane Society?**

**MM:** Initially, it was a career transition. I was in art school but couldn't quite figure out my future path. I was unemployed and looking for a new direction. I always had a special place in my heart for animals, and a friend suggested I volunteer with the local humane society.

**KHS: What has your journey at KHS looked like?**

**MM:** Initially, I started as a feline enrichment and socialization volunteer in 2011. Then, I jumped at the opportunity to apply with vet services, cleaning surgery recovery kennels. When I witnessed my first surgery, Dr. Melissa spaying a cat, she walked me through the surgery as if I were a student, and I was hooked.

I wanted to help more, so I started showing up more to help with anything I would be allowed to do! Then, I was provided the opportunity to join the vet services team as a vet assistant, and I joined without hesitation! I was inspired by and connected with Dr. Jen Stonequist who kept me involved. I learned through spay/neuter field trips across Washington and to Mulegé, Mexico.

I went to Olympic College, attaining my associate degree in biology while continuing to work at KHS as a vet assistant. Then, I left to continue my education at Washington State University, attaining my Bachelor of Science in zoology pre-vet, while still intermittently visiting KHS to help and going to Mexico with Dr. Jen.

Finally, I attained my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) at Washington State University, graduating in 2021 and starting at KHS as a shelter veterinarian in September 2021!

**KHS: What is your favorite part of being a veterinarian at KHS?**

**MM:** I love the opportunity to meet and help all kinds of animals. Seeing the medicine and care provided to help an animal recover, feel better and happier, and eventually be adopted is also very rewarding! Being able to come back and work with people I first met as a volunteer and vet assistant years ago means a lot. These team members have helped inspire and teach me important skills that I still use today.

**KHS: What are you most looking forward to with the Veterinary Lifesaving Center?**

**MM:** The major improvements and upgrades of the new building, which will lead to more organized and dedicated spaces to help us better take care of and save more animal lives are going to be so awesome!



## PLANNED GIVING

What will be your legacy? Since 1908, Kitsap Humane Society has been devoted to rescuing, rehabilitating, and finding loving homes for pets in need as well as keeping pets with their families whenever possible. This is our why. This is our legacy. Make it part of yours, too, by including KHS in your will or other estate plans by joining our Friends Forever Society!

For more information on making a bequest or to let us know you have designated Kitsap Humane Society in your estate plans, please contact Jamie Nocola, Director of Philanthropy, at [jnocola@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsap-humane.org) or (360) 692-6977, ext. 1224.



## SERVICES DIRECTORY:

KHS is dedicated to serving as more than a shelter to pets and people in need. For more information, please visit [kitsap-humane.org](https://kitsap-humane.org) or call (360) 692-6977.

### ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

Cats, dogs, and critters are available for adoption at [kitsap-humane.org/adopt](https://kitsap-humane.org/adopt).

### ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officers serve and protect both pets and people in our community. To report an incident or file a complaint involving a domestic animal, please call 911.

### BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

If you would like information about training or other solutions for supporting your dog, please contact [dogbehavior@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:dogbehavior@kitsap-humane.org), and for cat owners, please contact [catbehavior@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:catbehavior@kitsap-humane.org).

### COMMUNITY CATS

KHS offers support to community and feral cat colonies, including spay/neuter surgeries, ear-tipping, rabies vaccinations, and humane traps for rent.

### EUTHANASIA & CREMATION

We offer low-cost humane euthanasia services in a caring environment by appointment-only. Low-cost cremation services are also available.

### FINDING A HOME FOR YOUR PET

We realize the decision to surrender or re-home your pet can be difficult, and we are here to serve as a resource with options at the shelter and private alternatives.

### LOST & FOUND PETS

KHS accepts lost and found animals daily from 11 am – 4 pm. Lost pets are regularly listed on our website.

### PET FOOD PANTRY

We believe the best place for pets is with their loving families and we are committed to keeping families together whenever possible with our Pet Food Pantry. The pantry is open every day from 12-4 pm. Information on how to qualify can be found at [kitsap-humane.org/resources](https://kitsap-humane.org/resources).

### PET LICENSING

Pet licenses are required by law in unincorporated Kitsap County and all municipalities for pets 6 months or older. It is much easier to reunite lost pets with their families when they are licensed and wearing their tags.

## PET PROTECTION PROGRAM

KHS offers temporary safe-haven to cats belonging to victims of domestic violence, people experiencing job loss, homelessness or other unexpected life changes. To learn more about this program, please visit [kitsap-humane.org/resources](https://kitsap-humane.org/resources).

## PET SUPPLIES

Our retail store inside the shelter offers a variety of pet supplies.

## PET TRAINING & SUPPORT

KHS is proud to offer post-adoption and behavioral support for dog and cat owners. For help with your dog, please email [dogbehavior@kitsapq-humane.org](mailto:dogbehavior@kitsapq-humane.org) and for your cat, please email [catbehavior@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:catbehavior@kitsap-humane.org).

## SPAY & NEUTER

KHS offers low-cost spay/neuter services to Kitsap County and Mason County pet owners who meet our annual income guidelines. Learn more at [kitsap-humane.org/resources](https://kitsap-humane.org/resources).

## WAYS TO HELP:

To learn more about how to support our lifesaving work, please visit [kitsap-humane.org](https://kitsap-humane.org).

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are building a stronger safety net for pets and people with our Pet Lifesaving Capital Campaign. To learn more, please email [jnocola@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsap-humane.org).

## CORPORATE SUPPORT

For information on corporate support opportunities, please contact [jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org)

## DONATE ITEMS

KHS is always in need of supplies to keep our shelter animals clean, happy, and comfortable. Donations can be dropped off any time in the donation bins at the shelter's front doors.



Scan the QR code to learn about our Holiday Tips!



## FOSTER CARE

KHS depends on its network of lifesaving foster volunteers to care for our most in-need animals. To get started, please visit [kitsap-humane.org/foster-care](https://kitsap-humane.org/foster-care).

## FUNDRAISE FOR THE ANIMALS

We could not care for animals in need without our pet-loving community! Interested in hosting a fundraiser for KHS? Please contact [jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jreynolds@kitsap-humane.org)

## MONETARY DONATIONS

Donate to KHS and transform the lives of vulnerable pets by helping us provide lifesaving veterinary care, low-cost spay/neuter and vaccinations, rehabilitative behavior and foster support, and loving forever homes by visiting [kitsap-humane.org/donate](https://kitsap-humane.org/donate).

## PLANNED GIVING

Make a big impact with a future gift as a member of our Friends Forever Society! Ready to start? Please contact [jnocola@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:jnocola@kitsap-humane.org).

## PUPPUCCINO PALS

Coffee shops, this one is for you! Become a month-long Puppuccino Pal sponsor and your coffee shop or stand will be featured across our massive social media platforms. For more info, please contact [adominguez@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:adominguez@kitsap-humane.org).

## VEHICLE DONATION

Honk if you love shelter pets! Turn your clunker into cash for pets in need. For assistance, please email [info@kitsap-humane.org](mailto:info@kitsap-humane.org)

## VOLUNTEER

Kitsap Humane Society needs you! Volunteers are needed for a variety of positions and help with all kinds of duties at the shelter. To get started, please visit [kitsap-humane.org/get-involved](https://kitsap-humane.org/get-involved).





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Kitsap Humane Society's  
***Santa***  
**PAWS**

## *SAVE THE DATE*

Sunday, Nov. 20 at Olmsted Tree Farms  
Sunday, Nov. 27 at Bay Hay and Feed  
Sunday, Dec. 11 at West Hills Kia

Learn more at [kitsap-humane.org](http://kitsap-humane.org)