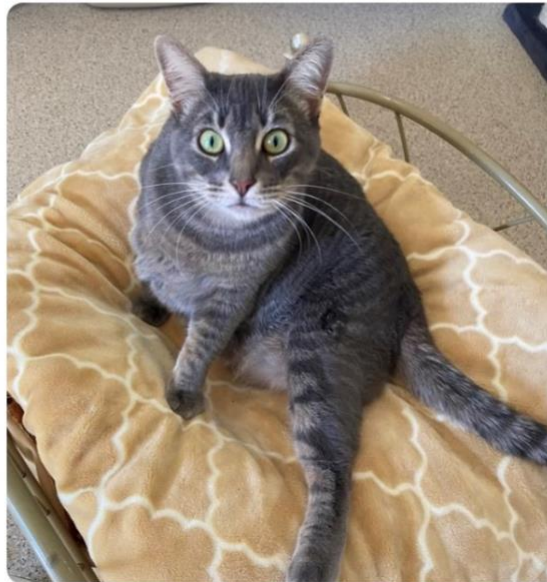


# FRIENDS OF SEAL BEACH ANIMAL CARE CENTER



## ANNUAL REPORT 2023



# WHERE WE HAVE BEEN

## *Hello Friends!*

We are very happy to have had you with us in 2023, fulfilling our mission to rescue cats and dogs and provide them with a safe, healthy and loving environment. In this trying time of balancing need with resources, you were most attentive and supportive of our journey. We celebrate your engagement in our cause and offer our sincere gratitude for your contributions to our animals, staff and volunteers. What a life-changing difference you made!

As a testament to your SBACC support, in FY22-23, we took in **410** homeless animals; adopting out **277** cats and **104** dogs. This was an increase of **43** animals from the prior year. This trend follows national trends as we saw pet owners return to work and other pet owners looking for new homes. In many cases, this led to relinquishment of pets adopted during COVID. All in all, we maintained our high save rate of **91%**. This includes adoptions, returned to owner and transfers to other shelters/rescue networks. Additionally, we gave sanctuary to 25 animals who have been with us over one year.

We also made significant progress on our 2022 goals:

**ANIMAL CARE:** With enhanced technological capability, we broadened our choices of a new animal shelter management system which will be up and running in 2024.

**FUNDRAISING:** We increased our outreach via Facebook and Instagram and online merchandise sales plus held a Legacy Donor Appreciation event to discover more about our donors and why they give to SBACC.

**TECHNOLOGY:** With the generous help of a local provider, we obtained fiber optics and reliable internet after years of spotty service. We can now take advantage of technological advancements to streamline our processes.

**FINANCIAL:** We developed a new forecasting and tracking tool to monitor income and expenses and kicked off a Capital Improvements project in November with \$150,000 in funding from bond investments.

**ADMINISTRATIVE:** We created an Election Manual to improve our procedures including using an outside firm to conduct all SBACC elections.

Additionally, we wrote or revised policies and procedures for impounds, in-kind donations, employee longevity incentives, supervisory training, workers compensation, illness and injury prevention, conflict of interest, records retention, and whistleblowing. Our website was re-modeled using more graphics, color and simplified text while improving navigation and automating membership and sponsorship renewals.

## STORIES THAT INSPIRED US

Our rescues are many and varied. They come to us in good shape, bad shape and barely surviving. We pour our hearts and resources into all of our animals, giving them the best chance for a new life. Here are two dogs and two cats who make everything we do so worth it.



**HAZEL, Our Playful Girl**

Rescued as a stray, Hazel has been with us for 9 months. An unassuming, high energy, ball chasing, athletic girl, she began to exhibit signs of distress-gagging and retching. We took her for exams and tests. Hazel's condition was confounding and not easy to diagnose. We did not give up on her. An Internal Medicine Specialist finally diagnosed her with severe inflammation of both her stomach and intestines. Adding life changing steroids and a special diet to her routine, she improved! Hazel is one of those rescues who will need special care for some time, maybe a lifetime. It is not easy to find a family who will take on this responsibility. But, SBACC always persists. The rewards of adopting Hazel are many as she is a character. She awaits her fur-ever family who has the patience and time to help her become the healthy and happy dog we know she is.



**UPTON, Our Little Warrior**

Upton is one of many kittens who have come to SBACC this season. Just when he was ready for his fur-ever family, he was exposed to ringworm and developed a severe respiratory infection that turned into pneumonia. He was hospitalized for a week, and we thought we were going to lose him, but he pulled through. He is now a teen and still has some respiratory issues but remains a sweet and playful cat. His medical bills totaled over \$10,000. Generous donors are helping to cover his treatment. Upton's story has a very happy ending. He was adopted by the specialty veterinarian who treated him and fell in love with him. He now has a Mom and Dad and 2 feline and 2 canine siblings.

# STORIES THAT INSPIRED US



## **CLEMENTINA, Our Tripod Cutie**

Clementina was rescued from the street after having just delivered a litter of premature kittens who didn't survive. She had a badly broken leg that had to be amputated. In spite of all she has been through, she remained a sweet, friendly young cat who loved attention, rolled over for tummy rubs, and even gave kisses! Being a tripod didn't slow her down one bit and she soon found her forever home. Your generous donations help us give our dogs and cats excellent medical care as they wait for a home of their own.



## **GRADY, Our Super Senior Companion**

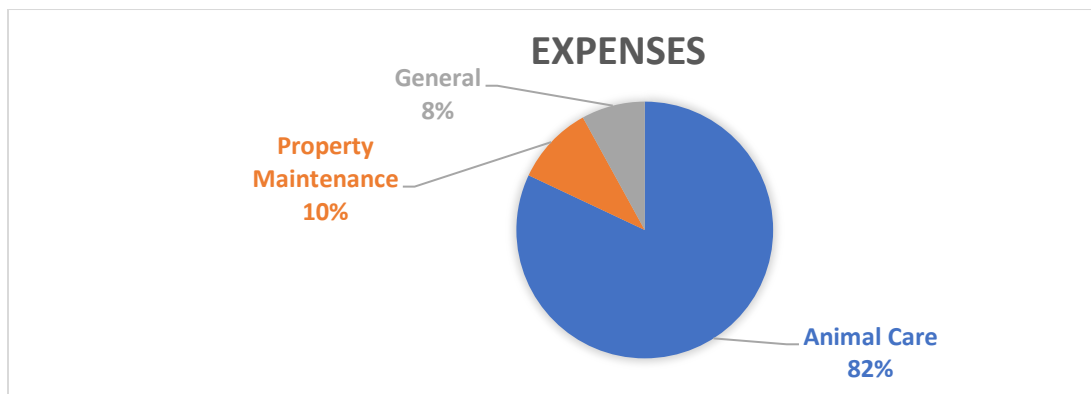
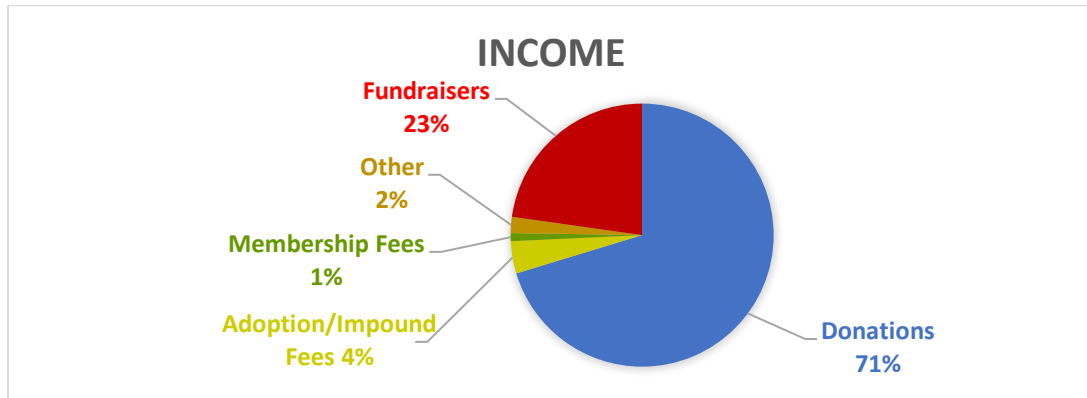
Grady, a thin little Terrier mix who is approximately 15 years old, came to the Seal Beach Animal Care Center as a stray. He is a sweet boy, but with a very sad heart-for two reasons. He was abandoned in a parking lot at a local shopping center and also had a heart condition that the cardiologist felt was likely caused by malnutrition. Further testing for his inability to gain weight showed that he had pancreatic insufficiency. A powder was added to his food that was full of the nutrients he was lacking, and he immediately gained weight. Over time, Grady's heart condition has stabilized with the help of meds, supplements, and powder. After an entire year at the shelter, he was adopted by a very kind and loving senior citizen who was also suffering from a broken heart. He had just lost his beloved dog. It was serendipity and everyone thought they would have a happy ending. But sadly, it was not to be. His adopter got sick and had to go to the hospital. He could no longer care for Grady, who was brought back to the shelter for a second time. Another kindhearted gentleman spent time with Grady at the shelter and decided to take him home. Grady's luck ran out a second time when his adopter passed away. But Grady has not lost hope! He is waiting patiently in an area reserved for our senior dogs, looking for a third chance to find his fur-ever family.



# WHERE WE ARE

Our SBACC team consists of **17** full and part time staff of attendants and a bookkeeper. We have **154** active volunteers performing many different functions including animal care, administration, maintenance, technology, fundraising, emergency planning, public relations, finance and human resources. We are 100% privately funded and privately managed. Our Board consists of 5 voting Directors and two appointees, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary. The Directors are elected by **391** voting Members.

In **FY22-23**, our total income was **\$1,020,433** with expenses of **\$1,223,777** for a net of **-\$203,344**. A larger shortfall than prior years, this shortfall was covered with earnings from our investment fund. Ninety-four percent of every dollar was devoted to animal care-medical, food, supplies, facility maintenance and staffing. Our income and expenses are detailed in the charts below.



Animal care includes staff, food, medical and animal supplies. Maintenance includes utilities, cleaning supplies, equipment. General is administrative expenses.

## CHALLENGES

Our shelter faces real financial challenges in 2024. Remaining financially viable by bringing in more income and taking a hard look at expenses is our Board's top priority.

# WHERE WE ARE GOING

Along with the 2024 fiscal challenges, we expect an increasing animal population. It is imperative we use all tools at our disposal to anticipate and mediate the impact on our shelter. Your ideas and involvement are essential to our governance and welfare. Please join our shelter and help us elect Directors to make good decisions for our future. Your assistance is most welcome. Feel free to email us at [thankyou@sbacc.org](mailto:thankyou@sbacc.org).

## FY 23-24 GOALS

### ANIMAL CARE:

- Operationalize our new shelter management system to enable us to analyze trends and resources to accommodate additional rescues.
- Explore creating a children's humane education program to inspire the next generation of animal advocates.

### FINANCIAL:

- Increase income through donations, memberships, sponsorships, legacy gifts, and fund-a-need campaigns to reduce any shortfall for FY23-24.
- Explore all avenues to implement cost cutting measures.

### FUNDRAISING:

- Increase special fundraising campaigns for specific purposes such as raising money for medical treatments and infrastructure.

### TECHNOLOGY:

- Use analytical tools from our supporter database to maximize donor outreach.

### ADMINISTRATIVE:

- Digitize files and automate both our adoption and accounting processes.

Thanks to our shelter community of donors, adopters, sponsors, members, staff and volunteers for your support of our mission to care for and find families for our homeless pets. And for believing that a high save shelter is a necessity for our animal population. We believe in you as much as you believe in us. There is a bright light that you bring to our mission, compelling us to continue our life-saving work.

With gratitude and appreciation,

*The Board of Directors, Friends of the Seal Beach Animal Care Center*