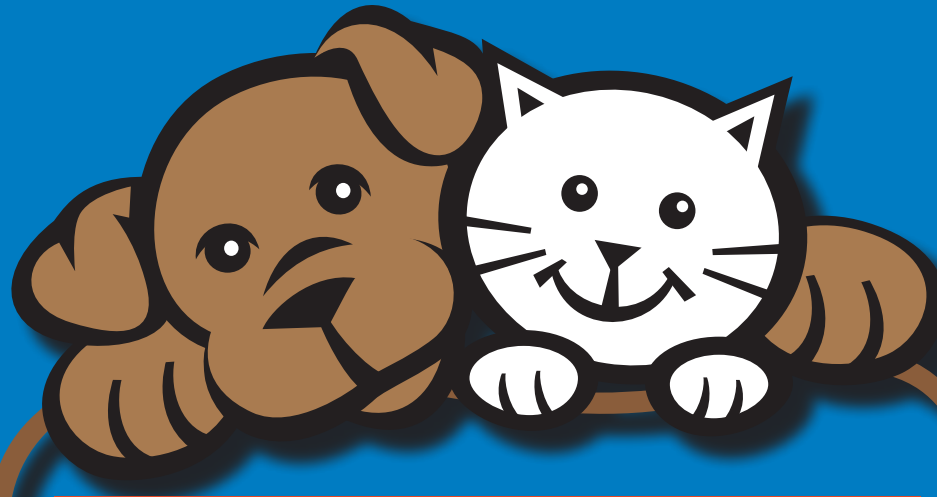


LOVE

is a four legged word



Annual Journal
Arizona Animal Welfare League



How Your Dollars Help*



\$743,877

Cost of Care for
4,439 Pets
We've Taken In



\$242,645

3,733 Pets Spayed/
Neutered Cost



\$105,508

Spent on 1,558
Pups & Kittens in
Foster



\$505,460

Spent on Medical
Care & Procedures



\$164,274

Spent on Utilities
and Insurance



\$36,214

Spent Transporting
Animals



ARIZONA ANIMAL
WELFARE LEAGUE & SPCA
ARIZONA'S FIRST NO-KILL SHELTER

4,007 Pets Adopted

*These figures reflect 12 months expenses
Jan-Dec, 2015 - THE ANIMALS NEED YOUR HELP!



ARIZONA ANIMAL
WELFARE LEAGUE & SPCA
ARIZONA'S FIRST NO-KILL SHELTER

A Journey Worth Taking!



I am very proud of the fact that each and every dog, cat, puppy and kitten that finds its way into our care is treated as a unique individual. Fortunately, most of them are adopted within a couple of weeks. However, as a no-kill shelter, we make a commitment to a homeless pet to do whatever it takes — for as long as it takes — to make sure they are happy, healthy and ready to start their new life in a loving home.

While they are with us, however long that is, we encourage our staff and volunteers to be creative and find new ways to make the experience the best it can be for the animals. This is especially important for our “long timers”. And, creative they are! Some of the innovative programs we have introduced, and which you will read about in this publication, are things such as our Slumber Parties, our “Gimme a Break” program, our Champion program, various forms of enrichment for both physical and mental stimulation, post adoption services such as our low-cost public veterinarian clinic and monthly low cost vaccine clinics.

When I asked the staff to tell me our dog “story of the year”, they all immediately thought of Jake, a dog that was returned several times (through no fault of his own), and who benefitted from almost every program we offer during his one year stay with us.

Of course, we can't do all of this without your support. Each of you have your own individual reasons for helping homeless animals. Perhaps your heart has been touched by a special pet (or several) in your lifetime and you know what precious companions they are. You know how much they rely on us to be their voice and to keep them safe, happy and healthy.

Regardless of your reason for giving, please make a donation in the enclosed envelope, or online at our secure website, www.aawl.org.

With Gratitude,

Judith A. Gardner

Judith A. Gardner
President & CEO

25 North 40th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85034

P 602.273.6852

F 602.275.3610

www.aawl.org

Programs built with love

Healthy Food & Treats

In order to improve our guests' health with wholesome food, we feed only Halo, Purely for Pets. And we provide only select treats to keep tummies happy and healthy.

On-Site Vet Clinic

Our two full-time veterinarians spay or neuter each animal and conduct complete exams, diagnoses, treatments and everything needed to ensure the pet's good health.

Behavior

Our experts work with each animal, analyzing their behavior and providing training and behavior modification programs where needed. Volunteers help too!

Volunteers

More than 600 volunteers provide exercise, socialization and tender loving care to each animal while they are with us — and participate in our many innovative programs.

Gimme a Break

Volunteers/staff take a dog home for the weekend, providing them with a break from the shelter and learning more about their personalities to help us make a perfect match.

Enrichment

During hot or inclement weather, volunteers provide mental stimulation to keep our "guests" happy. They provide healthy frozen treats, puzzles, and even read to them — whatever it takes.

Slumber Party

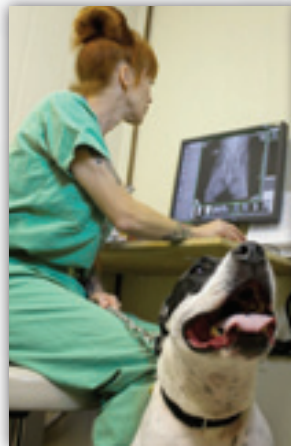
If a family needs a little extra reassurance that their new pet will be a good fit in their home and with their lifestyle, they can take them on a short "slumber party" before making a final decision.

Champion Program

Volunteers and staff select a dog or cat that needs a little extra help getting adopted and use their creative talents to create posters or flyers, decorate their kennels, take them to dog friendly locations and, in some cases, even create a special Facebook page. And, they stay committed to their chosen dog or cat until they are adopted.

Jake's Journey

We Never Gave Up On Him



Jakes x-rays being examined by our vet



Jake in his therapy pool



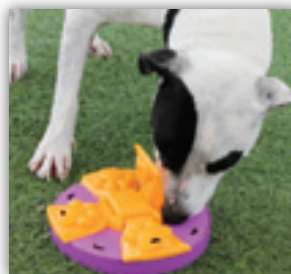
Jake in his "Adopt Me" vest out on the town



Jake helping out at the front desk



Jakes volunteer champion



Mastering puzzles



Jake enjoying "Gimme a Break" in a volunteer's home

Jake was a 4 month old puppy when we brought him in to AAWL. He was adopted in only 2 weeks — only to be returned five months later because the owner didn't have time for him. Jake was adopted again but then was returned again, this time for being too active. Poor Jake! Over the next 3-1/2 years, Jake was adopted and returned two more times through no fault of his own.

After his 4th return in June, 2015, it was discovered that Jake had degenerative joint disease in his rear joints. Our Veterinarian put him on a special diet and prescribed mild exercise. Luckily, we received a therapy pool from a donor and Jake began regular therapy to relieve pressure on his joints. He also spent a lot of time resting on a soft bed and helping the front desk staff greet visitors.

By this time, Jake needed some extra help telling people what a special boy he is. At AAWL we are so fortunate to have hundreds of great volunteers who help us with our "Champion Program". A volunteer takes on a special dog or cat that needs some extra attention — maybe they have been at AAWL awhile or maybe, like in Jake's case, they just fall in love and want to find the perfect home for a particular pet. The Champions can be as creative as they'd like — decorating the kennel, creating posters and flyers, taking them to dog parks and other pet friendly locations with an "adopt me" vest on and, in the case of Jake, creating a Facebook page just for him.

In addition, Jake worked with our behavior experts to learn some manners and some tips on how to get along with other dogs.

Jake received a lot of mental and physical attention while at AAWL — everything from mastering puzzles to being snuggled in his kennel by a member of his fan club.

One of Jake's many fans decided to take him out of the shelter for a weekend under our "Gimme a Break" program. This is

a great program for our volunteers and gives our dogs a little break from being in a kennel. We can also see how they manage in a home setting.

Before too long, a young family with two adorable little girls came into the adoption center looking for a great family dog that would play with the kids and settle into their active lifestyle. They saw Jake, heard about his history, and were, understandably, a little concerned because he had been returned so many times. Our Adoption Counselors told

Volunteers share their love

Staff and volunteers have created and attend many special classes for our guests that might need a little extra confidence or skills. Our volunteers are very actively involved in classes such as Basic Obedience, Shy Dog, Best Bully, Puppy Socialization, Summer Night Walks, Hiking with a Shelter Animal, puppy classes, cat handling, Cups for Pups, Reading to the Animals. Every program is designed to help address an issue that our homeless pets are dealing with to ensure their physical and mental health.



Jake is motivated by treats while learning his behavior lessons

Silly "Jake from State Farm" ad created by staff



Jake enjoying his "Slumber Party" with two new fans

them about a special program we have for just this situation called a "Slumber Party". They could take Jake home for a few days to see how he fit into their family and home before making a lifetime commitment to adopting him. We liked this option too because we were determined that this time, Jake was going to find his "forever" home. As much as we loved him, we didn't want to see him come back to the shelter again!

Jake really liked the Slumber Party concept. He found his favorite place on the couch and made himself right at home. How could you not fall in love with him?



Saying good-bye to Jake

Open to the public

Low Cost Public Clinic

Our adopters have the opportunity to bring their pet(s) to our MDPetCare low-cost public clinic for all their veterinarian needs — everything from regular wellness checks to dental procedures and everything in between.

Low Cost Vaccine Clinics

All of the pets adopted from AAWL are micro-chipped. Annual vaccines are available at our monthly, walk-in low cost vaccine clinics.

Jake Finally Finds Love

Slumber Party Success!



Finally, that perfect match

Jake finally found his forever family. He loved them and they adored him. It just took some time and patience to make that perfect match. Look at all those smiles! Jake now goes on two mile walks every week, and is soon going on a family hiking trip. He just learned how to play fetch, with one daughter being the treat giver, and the other daughter as the instructor. He loves car rides, and during the weekly car cleanings, he sneaks into the back seat and licks anyone that tries to clean. Recently, a home alarm salesman came to the door, and Jake's deep barks scared him away. When the father caught up to him down the sidewalk, he told him "we already have an alarm system, his name is Jake."

Although he is not allowed to sleep in the bed, Jake has been known to climb in when the girls are being tucked in, hoping not to get caught. The family loves Jake so much they've kept his Facebook page going and continue to post pictures of him. Jake will always be a part of AAWL's family. Not only do we follow Jake's Facebook page, but Jake is a regular customer at our low-cost public veterinarian clinic — MDPetCare.

Education for All Ages

AAWL's Education Department also contributes creative ideas for the thousands of children we serve each year through our humane education programs. In addition to day camps throughout the summer and school breaks, our unique Vet Camp was created as a career development program for kids and teens who want to explore the animal health field as a possible career.

Project 22

Our newest program, Project 22, provides veterans with professionally trained service dogs at no charge to them. Eric Wolfe, a veteran who served in the Middle East and who suffers from PTSD, leads the project. All of the dogs trained for Project 22 are rescued animals from AAWL who go through extensive training for 18 months. Teens who are part of AAWL's Teen Tracks program help train the dogs as part of their curriculum.

Junior Volunteer Days

This is a new program for children interested in earning service learning credit for school or who just have a love for animals. Led by a professional humane educator, Junior Volunteer Days allows children ages 9-17 to participate in the day-to-day volunteer activities of the shelter in a structured, safe environment. Typical activities include: cleaning cat condos and dog kennels, making enrichment activities for exotic animals, sorting and folding laundry, socializing the animals at our shelter, and more. Additionally, students are instructed on proper daily care of a variety of animals.

Bark Breaks

Everyone knows how great it is to snuggle a puppy or cuddle a little kitten - it's the perfect indulgence during a busy work day. It's been proven that petting an animal lowers blood pressure so it's only natural that we thought of taking a passel of puppies and a few little kittens into a busy workplace as a special treat to employees. Companies make arrangements with AAWL and we show up with the best stress reducers known to man. Our pups and kitties get some socialization and your employees get a real fringe benefit!

35 Kitties with Nowhere to Go

Except AAWL!



Luke



Tazz



Kiera



Ringworm gear

The plight of homeless animals is a community effort, requiring cooperative actions and a bond of partnership with everyone involved. This became urgently clear when the local Humane Society reached an emergency situation with 3 dozen kittens they had taken in from the public that needed help. They called us to see if we could be of assistance and we agreed to help.

The kittens were diagnosed with ringworm, a treatable and non-fatal illness that affects many cats in Maricopa County during certain times of the year. Although the illness is not life threatening, the ease of spreading the airborne fungus to other animals (and humans), and the time consuming and expensive treatment necessary, force many groups to euthanize the animals due to their lack of space and resources. Ringworm often takes 6-8

weeks of treatment to clear up and requires complete segregation from the rest of the feline population. Fortunately, a donor stepped up to help pay for half the costs of treatment for these kitties and the referring agency paid the rest.

We began treating the kittens with a barrage of medications and twice-weekly baths (the kittens were not amused). Due to the ease in which ringworm spreads, and the need to isolate the animals, socializing the kittens during a critical moment in their development is a difficult challenge. Fortunately, we have a small house on our campus (affectionately named "The Fungalo") that has been retrofitted specifically to house ringworm cats. We created spaces for social interaction, allowing them to play and be kittens while they were being treated. We even formed a dedicated band of volunteers who would sit with the kittens, requiring a complicated ballet of gloves, gowns and kitten wrangling, to give them that much needed human contact. After weeks of tireless treatment, they were finally healthy and ready to begin their lives with their prospective families.

Kiera, a stunning tuxedo, found her home with a family who had never adopted a kitten, but was ready for an adventure. Teddy was adopted in one day after going to our Chandler Mall adoption center. Larry, our rambunctious orange tabby, was the last to be adopted out of the litters to a young woman who loved his independent spirit. We were able to

create three dozen new adoption families from what began as a tragedy of circumstances. We notified our partners at the Humane Society and they were thrilled to learn that all of the kittens had been cured and placed into loving homes. It was truly a win/win for everyone involved.



Ringworm house

We Can't Do This Without Your Donations

Please Give!

- Average Length of Stay: 16.7 Days
- Average Cost: \$400
- Average Adoption Fee: \$236

Healthy Dog

Donation needed to save a healthy dog

\$164

Jake

Donation needed to save Jake's life

\$6,845

- Length of Stay: 323 Days
- Cost of Care: \$4,845
- Cost of Medical Care: \$2,000
- Adoption Fee: FREE

- Average Length of Stay: 31.3 Days
- Average Cost: \$313
- Average Adoption Fee: \$68

Healthy Cat

Donation needed to save a healthy cat

\$245

Ringworm Kittens

Donation needed to save a kitten with ringworm

\$338

- Length of Stay: 76 Days
- Cost of Care and Medical: \$438
- Adoption Fee: \$100



ARIZONA ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE & SPCA
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Sonia Breslow Adoption Center

25 North 40th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034
602-273-6852 x116

Chandler Fashion Center

PetMatch Adoption Center
3111 W. Chandler Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85226
602-781-3906

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AAWL's low-cost veterinary clinic provides a wide range of services, including wellness and preventative care, dental cleanings and extractions, treatment for infections or skin disorders, X-Rays, surgeries such as mass removals, spay/neuters and much more at a substantially reduced cost.



AAWL has one of the largest and most creative humane education programs in Arizona, ranging from kid's camps to teen programs to school programs. Programs are offered year-round.



ARIZONA ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE & SPCA
ARIZONA'S FIRST NO-KILL SHELTER

aawl.org



AAWL offers a wide range of dog obedience and dog training courses to help overcome any current or potential behavior issues. We offer fun agility classes, Shy Dog, Feisty Fido, Leash Manners and certified Canine Good Citizen classes.



Sonia Breslow Campus & Chandler Adoption Center

AAWL rescues animals from being euthanized at other shelters and when possible directly accepts homeless animals, preventing them from entering over-full shelters. We make a permanent commitment to each animal we save – they are examined by our medical team, vaccinated, microchipped, spayed/neutered and given a behavior assessment. We excel at finding each individual animal an appropriate home, no matter how long it takes.



Volunteers are the key to our success! The time and effort volunteers spend on every aspect of our activities, from animal socialization to adoption counseling, in-home fostering, special events, administration and more, make it possible for AAWL to save thousands of homeless animals each year.