



**Oakley Bear (formerly Hagrid)**

"Our boy likes being outside as much as his moms. He is living his best life."

-Cassie and Kate, Adopters



**Cheeto (formerly Jamie)**

"Jamie is settling in nicely. Our son adores him! (So do we.)"

-Kindra, Adopter



**Toby (formerly Salvador)**

"Last week my beloved puglet passed away at 22 years old. Thank you for connecting me with the most important soul in my life."

-Kalie, Adopter



# Together We Save Pets

Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society  
Impact Newsletter | Fall 2019

## Paddington Gets to Start Over

You could smell Paddington before you even saw him—and it was awful. When Paddington first arrived at Berkeley Humane, the medical team was extremely concerned over his poor physical condition which would require extensive medical treatment.

The 9-year-old Cocker Spaniel mix had a severe ear infection—it was the source of the smell. Paddington also had some common Cocker Spaniel ailments, such as hyperkeratosis, which caused the skin on his nose to be perpetually dry and cracked.

Berkeley Humane got Paddington the urgent care he needed and soon he was ready to find a loving home where he would never experience this kind of neglect again.

Paddington found a forever home and an incredible bond with Shawna, who scooped him up as soon as she saw him. Paddington keeps Shawna company during the day, accompanying her to work at Google.

Although Shawna hasn't known Paddington for long, she is determined to make up for lost time. Recently, Shawna celebrated her one-year anniversary with Paddington—declaring the date as Paddington's birthday. She threw a birthday party and raised money for Berkeley Humane in honor of her best friend.

"I'm forever indebted to Berkeley Humane for bringing Paddington into my life," says Shawna.



## A Message From Jeffrey Zerwekh, Executive Director



Thousands of senior pets find their way to area shelters each year. Some are dropped off and some are running loose, caught, and then delivered to a shelter by animal control officers. While we almost never know their backstory, what is important is that once they arrive at Berkeley Humane, they are safe. We assess their needs and injuries and then provide the individual medical and behavior care required to help them on their way to a new start at life.

What we do, is not easy. There is a lot of heartbreak. But knowing you are there to support us makes all of the difference. As a financial donor, you are with us every time we transport a new pet in need into our program. Without you, we could not provide the blood tests, eye exams, x-rays, dental procedures, surgeries, or prescription food senior pets often need.

In this edition of "Together We Save Pets," you'll find stories of older pets. Thank you for saving their lives, and the lives of so many others.

With gratitude,

*Jeffrey Zerwekh*



### A Shocking Discovery

Slinky came to Berkeley Humane with such a playful and youthful spirit you would never suspect the hidden trauma he was living with. This 7-year-old dog made friends quickly. It was easy to fall in love with his expressive eyebrows, short legs, and long wiggly body—always ready for a walk with a prance in his step.

But our medical team felt two strange lumps on Slinky during a standard medical examination. X-rays revealed two BB gun bullets lodged in the 20-pound mixed breed. We don't know when it happened, or who shot this poor pup, but we needed to help Slinky start a new life with a loving home.



The team successfully removed one of the bullets. However, the second bullet was situated too close to his spine to safely remove. Fortunately, it won't cause any long-term health issues for Slinky. After he had healed from the surgery, he was adopted and is living his best life now with a loving family.



### Become a Foster Volunteer!

Open your home to kittens, dogs, or puppies who need one-on-one socialization and care. You supply the love—we'll provide everything else!

[berkeleyhumane.org/foster](http://berkeleyhumane.org/foster)



## The Chirping Cat Sings Song of Everlasting Love

Recently, we met an older cat at a public shelter. As is often the case, we didn't have any information about her history—all we knew was the noise she made sounded like chirps, so of course we named her Birdie! The transport team brought her back to Berkeley Humane to conduct a comprehensive health assessment in the absence of any known medical history.

After running a series of medical tests, Birdie was diagnosed with kidney disease. While not life-threatening, her condition requires daily injections to live comfortably.

It can be hard to find an adopter willing to take home a senior pet, much less one who is willing to provide this level of care. But we were sure somebody would fall in love with her as quickly as all of us had.

Birdie's cute little chirps would attract every visitor to her room in the adoption center. Potential adopters loved Birdie's personality, but giving daily injections was a big commitment.

That's until one very special person began visiting. He came several times to be with Birdie. He shared that he had lost his elderly cat, and felt it was time for another companion. He decided that the connection he felt with Birdie was undeniable. Our medical team took the time to teach him how to inject fluids until he could do it like a professional!

We are grateful that our financial donors provide us with the resources that make these small miracles possible. We were able to make the commitment to Birdie, no matter how long it took to find her a loving family, because of your generosity.

### Join the Kitty Condo Club!

Sponsor a kitty condo and support the care, nutrition, and love each cat receives while waiting for their new, loving home.

[berkeleyhumane.org/kitty-condo](http://berkeleyhumane.org/kitty-condo)



## Legacy Giving

Leave a legacy for the causes you care about and ensure the ongoing care of your beloved pets

Learn more:

[berkeleyhumane.org/planned-giving](http://berkeleyhumane.org/planned-giving)

## SPAY THE BAY

Thanks to donors, Spay the Bay is reducing dog and cat overpopulation in the Bay Area by providing low-cost spay and neuter services.

This year, Spay the Bay expanded to offer low-cost vaccination services. Next vaccine clinic is October 12, 2019 at 9 AM.

Learn more: [spaythebay.org](http://spaythebay.org)

## TRAIN THE BAY

Over 30,000 families have benefited from Train the Bay's small-group behavior and training classes.

Learn more and join a class: [trainthebay.org](http://trainthebay.org)



## Madeline was a Hot Mess!

Madeline came to Berkeley Humane with a host of health problems. The 14-year-old Miniature Schnauzer was in bad shape, so the medical team jumped to work. They immediately ran tests on the sweet older dog, doing blood work and taking radiographs to better understand her health issues. Madeline had a heart murmur, anemia, severe dental disease, stiff and ataxic hind limbs, kennel cough, and goopy eyes.

The radiographs helped the team discern the root of Madeline's gait problems. We called in a radiologist to perform an echocardiogram and abdominal ultrasound of Madeline, which confirmed the team's fear: Madeline would need to undergo an urgent procedure to remove a mammary mass.

Madeline underwent multiple procedures, including mass removal, spay, and dental extractions. After surgery, Madeline successfully recovered in a loving foster home, where she became a champion lap-sitter. In all, Madeline was in our care for almost 100 days. Given Madeline's gentle and loving disposition, it came as no surprise that she found a new, loving home with a doting family.

Thank you to Maddie's Fund, and all our donors, who support the Hope Medical Fund to save senior pets like Madeline.



**Have An Impact:** Your donation will provide life-saving medical care and programs for hundreds of cats and dogs each year. [www.berkeleyhumane.org/donate](http://www.berkeleyhumane.org/donate)



## Hernias Were Only the Beginning

Tulip, a 5-year-old dachshund mix, arrived with a huge mass in her abdomen. The Berkeley Humane medical team found bilateral inguinal hernias. She was also diagnosed with pyometra, a life-threatening infection of the uterus that can inflict older female dogs that are not spayed.

To make matters much worse, Tulip was heartworm positive. Dogs get heartworm from infected mosquitoes when they are not on a monthly heartworm preventative.

Tulip's infected uterus was removed, and her inguinal hernias were repaired. She recovered well, but required an additional surgery on the inguinal hernia a few weeks later.

Then Tulip had to undergo the long, difficult treatment for heartworm disease. Treatment takes many weeks to complete, during which time she was still at risk because the dying heartworm could clog a blood vessel and cause severe injury or death. That is why treatment also requires strict cage rest while the heartworms die.

Thanks to a devoted team of volunteers and staff eventually the day came when Tulip was completely recovered, and we were finally able to find this very special dog a new loving home. Caring for a dog with multiple complicated medical conditions is never easy, especially for a long length of stay. Thank you to all of our donors who provide the resources to give Tulip, and the other dogs with similar stories, a new chance at a happy and healthy life.

