



3,227 | animals saved
 39,471 | ground transport miles
 299 | pets adopted through Petco
 2,253 | vaccinations given at clinics
 971 | microchips given at clinics
 \$135,311 | med. procedures



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The beginning of our 22nd year! How can it be? Many years ago I stated I would do this for twenty years. What keeps me going? First, looking in the eyes of the animals who need us. Secondly, I want to be here until our low-cost spay and neuter clinic is open.

A dream finally becoming a reality! We now have a property and about \$650,000 in an investment account designated for the building. That's a nice start, but the projected cost, one we hope to lower as much as possible, is five million. We have someone who will match donations starting at one million dollars up to five million. Two other people have made commitments to fund the clinic, one of whom will make the surgeries truly low-cost by paying the difference between what our clients can afford and the actual expense. In addition, I have already met with a couple of veterinarians about staffing the clinic.

What do we need? YOU! We need donations, large and small. Consider a financial donation now toward the first affordable low-cost spay and neuter clinic anywhere near Merced County. Include New Beginnings for Merced County Animals in your trust or will. Have your legacy live on, continuing to help lower the numbers of unwanted animals here.

Additionally, we need a project manager. We need someone that is available to keep this moving so it doesn't get delayed unnecessarily. We have people available to serve but need one or two people who know how to manage a project as it moves through the process.

We may need an architect. Right now we are waiting to see if we can use the same ones as another group. Spread the word! Let's lower the numbers of thrown out animals, the numbers of calls we get about litters of kittens, the numbers of animals hit by cars.

Consider your part in making our low-cost spay and neuter clinic a reality.

VACCINE CLINIC

Our free clinics are always scheduled to operate from 9:30 am-12:30 pm. Normally, we run a little overtime to accommodate the last persons in line with paperwork. But at our first clinic of the year held in Winton on March 23, we must have been perking right along because at 12:00 we ran out of paperwork! That means we served 450 animals in just 2 ½ hours! We are forever grateful to Petco Love and to Dr. Gregg and his team of techs who make this all possible. Love you guys! See you at our next clinic in Livingston on June 1st. Please enjoy the photos below of some of the beloved pets who received health-giving inoculations that day.



LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!



Interviewing Angi

Something big is coming to Netflix...and it all starts right here in Merced County.

The pilot episode of a brand-new Netflix documentary is currently in production, focusing on adoption and everything that goes into saving these incredible animals so they aren't euthanized. The spotlight? New Beginnings for Merced County Animals, Merced's own grass roots, 100% volunteer-run rescue that has been doing this work for over 21 years. The emphasis? Our use of transport as it relates to adoption of the overwhelming number of dogs in California shelters.

The film crew from Random Good Films included two producers from Spain, one from New York and three other team members. For six days they essentially lived with us to document the full journey. They accompanied us at every step—crate cleaning, dog selection, health checks, loading the van at Merced County Animal Services and loading the plane on the tarmac. They followed Sharon's every move and interviewed Dr. Lauppe, Animal Services reception staff, Merced County Sheriff Vern Warnke, and Undersheriff Cory Gibson and his family, who also foster for New Beginnings. They spent time with amazing foster families, captured a canal rescue, attended the Emergency BBQ fundraiser for the three dogs that were shot and told Percy's story—a dog nearly euthanized before being adopted by the clinic director of Kitsap Humane in Washington. Finally, they spent five days in Washington to show what happens after landing, highlighting that state's strong spay/neuter programs and community support.



But this documentary isn't just about transports. It also takes an honest look at California's overpopulation crisis and makes a powerful case for prevention through spay and neuter, showing how lifesaving action and long-term solutions must go hand in hand.

If the pilot is well received, this will become a six-part Netflix series spotlighting adoption efforts across the country. We're honored to be the very first rescue featured and humbled that Ric, President of Wings of Rescue, had such faith in New Beginnings and Kitsap Humane that he recommended us for the pilot.



In Memory & Honor

We are honored to have received memorial donations in the names of:

Nick Tyree
Erica Alise Russell
Gordon Gray
Jane Markiano
Dominic Hunter

Bill Petersen's 100th
birthday
Lily
Carole Redd
Brandye Parker
Tony

Lupe Angel
Midge Hickerson,
sweet and loyal dog
Jimmy Aragona
Patty Putman
Kara Middlebrooks



MEDICAL



You can tell that the popularity of a certain breed is peaking and beginning to go down when they start showing up in shelters. We've seen it happen with yorkies, for example. Suddenly lots of yorkies were being turned in to shelters everywhere. Currently it's French Bulldogs, known as "Frenchie's." The sinister thing that occurs is the adoption of these dogs from shelters, and the subsequent advertising at a huge markup on marketplaces like Craigslist.



That might have happened with a little stray Frenchie now called Jasmine. But fortunately, when she was turned into the Merced County shelter, Sharon was called and was told she would probably have her pups that night!

Because Frenchie puppies tend to have very large heads, their moms typically need to have a C-section birth. This was performed at Valley Animal Hospital and six little babies came into the world. Unfortunately, Jasmine was not in the mood to do her motherly duties, so she and the pups were taken to Kim, a registered vet tech and bottle-feeding angel. Jasmine loved Kim, who had high hopes of training her to accept her babies, but ultimately had to resort to tube feeding. Poor little things were undoubtedly malnourished in utero and had received no benefit of their mom's nourishing milk. If anyone could have saved them it would have been Kim.



New Beginnings, with grateful nods to our medical donors, assumed the \$3,000.00 tab needed to address the conditions surrounding Jasmine's frequent vomiting. Often this occurs with incorrect breeding that results in an unduly shortened snout and windpipe. Jasmine is now at the Res-que Bully Rescue in Reno where the scope of the problem is plainly visible; there are 27 Frenchies in California waiting to be taken in.

TRANSPORT

As if "film crew week" wasn't busy enough already, we had to have two flights that week to accommodate all the furbabies scheduled for transport. The first flight on April 1st included two of the film crew and, happily, a number of large dogs in addition to lots of small dogs and cats. That transport carried 44 dogs and 17 cats to happy homes, and on April 3rd, 55 dogs and 60 cats also journeyed to the lives meant for them. That adds up to a whopping 176 pets that week!



ENTERPRISING K-KIDS

They're at it again! For the ninth year now, kindergarten children in Lori Silva and Michelle Christiansen's classes have raised money for New Beginnings with donation jars and selling items in their school store. This year they topped all previous annual totals, presenting us with a check for \$4,000.00—astounding! It's all a part of education and activism. The kids learn all about animal care and then participate in the fund-raising project to promote it.

Learning of their involvement with New Beginnings, the film crew, here to film the pilot for a Netflix series, wanted to learn all about them. They filmed them in their classroom and invited them to help on loading day. They recorded them as they cleaned crates used for loading, as they sang a special song to Grace written by their teacher called, "Adopt Don't Shop" and as they toured the plane before the animals were loaded.

Kids, we can't praise and thank you enough. That you have internalized your teachers' guidance well is evident in what is to be your lifelong love of animals.



Cleaning crates



Singing to Grace

EMERGENCY BBQ FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Who had the best-tasting drive-thru cuisine around? No doubt about it, the BBQ chicken fundraiser put on by the Andy Krotik Charitable Foundation and American Realty. Funding for medical expenses for Grace, Hope and Razz was the purpose and love was the "driving" force. These three dogs had been shot in early February and required costly medical care.

As Andy promised, the event sold out and the 350 dinners provided not only \$7,885 for the animals but some very satisfied palates! Andy states, "We would like to extend our deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks to all the donors and volunteers, too many to mention individually, whose generosity and dedication made justice for Hope, Grace and Razz possible." Well, Andy, we'd be dumb clucks if we didn't also let you know how high up on the pecking order YOU are with us! Thank you SO much!



Grace & Razz check out the aromas.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Want to benefit animals with your donation of something other than cash? We are "registered" at Amazon, Chewy and Cuddly. On their websites you will see our wish lists and can have items sent to New Beginnings, 6065 Vine Ave., Winton, CA 95388. Woof! Meow! (Thanks!)

New Beginnings for Merced County Animals

www.newbeginningsforanimalsmerced.org

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Winton, CA 95388

Tax ID: #36-4704902



Want to get your newsletter by email? Scan QR code here or text

209.769.8953



SCAN ME

bit.ly/nb2023



JUNE 1st

NO COST VACCINATION & MICROCHIP CLINIC

@ Livingston-Hills Ferry Lodge
1651 7th St - Livingston
9:30am-12:30pm

Includes microchip, rabies & basic vaccinations for cats & dogs
Donations accepted & appreciated
3 MILLION FREE PET VACCINES THANKS TO PETCO LOVE