

## Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA



Anthony Tansimore, President
Update to San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
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## **About Us**

- We were started in 1950 by a group of concerned residents in San Mateo and are the organization that provides care to the animals in our county.
- We are not affiliated with any other humane society or SPCA. All
  private funding raised by us stays in the community.
- We are a proud community partner with the Cities and County of San Mateo to provide animal control and sheltering services throughout the county.
- FY25 marks the start of the fourth year of the current five-year animal services contract.



## **Field Services**

Animal Rescue & Control staff provide field services 24/7/365, responding to a wide variety of calls, including:

- Pick up of stray domestic animals.
- Responding to animal bites and attacks.
- Rescuing sick and injured animals.
- Removing dead animals.
- Assisting public safety agencies when requested.

All calls for service are organized by priorities outlined in the animal services agreement with response time goals of between one and 24 hours depending on the specific nature of the call. Last fiscal year, we again successfully met all response time goals.

In 2023, our Animal Rescue & Control staff responded to almost 9,500 calls for field services, covering everything from dogs, cats, bunnies, hawks, deer, goats and chickens!





# **Sheltering & Care Services**

March 2024 marked the four-year anniversary of operating the Coyote Point Shelter in San Mateo. This beautiful new facility has proven to be very effective in meeting the needs of the animals and the community.

- Animal Care staff are onsite 24/7 to ensure the safety and care of animals housed at the shelter.
- Our veterinary team ensures all animals receive appropriate medical care.
- Volunteers help exercise and socialize dogs, cats, and small animals and play a key role in our creative, cost-effective enrichment program that seeks to reduce stress and promote adoption potential for animals housed in a shelter environment.
- Shelter operating hours are designed to make our services accessible to all residents, which include claiming lost pets, purchasing licenses, and receiving low-cost vaccinations for residents' cats and dogs.







## 2023 Highlights & Trends

- Community Support: more than 2,300 vaccines were administered to 1,118 cats and dogs belonging to community members through low-cost Vaccination Clinics held throughout the year. Residents can make appointments for this popular service by visiting the PHS/SPCA website.
- Sheltering Services: more than 5,800 companion animals received sheltering and care services at the Coyote Point Shelter. While the vast majority were dogs and cats, we also provided care for all manner of other pets including rabbits, guinea pigs, small barnyard animals, birds, reptiles, chinchillas and even fish.
- Increasing numbers of dogs and cats:
  - Number of incoming dogs has increased 30% over the last two years. Previously, numbers had decreased for six straight years. We continue to see an influx of large dogs, especially Huskies and German Shepherds.
  - Number of incoming cats and kittens has increased 37% over the last two years. Previously had not increased since 2019.
  - Increasing animal shelter populations is a nationwide trend and is seen as a ripple effect of Covid. Still, while our community is well positioned to respond to unanticipated fluctuations in the numbers and types of homeless animals needing our care, such significant increases have stretched all available resources.





# PHS/SPCA Services at Coyote Point Shelter

Though based at the Coyote Point Shelter, the Humane Investigations program and Spay/Neuter Clinic are both fully funded by PHS/SPCA as part of our charitable mission.

#### **Humane Investigations:**

- In 2023, two full-time Humane Investigators responded to over 1,800 complaints of animal cruelty or neglect and initiated 543 investigations.
- Worked closely with the District Attorney's Office in preparing cases for potential criminal prosecution. In 2023, PHS/SPCA Investigators submitted three new cases for consideration. One case involved a dog that died as the result of being left in a hot car. The other two dealt with animals living in filthy conditions and receiving inadequate care. One case involved two dogs in an apartment while the other involved approximately 30 cats in an apartment.

#### **Spay/Neuter Clinic:**

- Operates five days a week.
- Provides low-cost spay/neuter services for owned cats, dogs and rabbits as well as feral cats and shelter animals being made available for adoption.
- This service is in extremely high demand and 5,364 surgeries were performed in 2023.

# **Emergency Response & Disaster Preparedness**



- We have a comprehensive plan to help animals and their owners in the event of a local disaster or emergency, including four specialty trailers stocked with supplies dedicated solely to emergency response.
- PHS/SPCA has responded to events such as the San Bruno Gas Explosion and the CZU Lightning Complex Fire.
- PHS/SPCA has a vital role assisting local government.
- We have key staff and volunteers who are trained to activate in the event of an emergency/disaster.





## **Donor Funded Services**

As a proud community partner with the Cities and County of San Mateo, PHS/SPCA also privately funds a number of other services and programs out of our Lantos Center for Compassion in Burlingame including:

- Adoptions—we place thousands of animals each year into loving homes.
- Wildlife Care Center—treats sick, injured or orphaned wild animals from San Francisco, San Mateo County and Santa Clara County.
- **Volunteer program** with over 1,000 active volunteers who work in almost every department.
- Humane Education—includes camps for kids, classroom presentations and career-related programs for high school students along with adult/family learning opportunities. 2,667 people reached through virtual and in-person programs last year.
- Pet Food Bank provides food to low-income pet owners in support of keeping pets and families together. Program currently supports 500 pets and provided 401,500 meals in 2023.

## **Exciting Expansion of PHS/SPCA's Wildlife**Rehabilitation Program

As you know, we are one of a handful of humane societies and SPCAs that extends its caring services to sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and we have been granted an amazing opportunity to greatly expand our service to local wildlife in need.

A Bay Area entrepreneur and philanthropist is building a state-of-the-art wildlife rehabilitation center in Saratoga and has asked us to operate the new facility. We are grateful and honored to have been given this chance to help care even more for the beautiful and abundant wildlife that makes the Peninsula such a beloved part of the world and an incredible place to call home.

The new facility is scheduled to open Fall 2024, and we invite all of you for a tour as part of the grand opening.





## THANK YOU!