

2009 Year in Review

Thanks to generous donors like you, Friends of Oakland Animal Services (FOAS) was able to improve—and save—the lives of many animals in 2009. We'd like to thank you for your support and take this opportunity to show you how your donations were used to help Oakland's animals in the past year. We couldn't have done it without you!

SHELTER IMPROVEMENTS

The Mini Coop



We completed construction of the Mini Coop, a much-needed space for socializing and exercising small dogs off-leash. We installed secure fencing and, with the help of a generous donation from System Pavers, put in artificial grass over the dirt and woodchips so that our small dogs have a great place to romp!

Two of our small dogs stretching their legs in the Mini Coop!



The Courtyard

We helped fund the construction of permanent outdoor fenced runs where our bunnies and other shelter residents can exercise and play.



Cat Housing Expansion



Our shy cats learn to come out of their shell in the Quiet Room.

We converted the former director's office into an open area, the Quiet Room, for our shyer kitties to socialize with other cats and roam cage-free.

Our former puppy holding room was extremely loud and very difficult to clean. "Cat Alley" now provides more room for cats

to stretch, in addition to better vertical space so that cats are less crowded.

Lack of cage space often results in illness and stress in shelter cats. FOAS funded the cutting of 8-inch spaces between cat cages in all of our holding wards, to give cats double the room, with separation between their litter, bedding, and food! Our technique was

such an innovation in shelter cat housing, UC Davis described OAS' cages during its cat care presentation at the 2009 HSUS Animal Care Expo in Las Vegas.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2009, OAS adopted or transferred 3,460 animals!

EXPANDED PARTNERSHIPS

We have expanded our partnerships with other animal rescue organizations to move animals into homes as quickly as possible. Over 50 groups have helped us rescue over 1,600 animals. In 2009, we expanded our outreach to out-of-state organizations in Arizona, Oregon, and Washington. In October, November, and December, we transported over 100 small dogs out of state. Our work to transport dogs will be featured in an upcoming episode of ABC's Nightline News.



Our small dogs get ready to fly to Washington state!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

New Logo and Web Site

Thanks to a generous donor, we were able to launch a new and improved web site to better help our online visitors get the information they need from OAS and FOAS. The web site includes a calendar of events, a place for adopters to write in their heartwarming "Happy Tails," and reports on our "Success Stories."



OAS on BART!



RESCUE · ADOPT · EDUCATE

Make the world a better place, every day.



1101 29th Avenue, Oakland
OaklandAnimalServices.org

Oakland's Place for Animals

This BART ad shows one of our former shelter dogs, Susie, at home with her new companion, Barb!

We launched an adoption outreach and awareness campaign in BART stations and trains.

Continued Growth of Our Volunteer Program



In 2009, we logged a record 17,000 volunteer hours! Volunteers work with the public and shelter animals, help match adopters with their new pets, and take animal photos and videos that draw adopters from miles

away. FOAS funds training programs, online discussion boards, t-shirts and aprons, and other program needs.

GREATER FOCUS ON ANIMAL ABUSE

Megan Webb, Director of Oakland Animal Services, says that one of her main priorities is to see more serious cases of animal abuse and neglect get prosecuted. FOAS supports the investigation of animal abuse cases by funding the purchase of equipment such as cameras and printers needed to document abuse.

A cockfighting bust in February 2009 resulted in 69 arrests. OAS handled the 118 birds found on the property, many of whom were severely injured or dead.

In October, after months of joint investigation by OAS and the Crime Investigation Division of the Oakland Police Department, La Preda Thomas of Oakland was arraigned on two felony counts of animal abuse. Thomas is accused of severely injuring more than 15 cats and kittens in incidents dating back to 2006.



OAKLAND ANIMAL SERVICES IN THE NEWS

Photo by Lance Iverson, SF Chronicle



In November 2009, the *San Francisco Chronicle* featured Oakland Animal Services in an article entitled “Oakland animal shelter undergoes transformation.” The article reports that OAS now “might rank among the top municipal shelters in the country, according to Maddie’s Fund, a nonprofit that tracks shelters nationwide.”

A FEW OF OUR SUCCESS STORIES!



Little Lance Finds a Home!

Little Lance, the dog who was beaten, shot, and thrown from a car in Oakland in 2008, found his forever home with a family in San Francisco after more than a year in foster care! Little Lance required extensive surgery to heal a broken back, pelvis, and leg, as well as physical therapy to recover from the vicious attack. He now walks almost normally, and can even run and play!

Remy



Remy, before . . .



and after!

In May, Oakland firefighters responding to the call of “shots heard” discovered a black-and-white pit bull puppy suffering from multiple gunshot wounds in his front leg, pelvis, and back. FOAS paid for the special surgery needed to remove the bullets. Remy was fostered by one of our volunteers and she found him a wonderful home in New York!

Photo by Sara Atkins Photography.

Chloe



Chloe, before and after!

Chloe was just a four-month-old Pomeranian puppy when both her front legs were deliberately broken. Her abuser was arrested and charged with two felony counts of animal abuse. FOAS paid for her extensive surgeries and physical therapy. Chloe has recovered and is in her forever home!

Other faces of FOAS



This little poodle came in to OAS with foxtails embedded in his skin. FOAS, together with Bay Area Poodle Rescue, paid to have dozens of them removed and for his continued medical care.



Marlin was found with a fish hook so deeply jammed in her mouth that we couldn't help her at the shelter. FOAS paid a local vet to remove it, and one of the vet employees adopted her!



This sweet Aussie/shepherd mix, Chaplin, came to us with a severely broken leg. It was so bad that it couldn't be fixed, and unfortunately his leg had to be amputated. Despite recovering as a three-legged dog, Chaplin never lost his sweet nature and was adopted!

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Conversion of the former euthanasia room into a surgery center. This is an extremely meaningful and symbolic project for all of us: to transform an area associated with tragedy into one that can help save animal lives and combat overpopulation in Oakland.
- Roof installation to our Coop, Mini Coop, and Courtyard so that our animals can enjoy the outdoors even in rainy weather.
- Continued expansion of our partnerships with outside organizations to place our animals, especially those with behavioral issues.



- Replacement of the dirt and woodchips in our off-leash dog play areas with grass and a drainage system.
- Equipment for staff to report on abuse cases and help reunite lost animals with their owners.
- Purchase of the BAD RAP trailer to be furnished as a cozy, quiet space for stressed dogs who need extra TLC.

*A happy dog playing
in front of the steps
to our new trailer
for needy dogs!*



HOW YOU CAN HELP



Wally, a seven-month-old Weimaraner puppy, was hit by a car. The collision broke the pup's leg and pelvis in multiple places. FOAS paid for the surgery to plate and fix the breaks, and now Wally is running and playing in his adopted home!

Donate. We depend on your donations to help Oakland's animals. Friends of Oakland Animal Services is completely volunteer-run, so your donations go directly to helping animals. Our federal tax ID number is 20-4053711 and donations are tax-deductible.

Spread the word. Tell your friends and family about Oakland Animal Services! Become a fan on Facebook and check our web site often for news and events.

Volunteer. Sign up for one of our weekly volunteer orientations and find out how rewarding it is to volunteer! Visit our web site for more on making a difference for animals: www.oaklandanimalservices.org/volunteer

* THANK YOU *

We would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the staff and volunteers who make such a difference in the lives of shelter animals every day! A very special thanks to Claire Kilpatrick who sponsored our first-ever marketing campaign. Other special friends in 2009 include:

Cindy Douglas
Maddie's Fund
Pet Food Express
Red Boot Construction
System Pavers
UC Davis Shelter Medicine Program

DID YOU KNOW?

From 1998–2006, 1.5% of the OAS dog population were chihuahuas.
In 2009, 13% were chihuahuas.