



PATTY BAKER  
HUMANE SOCIETY

1960 N A P L E S 2025

*Saving lives for 65 years!*

# 2024

## Impact Report

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# A New Era Has Begun. HSN is now:



Humane Society Naples is proud to announce an exciting new chapter in its history as it becomes **Patty Baker Humane Society Naples**, in recognition of the exceptional generosity and unwavering support of Collier County philanthropists Jay and Patty Baker.

The renaming comes with a \$5 million gift from Jay and Patty Baker, the largest in the organization’s history. This landmark gift brings the Bakers’ lifetime giving to the organization to well over \$7 million.

“We have always counted Patty and Jay as steadfast supporters of our work. But this historic gift is a game changer for our mission and organization, allowing us to save more innocent lives across Collier County and beyond,” said Sarah Baeckler, chief executive officer at Patty Baker Humane Society Naples. “Their contribution marks a transformative moment for our organization, empowering us to expand our services, enhance our facilities, and further our outreach within the community.”

The Bakers’ gift will directly support the organization’s ongoing efforts in animal rescue, rehabilitation, veterinary care, and adoption services, ensuring that countless animals receive the care and love they deserve.



“We are deeply honored to support Humane Society Naples in such a meaningful and life-changing way. As passionate advocates for those who have no voice, we have always been unwavering in our commitment to this incredible organization,” said Patty and Jay Baker. “Providing world-class veterinary care, vital community outreach, and lifesaving adoption services, we are proud to be Patty Baker Humane Society Naples. Remember that, for all animals, we speak for them and they speak to us.”

“On behalf of the entire team at Patty Baker Humane Society Naples, we extend our deepest gratitude to Patty and Jay,” said Brad Jamison, board president. “Their commitment to our mission and their compassion for animals in need is truly inspiring. By lending their name to our organization, the Bakers have not only helped us financially, but have also elevated our cause, drawing attention to the vital work we do each day.”



## From the Chief Executive Officer

We are honored and humbled by the exciting news that in connection with an extraordinary gift from Jay and Patty Baker, we are changing our name to Patty Baker Humane Society Naples. Patty and Jay have been devoted supporters of our mission for more than 15 years. We knew that we could always count on them, but their most recent gift is a game changer for our mission and organization, allowing us to expand our existing veterinary programs and create new initiatives that will save countless more innocent lives across Collier County and beyond.

On another note, you may have heard already that I’ll be moving on to a new challenge later this year. This has been the best chapter of my career by far and I will always be so proud of what we accomplished together here. I have complete confidence in our incredible team, who will carry out our mission and keep saving lives just fine without me, because what we do isn’t about any one person. It’s about all those furry friends who will never stop needing our love, care, and support. I firmly believe in the saying that good leaders know when it’s time to step aside. And I am SO deeply committed to our mission here that I am compelled to let someone else have a turn to bring fresh ideas and leapfrog even further ahead. I accomplished what I set out to do here, which was to help transform this organization into a powerful leader in animal welfare for our region. Thank you for partnering with me over these last eight years — it has been my great honor. The future is bright for our great organization.

**Sarah Baeckler**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Board Members

- Brad Jamison**  
President
- Alicia Taylor**  
Vice President / President Elect
- Megan Cotanch**  
Secretary
- Kimberly Pickens**  
Treasurer
- Robert Benedict**
- Daniel London**
- Jared Mellein**
- Thomas Webb**
- Sharon Zuccaro**

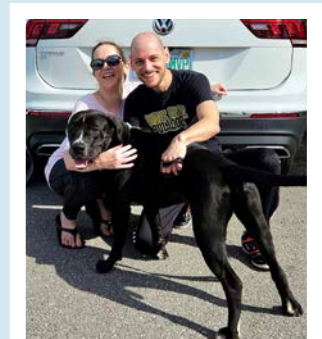
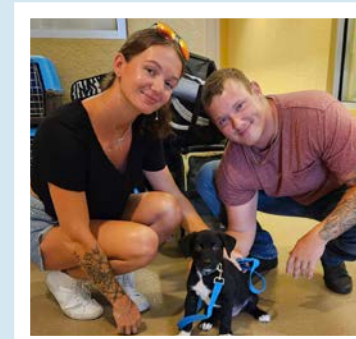
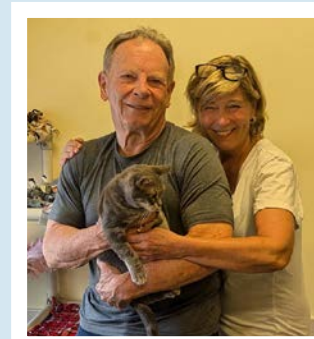
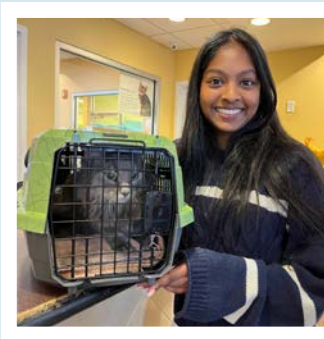
*\*As of March 1, 2025*

## Leadership Team

- Sarah Baeckler**  
Chief Executive Officer
- Pam Cardec**  
Chief Financial Officer
- Jen Feuerstein**  
Chief Strategy Officer
- Stephanie Lewis**  
Chief Operating Officer
- John Morton, D.V.M.**  
Chief Medical Officer
- Rebecca Thompson**  
Chief Development Officer







# Adoption Highlights

TOTAL ADOPTIONS IN 2024: 2,115



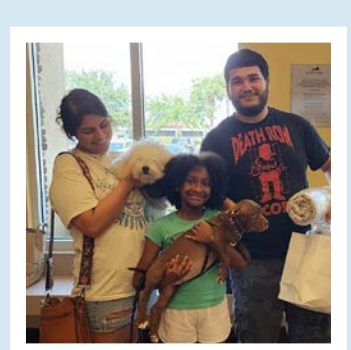
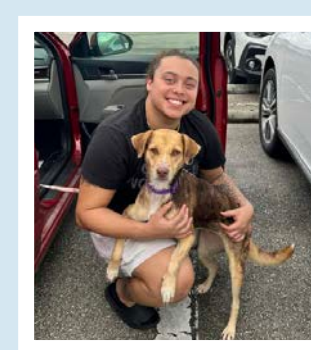
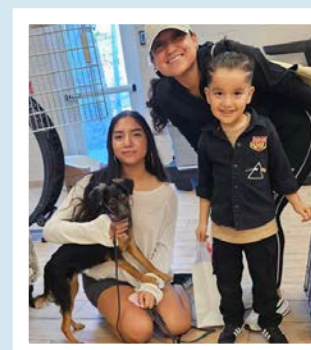
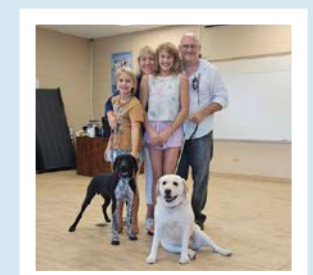
534  
Dogs



1,520  
Cats



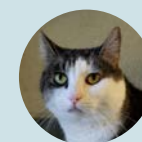
66  
Rabbits &  
Small Animals



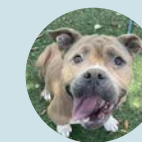
## von Arx Adoption Center

We recently celebrated the 5 year anniversary of our von Arx Satellite Adoption Center in the Greentree Plaza in North Naples. It continues to be a huge success, with over 1,850 adoptions in five years.

### 2024 von Arx Adoption Center Results



201  
Cats



100  
Dogs



26  
Small Mammals  
(6 Guinea Pigs, 3 Hamsters,  
17 Rabbits)

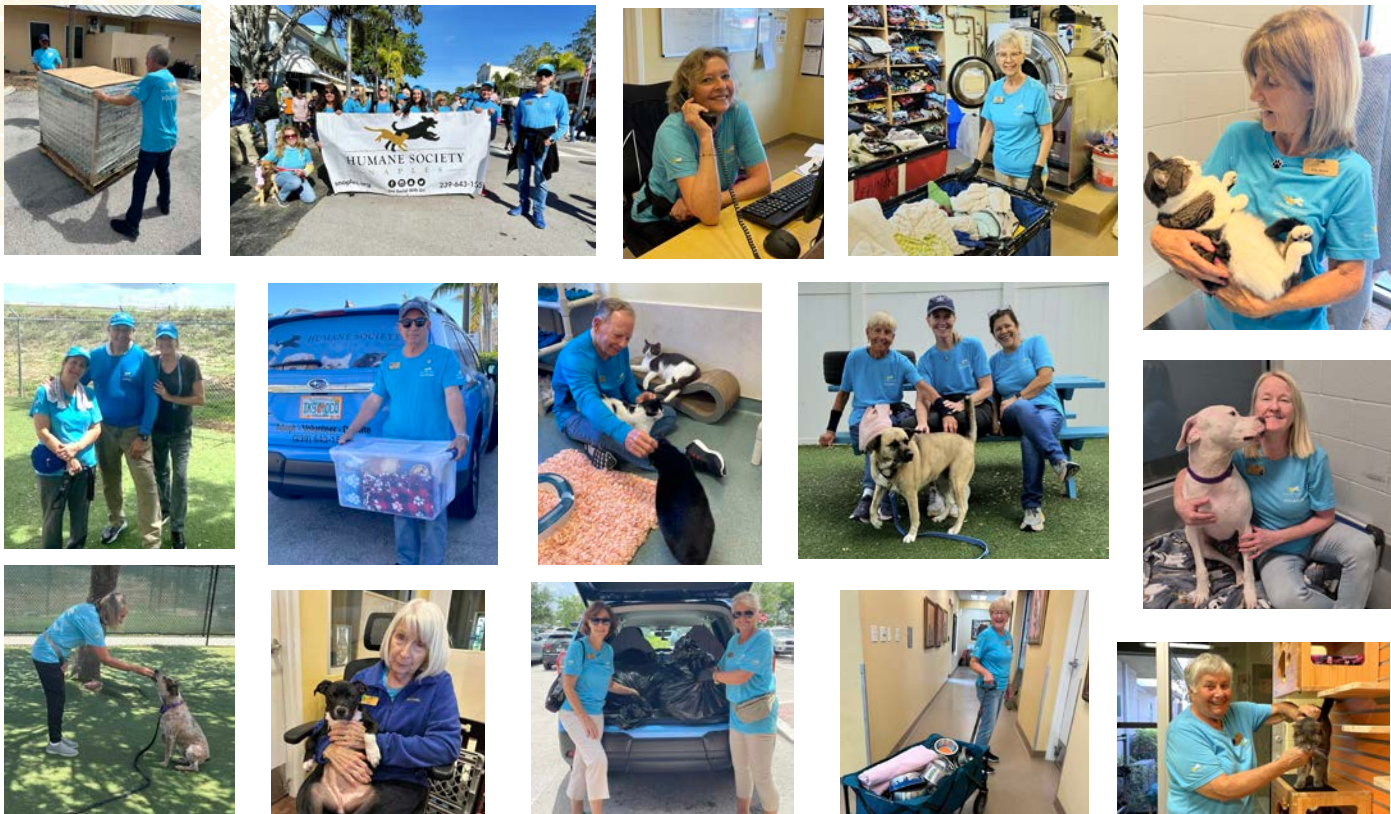
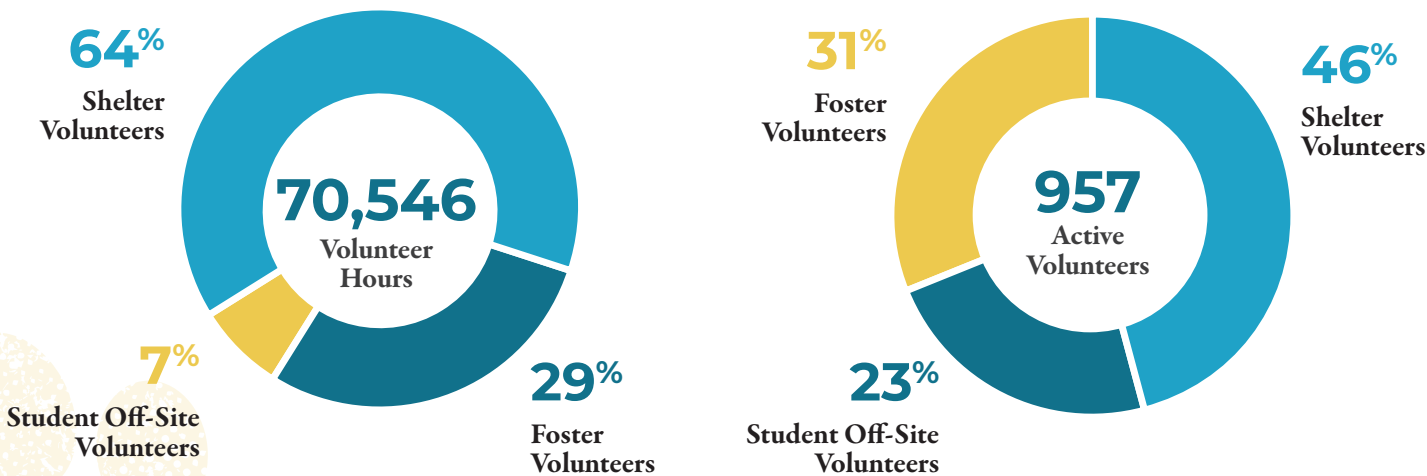


# Volunteer and Foster Support in 2024

Our amazing group of volunteers provide support for nearly every aspect of our daily operations including animal care, keeping the shelter clean and sanitized, laundry, front desk assistance, transporting animals, representing PBHSN at special events, and financial support. We simply could not accomplish our lifesaving work without our volunteers, and we are incredibly grateful for their continued love and support.

Volunteer Hours

Number of Volunteers



## Foster Volunteers

Offering shelter, love, and safety to those who need it most

In 2024 we had a staggering total of 1,536 animals lovingly cared for in our foster homes; 1,182 cats, 342 dogs, 8 rabbits, and 4 small furies all spent time in foster homes. When our shelter is full, which it almost always is, the only way we can save more animals is by asking our foster families to step up for us — and they always do!



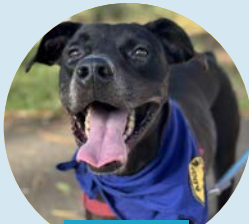
JULIA

Julia came to us at just one day old with her mom and littermates. Her mom was very ill and could not produce milk or take care of the babies. They were quickly placed with a bottle baby foster. Julia's littermates were thriving but she was not, until she was placed with a foster family experienced with fragile kittens. She was a fighter and everyday she continued to improve despite her eye infections and ringworm. After 12 weeks, she was finally healthy enough to find a loving home and was quickly adopted. She is a living example of how successful our foster program is with neonate kittens!



MUFFIN MAN

Muffin Man was pulled from Clewiston Animal Shelter in October of 2022 as a heartworm positive senior with cataracts and arthritis. He was placed in a foster home initially for medical treatment. He was treated for his heartworm disease and his health improved. Muffin Man was made available for adoption, but due to his age and medical issues there was very little interest in him. He was eventually placed in a hospice foster home in July 2024 until he passed peacefully. Thanks to our incredible medical team and an amazing foster family, Muffin Man was able to spend the last two years of his life comfortable, spoiled, and completely loved in a happy home.



CHIEF

Chief has faced many stress-related medical and behavioral challenges at our shelter, making it difficult to find him an adopter or place him in a foster home. Our medical and behavior teams worked tirelessly to help him. He eventually found an amazing foster home where he was given a much needed break from the shelter environment. Without fosters that give our more challenging dogs a second chance, we would not be able to help dogs like Chief find a permanent home.



LULU

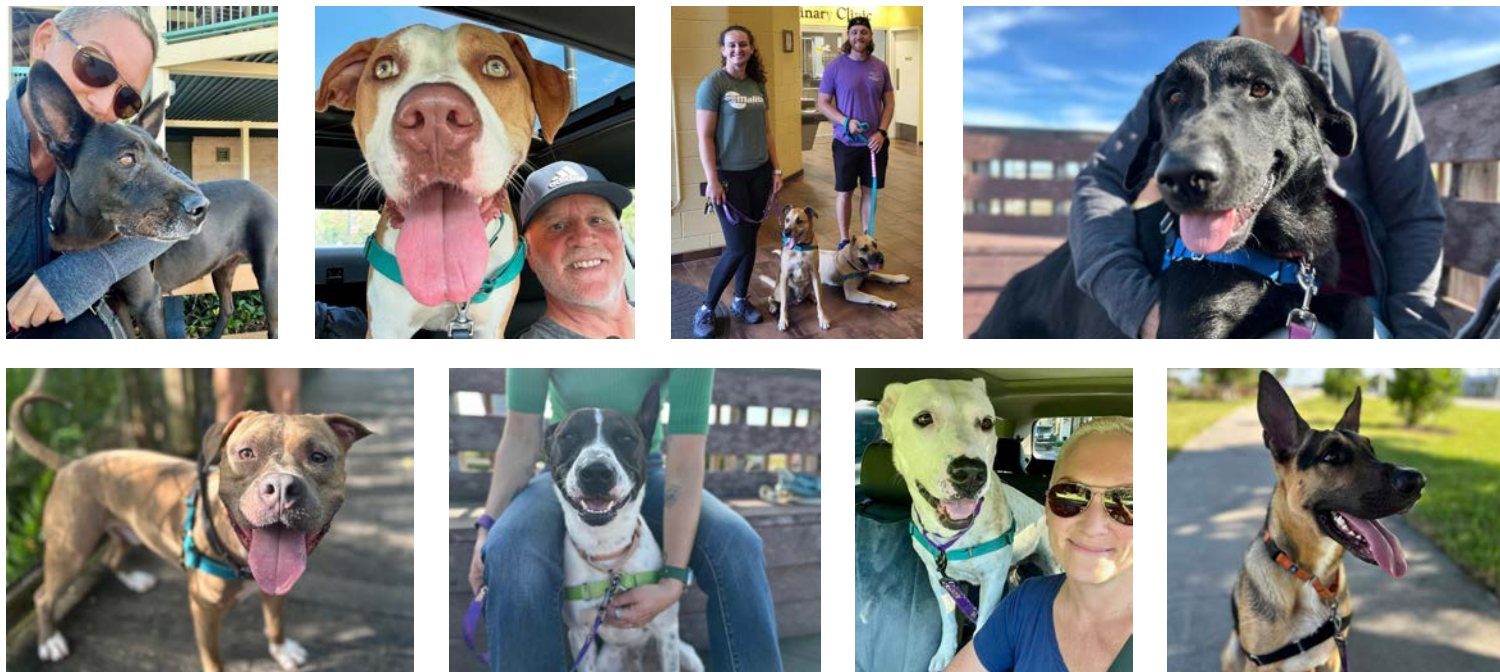
Lulu came to us in August of 2024 as a neonate kitten with an upper respiratory infection and was quickly placed in a foster home. Her illness was very persistent and required medical intervention and extra care from her foster family. They are truly committed to her and are optimistic in finding her a loving home. Without her foster family and the PBHSN medical team, Lulu would not be the beautiful and happy kitten she is today.



Change Lives as a Foster Volunteer

Visit [PBHSNaples.org/foster](https://PBHSNaples.org/foster) or click this QR code to learn more.





## Rescue Recess

Take a nice walk with a shelter dog and treat yourself to a tail-wagging time

Rescue Recess is a very simple program that lets you take a shelter dog out for a couple of hours for some mental and physical exercise. It's so incredibly beneficial for our dogs to get out of the shelter and burn off some energy, even for just an hour or two. And they just may be seen out in the community by a potential adopter! In 2024 we had more than 600 Rescue Recess sessions!

We have many great Rescue Recess volunteers, but a few stand out as true heroes of the program. Michaela and Marian Penzes are regular Rescue Recess volunteers, taking dogs out on a weekly basis for the past year. The list of dogs they have taken out is long; more than 15 dogs have enjoyed a walk at Baker Park, Naples Botanical Garden, Paradise Coast Sports Complex, and other parks in the area. Sometimes they take the dogs home to enjoy a dip in their pool, or to Starbucks for a puppuccino. They let the dogs dictate how and where the recess takes them. Asked if they have any favorites, they replied: "... all of them touched our hearts and gave us lots of memories. Some we remember very fondly like Pebbles, Winston, Al, and Choco, or more recently Charlie, Coco Melon, and Captain. There are too many to name them all!"

Angela Wilson, owner of Lux Boutique in Naples, is another Rescue Recess hero. She visits the shelter every week to take one of our pups out for a walk. Angela's list of Rescue Recess dogs is also a long one, including a few who have since been adopted into happy new homes. Angela says: "Some people love dogs, but they may not be in a position to have one,

whether it's because of their housing situation, work, or travel circumstances. Rescue Recess is a great way to fill that void. You get to hang out with a dog, get your steps in, and the dogs get out of the shelter for a nice break."

Rescue Recess is a win-win-program for both our two-legged and four-legged friends!

### Rescue Recess is easy!

Anyone can do it — just follow these simple steps:

#### When:

Monday-Friday,  
8:30am – 4pm\*

\*Please note, Rescue Recess pick-up and drop-off is unavailable between 11am-12:30pm

Saturday-Sunday,  
8:30 – 11:00am

#### Where:

PBHSN Main Shelter or  
von Arx Adoption Center



#### How:

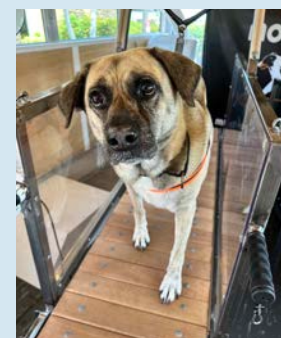
Check-in at the front desk. We will provide a collar, leash, and a backpack of adventure supplies which include an Adopt-Me doggie vest, water and a bowl, treats, poop-bags, and a list of dog-friendly spots.



## My Dog's Mobile Gym

It's great exercise, reduces shelter stress, and most importantly, *they love it!*

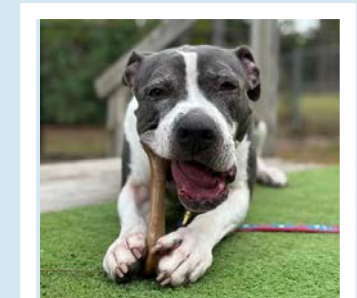
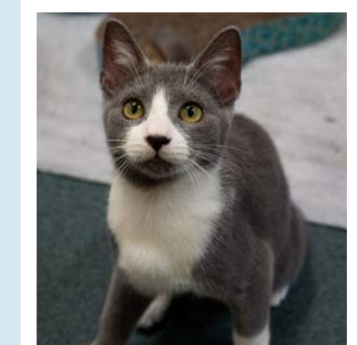
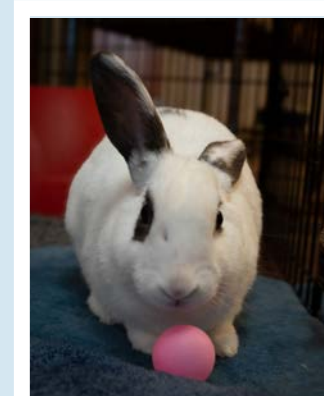
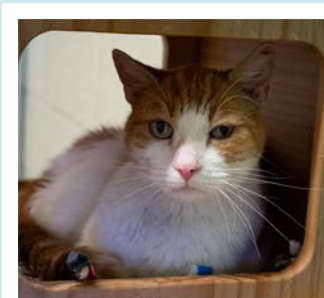
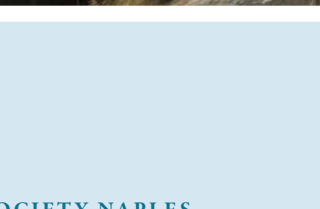
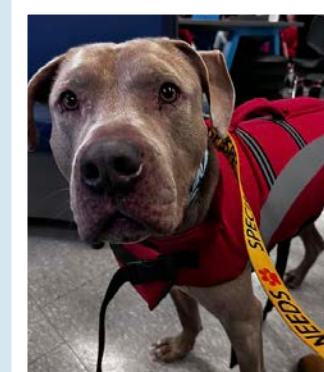
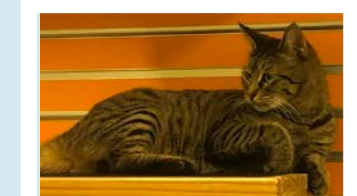
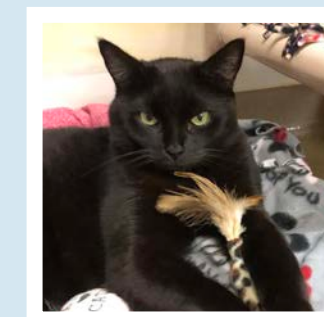
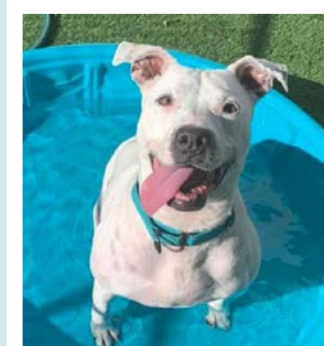
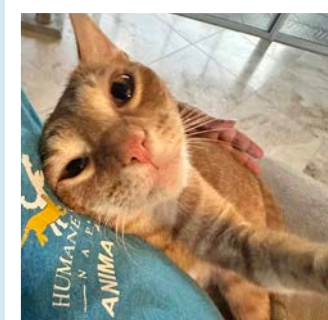
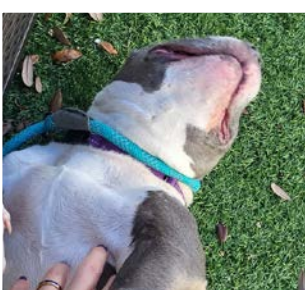
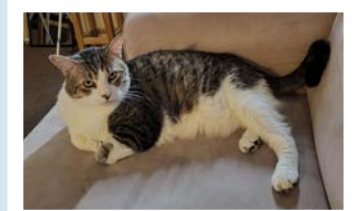
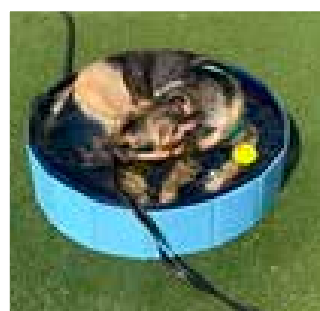
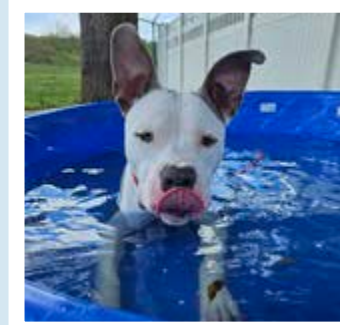
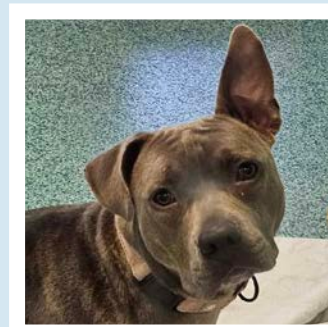
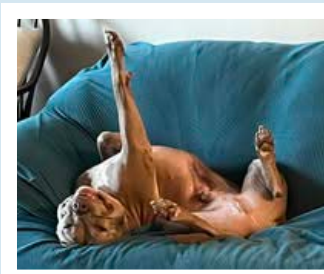
In May of 2024 Susan Yawney, one of PBHSN's longtime supporters, called Sarah Baeckler to make an incredible offer. Susan and Ed Yawney wanted to sponsor a unique exercise program for our shelter dogs called My Dog's Mobile Gym. It's a traveling canine fitness program consisting of two non-motorized treadmills that move only when the dogs walk or run on them. Sarah quickly accepted the offer, and beginning in June the My Dog's Mobile Gym bus has visited all three PBHSN locations several times each month to "run" our dogs. They absolutely love it! It's great exercise and incredibly stimulating for them. You can see them smiling as they jog away, often barking as if to say: "Watch me, I got this!"



Scan this QR code to watch the pups enjoy their exercise!



# Camera-ready cuteness — our animals never disappoint!



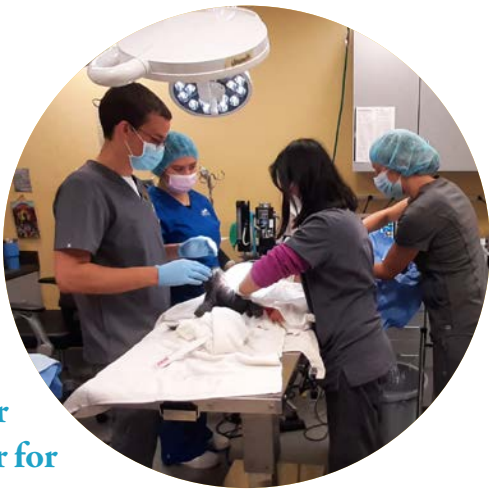
Scan this QR code to watch the cute and silly moments!



# Community Services

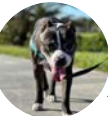
Keeping families and pets happy, healthy, and together

We provide critical services to pet owners across Collier County so they never have to face the heartbreaking decision to surrender a loved pet because they cannot afford to care for them. It's better for everyone, and in the end, less costly to provide these services to keep pets with their families rather than having to shelter and re-home them.



## Compassionate Care

Imagine being faced with the heart-wrenching decision to surrender or euthanize your pet because you cannot afford to pay for a sudden medical intervention or surgery. Our Compassionate Care Fund ensures that animals receive the necessary treatments or surgeries they need, and the families pay only what they can afford. In 2024, we provided Compassionate Care Fund assistance to 39 families and 58 animals.



## Operation Rescue

Families or individuals dealing with an emergency crisis like homelessness, domestic violence, sudden hospitalization, or natural disasters can count on our Operation Rescue program to care for their pets on a temporary basis while they deal with the crisis, instead of having to endure the heartbreak of surrendering their pets. This program is funded by a number of caring donors, led by Paul and Sheila Demkovich. The numbers of families and animals served by this program since it began in 2017 is growing steadily each year.

### Operation Rescue Impact

Total families served	306
Total number of cats boarded	246
Total number of dogs boarded	226
Total cat nights	18,136
Total dog nights	12,268
Average length of stay-dogs	54 nights
Average length of stay-cats	74 nights
All time reunion rate	71%



## Denny Plesea Pet Food Pantry

Many families struggle financially to feed their pets, especially with the cost of pet food rising considerably over the past few years. Our Denny Plesea Pet Food Pantry answers the call by providing pet food, litter, and other basic pet supplies for families in need. In 2024 we provided food and supplies to almost 1,500 families. We accept any unopened dry or canned pet food.

### 2024 Pet Food Pantry Results

Families served	1,488
Total number of cats	3,725
Total number of dogs	2,463
Pounds of dry cat food	8,543
Pounds of dry dog food	25,291
Can of cat food	20,496
Cans of dog food	7,074

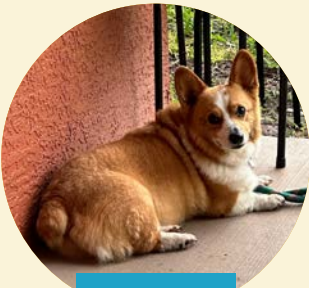


## SNAP

It's a sad fact that there are far more dogs and cats than there are loving homes for them. Patty Baker Humane Society Naples is committed to preventing overpopulation by making pet sterilization affordable for families in need. Our affordable Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) helps prevent unwanted litters by providing spay or neuter surgeries for pets in need. In 2024 alone we performed 171 SNAP surgeries for 110 families.

# Behavior Training

At PBHSN we believe that our investment in behavior training can significantly increase the adoption rates of animals by improving their social skills, mitigating behavioral issues, and making them more appealing to potential adopters, ultimately leading to a better quality of life for the animals and reducing the likelihood of them being returned to us after adoption. Every animal deserves a chance to learn how to be a good pet in a happy home. Our behavior team can help make it happen for them, even in the most challenging cases. Here are just a few of our success stories from 2024.



COPPER

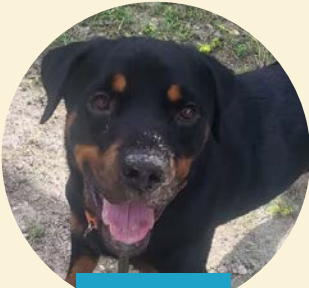
Copper was surrendered to PBHSN in 2022 due to a behavior history. His previous owners tried various training methods without success to control his leash reactivity. The PBHSN behavior team worked with him on his dog reactivity, muzzle training, and resource guarding protocols. It took time and patience, but he showed a steady improvement in his behavior. Copper met his perfect match in early 2024. He is doing great in his new home. His new family says "I thought you would like to know that Copper is doing amazing. He continues his training, learning to love more and more every day. We are so happy to have him as a part of our family!"



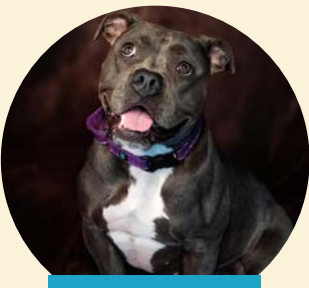
BRAYDEN

Brayden originally came to PBHSN in 2021 from a rescue on the east coast of Florida. He became a long stay dog with us, so to maximize his chances of being adopted he was transferred to a partner shelter. They reached out to us saying that Brayden had regressed while under their care, so we took him back in 2023. The behavior team worked hard to find dog friends for him and continue to expand his world. These efforts were ultimately successful. Brayden was able to co-house with other dogs and then found his perfect home in February 2024!

Ryuu and Lavender were transferred to PBHSN from another shelter. They told us that they did not meet their adoption criteria due to their inconsistent behavior. Both dogs were suffering from kennel anxiety and displayed barrier reactivity, a common reaction to spending too much time in a shelter environment. Our behavior team used stress free handling techniques to safely move both Ryuu and Lavender around the shelter. Despite being described as unadoptable from the transferring shelter, Ryuu and Lavender both found great homes in late 2024 after just relatively short stays at PBHSN.



RYUU



LAVENDER



# Thank You to Our Donors!

We received generous donations from more than 4,000 people and organizations in 2024, far too many to mention in this report. Every donation is important to us. We receive no government funding at Patty Baker Humane Society Naples. We rely solely on private donations from our growing family of animal lovers.

To review our distinguished list of donors from 2024 please scan this QR code:



## A Lasting Legacy of Love

There are so many ways that you can support our lifesaving mission today, including monetary gifts, volunteering your time, or donating pet food and supplies. Another enduring way that you can help the animals we serve is through legacy giving. When you decide to include Patty Baker Humane Society Naples in your estate planning, your generosity helps support our mission well into the future. Estate planning can be intimidating. We have the tools available to help you make these important decisions for both you and your surviving pets.

Please scan this QR code to access our full roster of articles to help you make these important decisions for your legacy:



With gratitude, PBHSN honors those who left a lasting legacy through their estate gifts

- Danna Anderson
- Mardelle Berman
- Corine Colletier
- Emil Ewald
- Dr. John Gridley Jr. and Dr. Melissa Gridley
- Gabriella Hamori
- Florence Majewski
- Teiko Ponticello
- Harvey and Sarah Anne Shreve
- Carl Sievert
- Margaret Simmons
- Walter Snyder
- Ann Louise Verdon

## 2024 PBHSN Awards Honorees

Our annual Guardian Circle Forum luncheon in 2024 included the presentation of distinguished awards in three different categories of exceptional support.



**The Walter Turken Award** is PBHSN’s premier distinction for outstanding service to pets. Our 2024 award was presented by PBHSN’s Board of Directors President Brad Jamison, along with our 2023 winners, Sheila and Paul Demkovich, to our longtime cat care volunteer, donor, and former Board of Directors President, Pat Murphy.



**The Animal Advocate Award** recognizes those who “speak on behalf of those without voices” in our community and who promote the welfare of pets and other animals. Brad Jamison presented the 2024 award to our good friends and community partners Richard DeVoe and Emily Reed from DeVoe Subaru of Naples.



**The James P. Dellas and Cheryl Deering Animaltarian Award** was established to recognize a community member or family that goes above and beyond in their compassion towards and service to companion animals. Brad Jamison joined 2023 winner Michael Ross to present the 2024 award to our loyal volunteers, donors and adopters Bette Ellenbogen and Linda Greenwald.

# Financial Reporting

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

### Revenue

Program Services Revenue	\$1,854,444
Development Revenue	\$3,492,706
Other Income	\$40,759
Investment Gains	\$473,809
Total Revenue	\$5,953,891

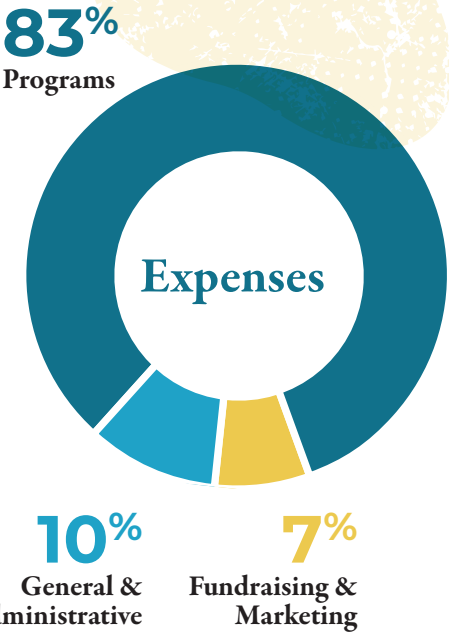
Unrealized Gains	\$92,173
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### Expenses

Programs	\$7,912,413
General Administrative	\$994,206
Fundraising and Marketing	\$700,526
Total Expenses	\$9,616,145

### Financial Position

Operating Assets	\$10,788,773
Investment Assets	\$4,164,290
Total Assets	\$14,953,063
Total Liabilities	\$2,917,100
Net Operating Assets	\$7,871,673
Net Investment Assets	\$4,061,790
Net Permanently Restricted Assets	\$102,500
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$14,953,063



83¢ of every \$1 supported our programs and services for the animals in FY2024





# Special Events



## Run for the Paws 5K

The 18th annual Run for the Paws 5K Run and Walk moved to an exciting new location in 2024, the Paradise Coast Sports Complex. More than 300 runners and walkers, many with dogs in hand, participated in the event, which raised over \$20,000 for PBHSN!



## Bow Wow Brunch

Our 8th Annual Bow Wow Brunch, hosted by Richard and Amy D'Amico and the great team at The Continental, was a tremendous success in 2024, setting an all-time record by raising over \$100,000! The D'Amicos generously donate the entire brunch, a scrumptious menu of tasty treats. This is one of PBHSN's most popular events, selling out every year, thanks in part to the fact that dogs are welcome at the event, hence the name **Bow Wow Brunch**!



## PAWS BY THE BAY fashion show & luncheon

## Paws By the Bay Fashion Show

This inaugural event held at the beautiful Naples Yacht Club featured fashions by Lilly Pulitzer, modeled by members of The Posh Mama Club. More than 130 people attended the luncheon, helping PBHSN raise over \$86,000!



## Paws Around Town Bus Awareness, Education, and Adoption

Our Paws Around Town Bus was busy throughout 2024 attending more than 70 community events, 22 Humane Education programs, and 39 Supportive Paws visits.

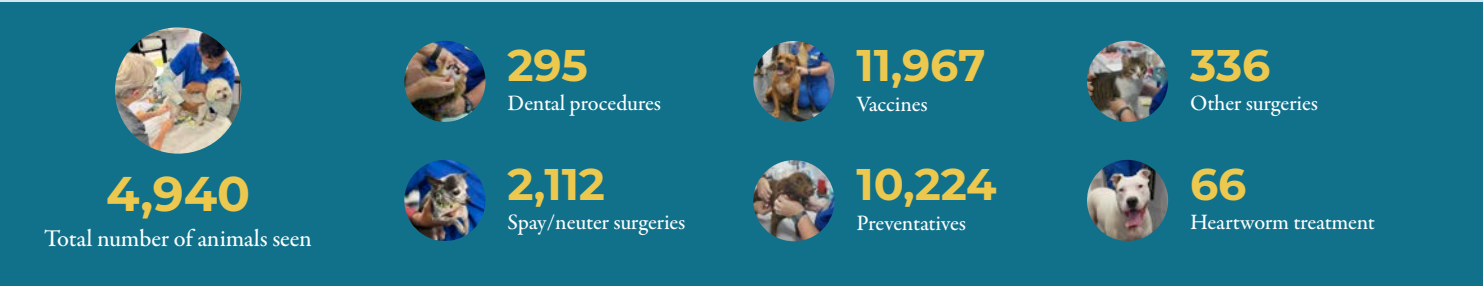
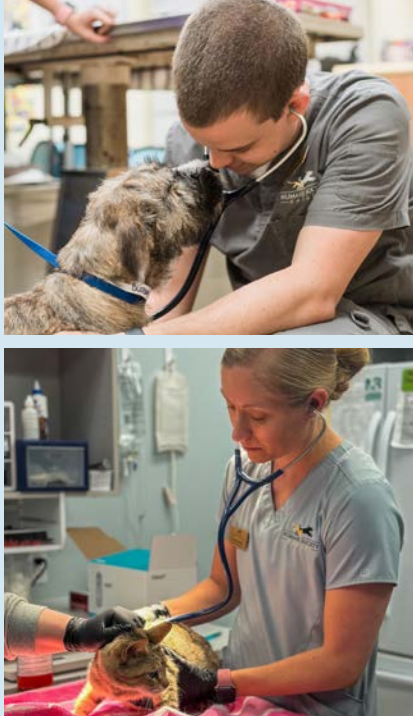




# Medical Services

PBHSN’s Yawney Family Veterinary Clinic serves the public, while our shelter clinic provides comprehensive care for our shelter residents

We have two full-service veterinary clinics at PBHSN caring for animals from the community and our shelter residents. Both clinics offer comprehensive medical care, preventatives, vaccines and testing for rabies, Bordetella, heartworm and other medical conditions, dental procedures, spay/neuter, and many other surgeries. 2024 was a very busy year for our clinics, as the numbers illustrate:



## Patty and Jay Baker Mobile Veterinary Clinic (MVC)

The MVC was very busy in 2024 traveling across Collier County providing low-or-no-cost veterinary care to families in underserved communities.

### MVC Results in 2024

- 69 community visits
- 1,159 pets seen
- 1,429 vaccines administered
- 257 microchips implanted
- 1,007 medications provided
- 155 spay/neuter surgeries
- 4,320 flea/tick preventatives

# Partnering With Shelters Across Southwest Florida — and Right Here at Home

## A note from Sarah Baeckler, Chief Executive Officer

For the last few years we’ve had the incredible opportunity to work with several rural shelters in the area, taking PBHSN’s high quality of care to areas that desperately need it. Some of these places are literally shacks, sometimes with only one or two staff, always without a veterinarian, and lacking the resources we are so fortunate to have here in Naples. We developed partnerships that will certainly go on in the long term as a result and we are still pulling animals from these shelters weekly. But more recently, and for the next few years, we have been and will continue to be needed much closer to home.

In 2024 we intentionally expanded our partnership with Collier County’s Domestic Animal Services (DAS). They’ve undergone some changes and transitions and needed our support, so of course, we stepped up and answered the call. We lent them our Chief Operating Officer for a few months to help hold things together while they undertook a new leadership search.

In the year ahead, we expect to significantly increase our support of DAS by continuing to transfer dogs and cats from DAS to PBHSN, especially those with medical challenges. I also expect we will be providing considerable support for their veterinary services, again lending PBHSN’s signature high quality standard of care to all the county’s animals. Combined with the other wonderful animal agencies in our community, we are committed to making sure that Collier County’s animals are our number one priority.

On the national level, taking a peek at 2024 animal shelter data shows some good news for the year ahead, but also some

challenges. Fewer cats are dying in shelters nationwide than ever before, and we are proud to be a partner in that trend by pulling cats from shelters where they most likely would have been euthanized. More animals overall are being adopted from shelters across the country, which is also excellent news. Our data matches that – we had more adoptions in 2024 for both cats and dogs compared to 2023.

Unfortunately, the challenge is that despite our incredible efforts, more dogs are dying in shelters across the country than in previous years, which only reaffirms PBHSN’s dedication and commitment to doing our part in rescuing the dogs most likely to die in other shelters. That’s generally the big dogs, sick dogs, and dogs with a behavior history. As PBHSN continues to grow and thrive, finding solutions for these challenging dogs will continue to be a priority. No other shelter in our region does the kind of rehabilitation work with dogs that we do, and we believe it is imperative to continue that lifesaving work.

Of course, we don’t want to leave out the kitties who still need us more than ever, especially with our ever-elongated kitten season, which seems to last most of the year. During this time of year we see hundreds of tiny babies needing intense care, and our survival rate for these babies is far above industry standards.

I’m truly excited about the future of Patty Baker Humane Society Naples. Expanding our local partnership with DAS will lead to better outcomes for thousands of animals in need across Collier County. Working together, we can save more lives. That’s what we do best.





### MAIN ADOPTION CENTER

370 Airport-Pulling Rd. N., Naples, FL 34104  
Hours: Tuesday - Sunday - 12:30pm - 4:30pm  
CLOSED on Mondays  
Phone: (239) 643-1555

### VON ARX ADOPTION CENTER

2400-7 Immokalee Rd. Naples, FL 34110  
Hours: Tuesday - Sunday - 12:30pm - 4:30pm  
CLOSED on Mondays  
Phone: (239) 643-1555

### YAWNEY FAMILY VETERINARY CLINIC

370 Airport-Pulling Rd. N., Naples, FL 34104  
Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm  
CLOSED on Saturday and Sunday  
Phone: (239) 643-1555

General Information: [info@PBHSNaples.org](mailto:info@PBHSNaples.org)

Donations: [development@PBHSNaples.org](mailto:development@PBHSNaples.org)

Fosters: [foster@PBHSNaples.org](mailto:foster@PBHSNaples.org)

Special Events: [events@PBHSNaples.org](mailto:events@PBHSNaples.org)

Volunteers: [volunteers@PBHSNaples.org](mailto:volunteers@PBHSNaples.org)



For more information on PBHSN,  
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