2020: A Year of Challenge and Triumph

Our previous impact report closed with the prediction that 2020 would be the best year ever for the animals in our care. Like everyone else, we had no way of knowing the unprecedented challenges that were about to take over our lives. But we stepped into the unknown landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic knowing that our work was more important than ever before.

Despite the challenges the pandemic created for our operations, we made tremendous gains in our mission to save lives and find homes for animals throughout the community. Faced with the uncertainty of the pandemic, we put out an urgent call for fosters, and received 1,200 applications. We helped more than 8,000 animals find their forever homes. And through our CARE campaigns we provided treatment for over 1,500 grievously injured animals. Perhaps most importantly, though, this year saw the culmination of Mission: Possible 2020.

Implemented in June of 2015, the goal of Mission: Possible 2020 was to save the lives of all healthy and treatable animals who come into our care by the end of 2020. Since implementation, The Animal Foundation has been dedicated to driving transformational change by introducing life changing and lifesaving programs, including surrender intervention and managed intake programs; the creation of a dedicated fund to provide enhanced medical care; community-wide programs to keep cats from entering the shelter; and the expansion and acceleration of existing lifesaving programs like foster care, adoptions, and low-cost vaccine and spay/neuter services.

2020 was a rough year. There’s no getting around it. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted all of our lives in a huge way. Yet through it all, we persevered, and helped thousands of lost and abandoned animals. I’m thankful for the unwavering commitment of our team and board members, the passion of our volunteers and donors, and the support of the entire community for making this accomplishment possible. Together we are changing the lives of thousands of animals who come to us in need.

Thank you,

Christine Robinson
Chief Executive Officer
In 2020, we made the impossible possible...

We are so proud to announce that we have achieved the goal of our Mission: Possible 2020 strategic initiative and are saving every healthy and treatable animal that comes into our care.

Animals like tiny kitten Furby who came to The Animal Foundation with a crushed paw that required amputation. Furby was able to receive emergency medical care in our veterinary clinic and was quickly adopted by her forever family.

Furby is just one of the thousands of happy endings we were able to create for the animals in our community this year thanks to our Mission: Possible initiative.

The goal of Mission: Possible 2020 was an ambitious one. As an open-admission shelter, we take in every animal who comes to us, no matter how sick or injured. And as one of the highest-volume, single-site animal shelters in the United States, we take in an average of over 25,000 animals each year.

Which is why we are thrilled to announce that since the implementation of Mission: Possible 2020 in June of 2015, we have decreased the euthanasia rate at The Animal Foundation by an astounding 72% for dogs and 78% overall to achieve the goal of saving the life of every healthy and treatable animal that comes to us. And after a year filled with more changes and challenges than anyone could have predicted, this is a monumental win for the animals in our community.
This year, we achieved the goal of Mission Possible 2020: To save the lives of all healthy and treatable animals who come into our care.

**POSITIVE PLACEMENTS 2020**
ALL ANIMALS

1. Total Adoptions: 8,388
2. Return to Owner: 3,958
3. Transfer Partners: 2,307
4. Return to Field: 259
5. Shelter Neuter Return: 733

**TOTAL**: 15,645

**INTAKES - DOGS & CATS**

- **2020**: 10,569 (dogs) / 5,767 (cats) / Total 16,336
- **2019**: 16,907 (dogs) / 8,758 (cats) / Total 25,665
- **2018**: 16,206 (dogs) / 7,593 (cats) / Total 23,799
- **2017**: 16,758 (dogs) / 7,490 (cats) / Total 24,248
- **2016**: 17,024 (dogs) / 8,683 (cats) / Total 25,707

**EUTHANASIA - DOGS & CATS**

- **2020**: 1,016 (dogs) / 718 (cats) / Total 1,734
- **2019**: 1,670 (dogs) / 1,187 (cats) / Total 2,857
- **2018**: 1,623 (dogs) / 1,324 (cats) / Total 2,947
- **2017**: 2,070 (dogs) / 1,918 (cats) / Total 3,988
- **2016**: 3,045 (dogs) / 3,055 (cats) / Total 6,100

**LIVE RELEASE RATE**
DOGS AND CATS

- 76% (2016)
- 83% (2017)
- 87% (2018)
- 89% (2019)
- 89% (2020)

**36%**
Decrease Since Launch of Mission: Possible 2020

**72%**
Decrease Since Launch of Mission: Possible 2020
The onset of the pandemic in March 2020 raised several urgent questions: Will we be required to close our doors? How do we keep our team members safe? What does this mean for the animals?

Amongst all the other uncertainty, what we did know is that we wanted to get as many animals out of the shelter and into homes as quickly as possible.

We put out an urgent call for fosters and received an avalanche of applications — 1,200 to be exact.

“The community support was amazing. We didn’t anticipate that. How could anyone anticipate that?” Foster Coordinator Alec Petronskey said. “My first thought? This is amazing. Second thought — Oh my gosh. What do we do?”

We felt our community’s support...

We were able to place 130 animals in foster homes in just four days, alleviating some of the pressure that the pandemic placed on our operations.

In the uncertain early days of the pandemic, it was a huge relief to know people were stepping up to help our animals.
We can only imagine how Charlie felt as he lay paralyzed on a sidewalk. He couldn’t move his legs, and he was in pain.

Clark County Animal Control Officers determined Charlie had been shot at a home in Las Vegas.

Charlie was rushed to The Animal Foundation where our team began stabilizing him and providing emergency medical care. He was unable to stand or urinate on his own.

X-rays confirmed that Charlie’s injuries were caused by a metallic object coming close to his spine. Someone shot Charlie in the back. Our veterinarians immediately began physical therapy and then transferred him to a partner hospital where Charlie began laser therapy.

Charlie continued to recover in a foster home and regained his strength and mobility. He was eventually adopted by retired ICU nurse, Linda, who cared for gunshot patients. Linda and Charlie are a perfect match! Linda says Charlie is her shadow and he sits by her side all day. She feels so blessed to have him. We’re so happy Charlie recovered and found the perfect home.

We treated victims of cruelty...
From the moment Sarah met Minnie, the veterinary technician couldn’t stop thinking about the small, vulnerable pup who weighed just 4.8 pounds.

Just before Christmas, Minnie arrived at The Animal Foundation, scared and in pain, with two broken legs. Our veterinary services team treated her pain, performed x-rays to assess the severity of her injuries, and stabilized her small broken legs with two casts.

Minnie needed emergency surgery, so we transported her to the veterinary specialty center where Sarah works. After the surgery, Sarah cared for Minnie during her recovery at the hospital.

While helping her heal, Sarah fell in love with Minnie’s long legs and big personality. Sarah adopted Minnie, and she’s now thriving in her forever home, spending her days pampered, often sleeping curled up in a little ball.

Donations to our CARE fund made it possible for Minnie to receive the specialized treatment she so desperately needed. We established our CARE fund for animals who need special care in extreme circumstances. Over 150 individual donors came together to give Minnie her second chance. We are so thankful for our community’s lifesaving support.
We found forever homes for over 8,000 pets...

Despite 2020’s challenges, we worked together to ensure that thousands of animals got the second chances they deserve. 8,388 animals were adopted this year at The Animal Foundation.

In the fall, we were able to safely resume adoption events with proper social distancing and cleaning protocols in place. Clear the Shelters, sponsored by NBC and Telemundo, took place in August and was a huge success. 738 animals found their forever homes during the month-long adoption event.

And in September, we were excited to resume participation in Maddie’s Pet Adoption Days. Maddie’s Pet Project of Nevada covered the adoption fees and our community members found their new best friends. An amazing 105 animals found forever homes in just three days #thankstoMaddie.

Adoption events like these helped thousands of animals find their happily ever after this year.

#Thankstomaddie

*Maddie’s® Pet Project in Nevada is made possible by the generosity of the Nevada-based Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation as well as Maddie’s® Fund. The campaign is in memory of the Duffield’s beloved dog, Maddie.
We reunited families...

All the best dogs find their way home, eventually. Huxley had to embark on a journey of more than 2,200 miles to get there.

The 15-year-old dog was stranded in Las Vegas during the pandemic after his owner passed away, leaving Huxley all alone.

Huxley was brought to The Animal Foundation, and our Transport Specialist, James, was drawn to him instantly. “I was immediately struck by his happy, friendly demeanor; he’s immediately lovable,” James said.

James made it his mission to find Huxley’s remaining family and tracked down his original owner’s sister, Katya, in Upstate New York.

“What we’ve gone through is unimaginable, and from the moment I talked to the first person at The Animal Foundation, everyone was kind and understanding,” Katya said.

Katya made the 33-hour drive from New York to pick up Huxley; in the meantime, James took Huxley to get groomed and brought him home to make sure he was comfortable. “When I heard James took him home, I started sobbing. Huxley was a fixture in my family. He was like my brother’s son.”

Katya and Huxley had an emotional reunion at The Animal Foundation in October before making the trek back to New York. “I can’t tell you what this means to my family,” Katya said.
Audited Financial Results 2020

**2020 EXPENSES**

1. Program Expense .................. $9,479,714
2. Management & General ........... $2,574,607
3. Fundraising .......................... $910,268

**TOTAL.................................................** $12,964,589*

*View our complete audited financial statements at animalfoundation.com/about-us/financial-reports-statistics

**2020 REVENUE**

1. Contract Revenue ........................ $4,742,246
2. Program Revenue (Net of Discounts) .... $1,228,169
4. Special Events (Net of Expenses) ...... $168,970
5. Other Income ............................... $922,552

**TOTAL ..................................................** $10,333,061*

*View our complete audited financial statements at animalfoundation.com/about-us/financial-reports-statistics
We saved lives...

Athena was found chained and lifeless in a Las Vegas backyard. She weighed only 23 pounds but she should have been closer to 50. She was so thin you could see her ribs and hip bones.

When Animal Control officers arrived, she was so thirsty that they gave her water and she drank for three minutes straight. She was too weak to walk and had to be carried out to safety.

Athena was rushed to the Animal Foundation where our team began providing her emergency medical attention. She was then transferred to our partner hospitals for follow-up care.

After a few weeks in a foster home, Athena started to gain weight. Eventually, she was healthy enough to be adopted to a forever home surrounded by love. Athena now spends her days playing with her brothers and sisters, and enjoying her favorite treat, peanut butter.
During the pandemic, a record number of people fostered pets. Many of those pandemic “fosters” turned into adoptions, and we couldn’t be more thrilled!

At the beginning of the pandemic, Sal and his girlfriend Vania decided to foster a dog from The Animal Foundation. The couple fell in love with Rusty, and the rest is history!

“He’s been the most well-behaved boy and has filled our lives with such joy,” Vania said. “In July, we made it official and adopted him. Since he’s been a part of our family, we’ve been on lovely hikes in Nevada and Arizona, and Rusty loves it!”

2020 by the numbers

- **15,645** animals saved
- **2,896** pets fostered
- **836** dogs helped through Dogs Playing for Life
- **3,168** cats served through Community Cats
- **1,224** pets saved via KEPPT
- **2,307** pets transferred to Paw Partners
- **1,587** pets treated via CARE
- **2,390** reached through community outreach & education programs
- **11,179** spay/neuters
- **9,176** pets vaccinated
- **10,876** pets microchipped
- **12,336** owned pets who received care at our clinics
- **3,958** pets returned to owners
- **3,958** pets returned to owners