

Together we rise to the challenge

In 2023, Muttville was an accelerating force of more dogs, more volunteers, more dentals, more classes, more events, and more wonderful forever homes!

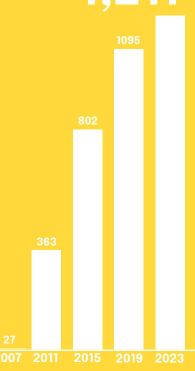
Unfortunately, it was also a year of crises. Nationwide, more animals are going into shelters than are getting adopted, part of a trend that started in 2021. Two factors seem to be important: the average cost of veterinary care has risen over 10% over the last two years, and even if you can afford it, you can't find it - there's a dramatic shortage of veterinarians.

As more shelters turn to drastic options to cope with overcrowding, we rescued more senior dogs than ever from imminent euthanasia this year. As the crisis deepened, our big swing in December broke every record.

From medical treatment in-house to Cuddle Club on the road, you'll read in this report about the lives you saved and the good you've brought into the world. Thank you for loving the seniors!

DOGS RESCUED

1,217



With gratitude, Sherri Franklin CEO

The last rescues of 2023: Brie, Stilton, Roquefort, and Mascarpone



Life-saving treatment

The medical service that probably has the most impact on our dogs' health is dental treatment. Bad teeth are not only painful, but they can affect heart, liver, and kidney function. This year we provided **658 dentals**, treating 62% of all our dogs.

871 STUDENTS

Grade schoolers helped the mutts with adoption ads



Enjoy your stay!

Length of stay, the time between intake and adoption, is the standard metric for efficient shelter operations. Our dogs' length of stay is already considerably lower than the national average, and this year it decreased, from **27 to 21 days**.

104 CUDDLE CLUBS

At Muttville and on the road, seniors hugged the mutts



Where do the dogs come from?

Northern California 3%

Sacramento 11%

San Francisco 15%

East Bay 25%

South Bay 16%

Southern California 1%

Central California 29%

Out of state or country <1%

Home for the holidays

As the shelter crisis intensified, we rallied



At the end of the year, the biggest crisis in decades for senior dogs was ramping up. Animal surrenders always peak during holidays; on top of record shelter overcrowding, that spelled imminent disaster for senior dogs.

We mobilized, working nonstop to move dogs from intake to medical exams to prep for foster, and everything else that happens when a dog comes to Muttville. Almost every local press outlet covered it. We finished the month with 147 dogs rescued in December, a total of 1,217 for the year!

And more!

Senior for senior adoptions were 45% of all adoptions, up from 33%... Our vet team did 1075 surgeries, including spay/neuters and hernia repairs...Over 40 volunteers work at every Saturday adoption event... Muttville staff made presentations at annual meetings of the **Humane** Society of US, ASPCA, Best Friends, and more, with hospice a popular topic...We finally got our building permits, and **new HQ** is on its way!...We welcomed to the staff Dr. Shari O'Neill, formerly Chief Shelter Veterinarian at SFACC...633 active volunteers donated 25,266 hours...The mutts enjoyed the hospitality of **482 fosters**. Thank you, Muttville community!

