## 2022 Humane Society of Yuma gave one until there are none. WWW.HSOyUMA.COM ANNUAL REPORT

**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS IN OUR NEW SHELTER LOCATION** 



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello Friends,

Can you believe in December our "new" shelter had been open for 10 years? It seems just like yesterday that we were moving all of the cat kennels from the old shelter into the new. We were setting up our on-site spay and neuter clinic and we were learning how to utilize all of our space. Those of us who were at that "old" shelter remember the good and the bad. That shelter holds a lot of memories for so many of us.

Today I sit in amazement of how far our organization has come. We are continuing to save lives year after year. Our shelter has turned from a sad and depressing place to a place that families want to come and find their forever pet in a welcoming environment. Our staff has tripled in size and our shelter guests receive the best possible care.

Throughout this year's annual report, we will highlight all the great things that happened in

2022. We will also take a look back at all the milestones we have achieved over the past 10 years. The facts about our shelter tell a story about our community. In 2012 we were saving, on average, 43% of the animals that entered the shelter. Once we moved to the "new" shelter, we dramatically increased our live release rate year over year. I am excited to say that we are now saving over 80% of the animals that enter our shelter.

I truly hope you enjoy reading about all of the success our shelter has had in 2022. Though we have seen many challenges, we will use those challenges to make us stronger in the years to come.

With much love,

Annette Lagunas
Executive Director

#### OUR MISSION

To reduce the number of homeless pets through adoption, rescue, and spay and neuter programs.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David McHone President Athena Godwin
Vice President

Brock Gill Treasurer Debbie Frydenlund Secretary

Heidi McFall

**Bernadette Presloid** 

**Charlen Williamson** 

#### DIRECTORS

Annette Lagunas
Executive
Director



Andrea Cornett
Director of
Operations



#### **MANAGERS**

Kelsey Alford HR Manager



**Noel Blohm** Shelter Manager



**Trentie Oliver** Volunteer Manager



**Angela Anaya** Adoption Manager



Brandelle Domenack Clinic Manager



**Isabel Cedeno** Thrift Store Manager



#### OUT WITH THE OLD ....

The Humane Society of Yuma moved to our current location in December of 2012. Over the next 10 years we saw 75,187 animals enter our shelter. Of those, 39,111 were dogs and 36,076 were cats. It's amazing to think that many animals have been here in our shelter. A few fun facts; 12,993 animals were transferred to our rescue partners in other communities, over 26,000 were adopted

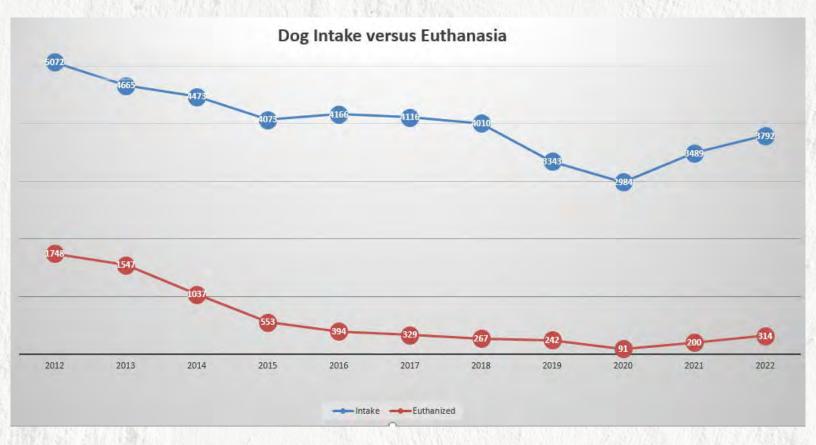




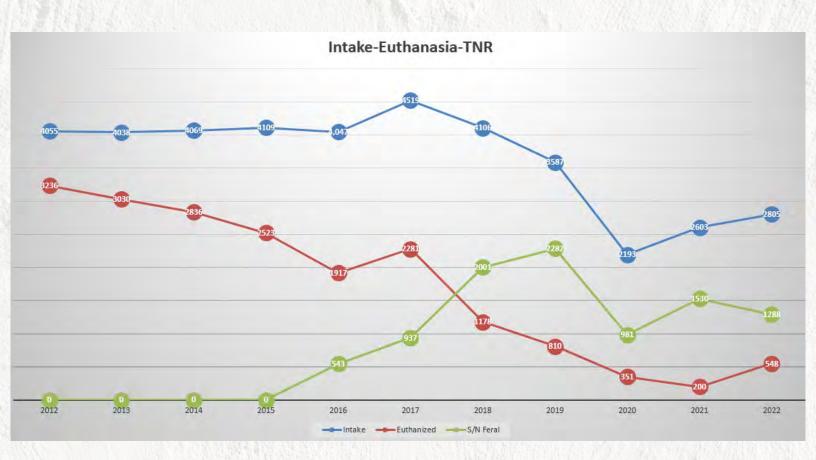
#### ... IN WITH THE NEW!

from the shelter or our PetSmart location and over 7,000 were reunited with their people parents. The hope is in the next 10 years we will see a significant drop in the amount of animals entering the shelter, and when they do come in, we hope to see an increase in the number of animals that are immediately returned to their owners.





Dog euthanasia decreased over time in new shelter



As trap, neuter and release went up, cat euthanasia went down

#### SAVE ONE UNTIL THERE ARE NONE

#### INTAKE

owner surrender...... 846 stray..... 5,320 other intakes...... 328 quarantine..... 108 Total 6,602

#### OUTCOMES

adoptions..... 2,974 transfer..... 1,318 return to owner...... 954 return to field...... 121 shelter euthanasia....... 862 548 Cats 314 Dogs other outcomes...... 274

#### SPAY / NEUTER

shelter animals...... 3,001 owned animals...... 1,051 **community cats...... 1,288** Total 5,340

#### Cats: 2,805 Average Live Release Rate 72%

- 275 owner surrender
- 2,412 stray
- 97 other intakes
- 21 quarantine

#### Dogs: 3,797 Average Live Release Rate 90%

- 571 owner surrender
- 2,908 stray
- 231 other intakes
- 87 quarantine

#### Owner Requested Euthanasia

In 2022 the Humane Society of Yuma humanely euthanized 250 animals for the community. The owners of these animals felt that their pet should be euthanized because of age, injury or illness. In each of these cases HSOY staff concurred.

#### **193 Dogs 57 Cats**

These numbers are NOT reported in the number of animals entering our shelter. HSOY does reserve the right to deny owner requested euthanasia if HSOY staff does not feel it is in the best interest of the pet.

#### TRANSFER

dogs transferred to other shelters	627
cats transferred to other shelters	681
rabbits transferred to other shelters	10

**Total 1,318** 

AVERAGE LIVE RELEASE 81% RATE FOR DOGS AND CATS IN 2022

## T-N-R AND THE COMMUNITY CAT PROGRAM

In 2022, 121 cats entered the shelter as strays and were altered and returned to the locations they came from. An additional 1,288 cats were brought into our spay and neuter clinic by volunteers and community members who wanted to stop the reproduction of these cats. All of the cats were altered, their ears were tipped and they were given lifesaving vaccinations before being placed back in the community where they originated.

If you have a colony of cats in your community, or an outside cat that you would like altered, please sign up at catstats.org/yuma. You will receive a monthly email with chances to get TNR appointments. If you have any questions or concerns about the program please contact our Community Cat Coordinator, Rafael Garcia,



at 928.782.1621 ext 105 or email him at rgarcia@hsoyuma.com. Rafael is available for public speaking events, town halls and educational forums to share information about the community cat program.



Community cats awaiting spay/neuter

121
stray cats altered and returned to field

1,288

brought to clinic by the public, altered and returned to field

#### **ADOPTIONS**

During 2022, the Humane Society of Yuma continued to save lives through adoption. We couldn't do it without the support of PetSmart Charities, the Bissell Foundation and our community partners.



SHELTER DOG ADOPTIONS ...... 1,236
SHELTER CAT ADOPTIONS ...... 901
PETSMART DOG ADOPTIONS ..... 587
PETSMART CAT ADOPTIONS ..... 250



total 2,974



Are you looking for something special for your pet? Well look no further than Bella's Boutique, located in the Humane Society of Yuma's shelter lobby. We have leashes, collars, car magnets, clothing, toys, books, litter boxes, bowls and much much more! Come check it out and spoil your pet with something fun!



ALL PROCEEDS HELP THE ANIMALS WE CARE FOR!

LOCATED INSIDE THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA LOBBY. 4050 S. AVE 4 1/2E, YUMA, AZ 85365.

### CHEERS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the backbone of many organizations, including the Humane Society of Yuma. They are the unsung heroes who give their time and energy to make a difference in the lives of our animals. Without them, our organization would not be able to function, and many animals would not receive the help they need. Whether it's through fostering, cleaning kennels, interacting with our animals or helping out at events, our volunteers are essential to our success.

Volunteering isn't limited to just the shelter, we have Thrift Store volunteers, PetSmart volunteers and foster parents who house animals away from the shelter until they are ready to be adopted. The Humane Society of Yuma accepts volunteers ages 12 to 15 with a parent or guardian. Volunteers 16 years and older can volunteer independently.



**4 Paws Pantry** 



#### WHAT CAN VOLUNTEERS DO?

Walk Dogs
Cuddle Cats
Help at Events
Thrift Store
Foster Care
Spay & Neuter
Clinic
Greeter

PetSmart
Marketing
Transfer Team
4 Paws Pantry
Glamour Photos
Front Desk
Assistant
Answer Phones

168
Active
Volunteers

13,400+ Donated Hours

400 Active Fosters **106,137**Donated

Hours

\*does not include foster to adopt

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER FOR THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA, PLEASE CONTACT OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR OR VIST US AT WWW.HSOYUMA.COM/VOLUNTEER

#### HIGHWAY TO HOME

Our family are firm believers in the saying, "What's meant to be will always find you," as it has remained true since the day my husband and I met. It has been a constant theme throughout the life and family we have built together. We were lucky enough to meet another example of this fate while driving down Interstate 8. Our family of four was driving home to San Diego from a weekend in Flagstaff to ring in the New Year with some of our closest friends. We were originally set to drive home on January 2nd, but due to the amount of snow, our departure was pushed back a day. Now we know why; we were destined to be on the road January 3rd.

We were in the middle of nowhere, approximately 30 miles east of Yuma, mile marker 27 to be exact, when I noticed some sort of animal running in the road up ahead. Oh. My. Gosh. What is a dog doing out here, all alone, in the middle of the interstate? Without giving it a second thought, I pulled over and rolled down my window in an attempt to quickly assess the condition of the dog. She came running right over and tried to jump in through the window...we have scratches on the door to prove it. I stepped out of the car and met eyes with one of the sweetest faces that instantly melted my heart. Not to mention her smile! She was not wearing a collar nor did we have any type of rope or leash to keep her close while we devised a game plan. So, my husband used the string from his hoodie and looped it around her neck. Although, it may not have been necessary as she was happily glued to my side.

We were unable to fit her in the car with us at the time, and leaving her out there was not an option. It took a few phone calls to find the correct county and dispatch to help us out. Eventually, a state trooper showed up to stay with the dog until animal control arrived. To say our family fell in love within the thirty minutes or so we spent with her is an understatement. There were tears shed while putting her in the back of the State Trooper's vehicle and it just didn't feel right. I begged him to pass my information along to whatever agency she ended up with, but I knew it was a long shot. We were on a tight schedule, so we

jumped back on the road and the discussion for the rest of our car ride revolved around this sweet dog we just left behind. I immediately felt as if I had made a mistake. We should have just found a way to get her in the car. Only, what if it happens to be an accident that she is out here and her owners are looking for her? It certainly seemed unreal to think someone would abandon her out there.

A couple days went by and my kids had created a shared document with potential dog names, and a twice a day documentation of what the odds looked like for bringing her home. We wanted her and we needed to find her. If we weren't sleeping, we were thinking about her. There were many hoops we needed to jump through to make this happen, so I knew



One lucky dog

if all was smooth sailing this was meant to be. First and foremost, I needed to find her. After countless phone calls and internet searches, I finally spoke with a non-emergency dispatcher who took the time to find our incident report so we could locate her. Her help led me to confirm that she had landed at the Humane Society of Yuma. A photo of her sweet face finally popped up on the "Lost" page, which we checked countless times a day hoping she would make it to the "Adoptable" page. The day we thought she would become available was finally approaching, so I decided to take a chance and fill out the adoption paperwork. A response popped up in my inbox later that day giving me some basic information. She was microchipped and her name was actually Arwin. The owners had been contacted and had another three days to respond. Another three long days of obsessively checking the website to make sure she was still there. The "released for adoption" timeline was approaching, so I reached out to the Humane Society of Yuma via messenger. I learned that she would become their property that evening at 5pm if the owners didn't turn up. Tick tock, tick tock. It's 5pm - she is finally going to be ours! The next day I learned all about Arwin. From 7:40 am to 4:00 pm the Marketing Specialist who runs the social media accounts was kind enough to answer my dozens of questions throughout the day. I was blown away by how communicative, reassuring, and helpful he was. The chat with him gave me all of the peace of mind I needed. Throughout the conversation he shared that she is a two year old, pure bred, 65 pound pit bull, already spayed, loving temperament, and gets along great with other dogs. Everything we had hoped for.

We went through numerous new name options for Arwin and wanted it to be representative of this experience. Ocho for I-8, CaAz for California & Arizona, Sedona because she is red like the rocks in Sedona which were snow covered on our drive home, etc, etc. Eventually we landed on Eve. The intention of our trip to AZ was to celebrate New Years Eve. That "Eve" led us into a New Year that I believe is going to stand out for our family. Eve is Hebrew and means "to live, or to give life." More traditionally the meaning is



Eve and the Epsteins

"life, animal." That definition just seems too serendipitous. "Kids, close out that shared document! We are going to call her Eve and the odds are 100%. She is 100% going to be ours!" While we may have saved her that day, there is no question she will live up to her new name and bring an abundance of life to our family. Finally, we are surprising our kids and bringing her home on my daughter's 13th birthday eve. A birthday eve she most certainly will never forget. Welcome Home Eve!

Story by Sarah Epstein

## BEHUMANE

What is **BEHUMANE** you may ask? BEHUMANE is our education program where we go into to schools across Yuma County and educate our youth on the importance of spaying and neutering your pets, proper animal care and bite prevention. In 2022 we were able to go back to in-person with our school visits. We went into each school and spoke about the Humane Society and how important it is to treat animals with respect. These 15 schools helped us out by fundraising for us, both monetary fundraisers and/or a supply drive. All of these items and funds went to support our spay and neuter clinic. We cannot thank our Yuma area students enough for their support in HSOY.

#### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

H.L. Suverkrup Elementary School Dorothy Hall Elementary School Yuma Christian Academy Amerischools North campus



Centennial Middle School staff

Amerischools South Campus
Mary A. Otondo Elementary School
Wellton Elementary School
Mohawk Valley Elementary School
Desert View Elementary School
Desert Mesa Elementary School
Palmcroft Elementary School
James B Rolle Elementary School
Sunrise Elementary School
James D Price Elementary School
Centennial Middle School
Gowan Science Academy

#### MONTHLY DONORS

Our monthly donors are dedicated animal lovers and advocates of the Humane Society of Yuma who support us and help save the lives of pets in our community through recurring monthly donations. Monthly giving is an incredible way to help sustain the Humane Society of Yuma and provide us with a consistent and reliable income stream. Currently, we have 1,060 monthly donors that averaged \$3,938 each month. You can sign up online today at our website to become a new monthly donor!

\$3,938
in monthly
donor
donations

#### LEGACY CIRCLE

A theater is named after a shining star; a university lab is named after a science scholar. All examples of a legacy of giving and lifetime of achievements. What is your legacy? As one of our supporters, we know that you are committed to improving the lives of innocent homeless animals. What if your legacy continued long after you have graced this earth?

The Legacy Circle includes those who have committed to bequeathing money, property, life insurance policies, etc. to the Humane Society of Yuma. Remembering the Humane Society of Yuma in a will means their giving continues after their lifetime. Without our Legacy Circle members, we would be challenged to maintain the level of services we offer. Thank you for considering a long-term gift! The legal name of our organization is Humane Society of Yuma, INC. We are a local  $501^{\circ}$ 3 Arizona non-profit and our federal tax ID number is 86-6053617. Our legal address is  $4050 \text{ S. } 4\frac{1}{2} \text{ E. Yuma, AZ. } 85365$ .

Ask us today about leaving a gift to HSOY and also how you can ensure your pet is taken care of when you pass.

#### THANK YOU DIRK!

Dr. Dirk Frauenfelder is one of the Humane Society of Yuma's biggest supporters. This year his support allowed us to purchase five acres to the west of our shelter. This property will someday hold a low-cost wellness clinic for pets. Dirk is also one of the elite few who has designated a gift to the Humane Society of Yumain his end of life planning. With his continuous support, we are able to work harder and harder each year to saving one until there are none.



#### in memoriam

#### FACEBOOK FUNDRAISERS

The people listed below graciously reached out to their online network of family, friends and colleagues to raise money for the Humane Society of Yuma.

Livier Andujo
Cynthia Apodaca
Squeek Arizona
Kymberly Armstrong
Andrea L Bacon
Neal Baker
Karen Barcklay
Leslie Baxley
Sabria Beck
Stephanie Beckenthal
Kimberly Black
Debra Bryant-Goin
Ricardo Campos
Timothy James Cannon

Sue Carlson
Lupita Castillo
Bonnie Castro
Albert Diaz
Karen C Diaz
Pamela C. Drapala
Courtney Elaine
Robert Fillinger
Linda Bartley Florence
Anita Fournier
Tina Freeman
Debbie Frydenlund
Michael Goldwyn
Sandra Gray

Thomas Griswold
Roxy Hoskins
Roxanne IngvertsenDaley
Bridget Kay
Leah King
Nikki Koren-Jutte
Ramon Lagunas
Jennifer Lillie
Liz La Llefty
Jennifer Lucero
Leonard L Manos
Katrina Marie
David McHone

Nadine Mendoza
Ryan Miller
Monica MillinerScudder
Monique Morones
Karen Namanny
Jill Nelson
Tracy Olivas
Richard Oran
Denise Marie Ramirez
Yanil Rascon
Kaci Rembert
Dianna Rhoades
Sarah Rico

Daisy Rivera
Heather Rivera
Gilda De La Rosa
Jessie Sheltra
Donna Shepherd
Melissa Toler Short
Judy Sievert
Patti Small
Jaime Bulkeley Smith
Brandi Spady
Courtney Starkey
Jennifer Tawzer
Candice Turner
Nicco Vasquez-Kruse

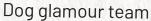
Elizabeth Ruiz Valdez Rosalie Valdez Lori Vandersloot Eddie Varela Emily Vargas Isaac Wats Ronda Yancey Donations received from Facebook Fundraisers

\$10,610

#### GLAMOROUS DOGS AND CATS

Our glamour teams are comprised of dedicated volunteers that meet at the shelter every week to capture the beauty of the animals in our facility that are in need of forever homes. The glamorous dog team works hard with the dogs to get that perfect pose while the glamorous cat team captures the playfulness of our cats and kittens. The intent is to create images displaying the animals' personalities that we can share with potential adopters and rescue groups through social media and our website. These images are posted to HSOY's Facebook page every Monday evening. In 2022, 3,959 glamour shots were taken by these dedicated groups of volunteers.







Cat glamour team

#### FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

Our foster program is an essential part of our organization's mission to provide care and shelter for animals in need. By fostering animals, we are able to provide temporary homes for animals who may not be ready for adoption, such as those who are recovering from medical treatment or those who are too young to be adopted. Fostering also helps to alleviate overcrowding in our shelters and allows us to take in more animals in need. Additionally, fostering allows animals to adjust to living in a home environment, which can make the transition to their forever home much smoother. It is also a great way for families to decide if they are ready for the commitment of pet ownership.

If you would like more information on fostering or would like to become a foster you can fill out an application on our website, www.hsoyuma.com, or call our shelter at (928) 782-1621 ext. 104

**2,419**Fostered Animals

**400** Foster Parents

## THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA THRIFT STORE

The Humane Society of Yuma's Thrift Store is a major contributor to our fundraising efforts. With the support the thrift store receives from the community, the organization is able to use funds from thrift store sales to offset the expenses of spaying and neutering the animals within our shelter.

\$166,532

in revenue to support spay and neuter surgeries



#### 2022 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

2022 was another successful year with fundraising. Unlike last year, we were able to hold 2022's Critter Country in person at Britain's Farm. We auctioned off a record 105 baskets at this event which was a great start to 2022's fundraising efforts.

Our Fore! Paws Golf Tourny took place the first week of June and rather than play at two different courses we spread the fun over two days at Desert Hills Golf Course. Everyone had a blast and each day culminated with pulled pork sandwiches with all the fixings in the club house.

Poker for Paws Texas Hold-Em Tournament was held early this year with 70 players participating in this July event. A great time was had by all and much needed funds were raised for the shelter. The event was so successful that future tournaments will continue to be held in July.

Fur Ball "Sweet 16" was held in September at AWC's Schoening Center. This is our

signature event and it did not disappoint! We had 101 baskets for the silent auction and 15 awesome items for the live auction. We recognized our Legacy Members and sponsors and then we danced the night away with live music! This event was originally started to obtain funds to build our new shelter and sustain the mortgage year after year.

These were our four core events of the year. In addition to these 4 events, we were also able to host several online auctions to boost revenue in our fundraising department. We had our second annual quilt auction and our PetStar calendar auction bringing in roughly an additional \$13,300.



CRITTER COUNTRY \$63,375



FORE! PAWS GOLF CLASSIC \$33,516



**FUR BALL** XVI \$99,125



POKER FOR PAWS \$31,854



# REVENUE Employee Retention Credit Credit Store Adoptions Animal Services & Licensing Spay & Neuter Clinic

#### \$2,980,915 in total

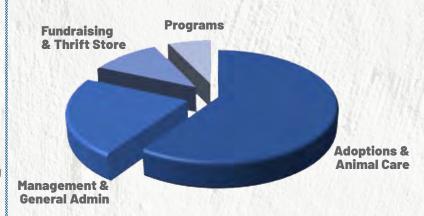
revenue

**Employee** \$197,476 **Retention Credit** \$172,098 **Adoptions Animal Services** \$823,607 & Licensing \$303,561 **Spay & Neuter** Clinic \$920,754 **Fundraisers** \$227,870 **Events** \$168,740 **Grants** 

\*Revenue total does not include Legacy funds

\$166,809

#### EXPENSES



#### \$3,221,356

in total expenses

Adoptions & \$1,912,563

Management & \$720,028
General Admin

Fundraising & \$360,904

Programs \$227,878

#### **GRANTS**

**Thrift Store** 

Each year the Humane Society of Yuma is awarded grants to aid in our mission to save homeless and unwanted pets.

\$60,000
PetSmart
Charities

\$42,000 Arizona Community Foundation \$5,000

Best Friends

Animal Society

\$21,740

Bissell
Pet Foundation

\$168,740 in total amount of grants

Arizona License Plate Grant

\$40,000

#### LOVE ME, LICENSE ME

Love Me, License Me is a yearly campaign put on by HSOY to vaccinate and license the animals in our community. All pets living within Yuma County are required to be vaccinated for rabies and also be licensed. The Humane Society of Yuma licenses pets on behalf of Yuma County and the City of Yuma. The area of the County in which you live in will determine the cost of your pet's license. Besides the legal requirement of having your pets licensed, a licensed pet will find its way home much quicker in the event he gets away from you. Animal Control Officers can look up their license number using the computers in their truck to see where your pet lives. However, they are only able to do this if your pet is wearing his or her collar with their license. Besides licensing and vaccinations we highly encourage you to microchip your pets as well.



4,975
licenses were issued by the Humane Society in 2022

#### 4-PAWS PANTRY

The 4-PAWS PANTRY is a volunteer program that provides supplemental food to those in our community who may be struggling to feed their pets. By offering this program we can keep pets in their homes and out of the shelter.

**28,212 lbs**of pet food was distributed to low income households



Darlene Bradshaw has been running our pantry for 2 years now.

#### TRANSFER PROGRAM

The Humane Society of Yuma works with over 40 transfer partner organizations from across the state and sometimes across the country who accept dogs and cats from our shelter. The transfer partner organizations include groups such as Friends for Life Animal Rescue and Dogtree Pines Senior Dog Sanctuary. They include a mix of other shelter-type organizations, breed specific groups and those that facilitate adoptions. Rescue runs to Phoenix from Yuma

have been completed every Thursday for the past 16 years, including the weeks of Christmas and New Year, with the support of a dedicated group of volunteers.

dogs transferred to other shelters...... 627 cats transferred to other shelters...... 681 rabbits transferred to other shelters..... 10

Total **1,318** 



#### SPAY AND NEUTER CLINIC

2022 was a bit of a challenge within our spay/neuter clinic. Our clinic staff worked very hard to catch up on the amount of animals that went into foster homes during the pandemic in prior years. We again had to make our shelter animals and those in foster a priority. However, we were able to alter a total of 5,340 animals. 1,051 of those were owned animals, 1,288 were community cats and 3,001 were shelter dogs and cats.

This year we welcomed Brandelle Domenack as our clinic manager to our team. Brandelle is a graduate of Midwestern University and studied Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Danielle Munoz has been a huge asset to our shelter. She works three days a week while also running her own mobile clinic. Without our amazing support staff in our clinic, we never would have been able to alter so many animals and get them into forever loving homes.



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA HAS A MEDICAL AND CRUELTY FUND FOR ANIMALS THAT COME TO OUR SHELTER BATTERED, BRUISED AND IN NEED OF MEDICAL ATTENTION. IT IS CALLED THE ROOBEES & DENVER FUND AND DONATIONS TO THIS FUND CAN BE MADE AT THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF YUMA OR ONLINE AT WWW.HSOYUMA.COM.

5,475
Bordetella
Vaccines

**7,900**Rabies
Vaccines

#### 29,550 2022 TOTAL VACCINES GIVEN AT HSOY



Vaccinating your pet is essential to their health and well-being, as well as the health and safety of the community. Vaccines protect pets from serious and potentially fatal diseases, such as rabies, parvovirus, and distemper. They also help to prevent the spread of these diseases to other animals and humans. The Humane Society of Yuma's spay and neuter clinic offers a variety of low cost vaccinations for your pets. Vaccinations are given by appointment only.

WATCH OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPCOMING VACCINATION OPPORTUNITIES!

#### MICROCHIPPING

Pet microchips are small, rice-sized devices that are implanted under the skin of a pet. They contain a unique identification number that can be read by a special scanner. When a lost pet is found, a veterinarian or animal shelter can scan the pet for a microchip, and the identification number can then be used to contact the pet's owner. This can greatly increase the chances of a lost pet being returned to its rightful owner. Throughout 2022, the Humane Society of Yuma offered FREE microchipping for the pets in our community. If your pet isn't microchipped, please consider coming to the shelter and having it done to better protect your pet.



3,240 2022 TOTAL ANIMALS MICROCHIPPED

#### DOODLE DEE BUG

In December 2022, a stray poodle weighing in at 2 pounds was brought to the Humane Society of Yuma. The intake technician assessed recently-found "Shay" and indicated that she was extremely matted and very thin, her eyes were completely matted shut, she had no teeth and had an infected left hind paw. After a grooming session and an assessment from our staff Veterinarian, it was determined that "Shay's" leg had necrotic tissue and would need to be amputated. "Shay" was immediately placed into a foster home to recover following her surgery.



Once "Shay" was on the road to recovery, the shelter began looking for her home. It was learned that "Doodle Dee Bug", a registered toy poodle weighing in at 2 pounds, was born



on Oct 6, 2015. She was a support animal in her younger years for Lynna. In 2021, she moved into an assisted living facility with her owner but escaped. She was lost for 1½ years. We quickly learned the family never stopped looking for Doodle and one day, a conversation through mutual friends led Angela Pearce, Lynna's daughter-in-law, to the Humane Society. She learned that a toy poodle had been found and was elated to think it could be their long lost dog.

Once they were reunited it was clear that it was indeed the same dog. If Doodle could've jumped for joy, she would've! Angela stated that in January, 2021 she was suffering from



dental issues including needing 22 teeth removed but she was still able to live a normal life and support her owner.

Angela and her husband have now adopted Doodle Dee Bug and she has joined their pack including two other shelter dogs. Small but mighty, she spends her days enjoying the good life but also remembers how to offer support services when she visits her original owner in an assisted living facility. It's her way of giving back. Good dog, Doodle Dee Bug!

