



2023

EMPOWERING LIVES, ENRICHING SOULS

A message from the Director....

In reflecting on the incredible journey of 2023, my heart swells with pride and gratitude. I can't wait to dive into the tapestry of stories that weave together resilience, compassion, and growth, defining our collective impact on the lives of animals and the compassionate souls who champion them. This year has been a testament to our commitment to surpass expectations, doing more than ever to craft a world that radiates compassion for each furry companion in our care. I invite you to join me in this celebration of milestones, heartfelt moments, and the boundless possibilities that await on this awe-inspiring journey of empowerment and enrichment.

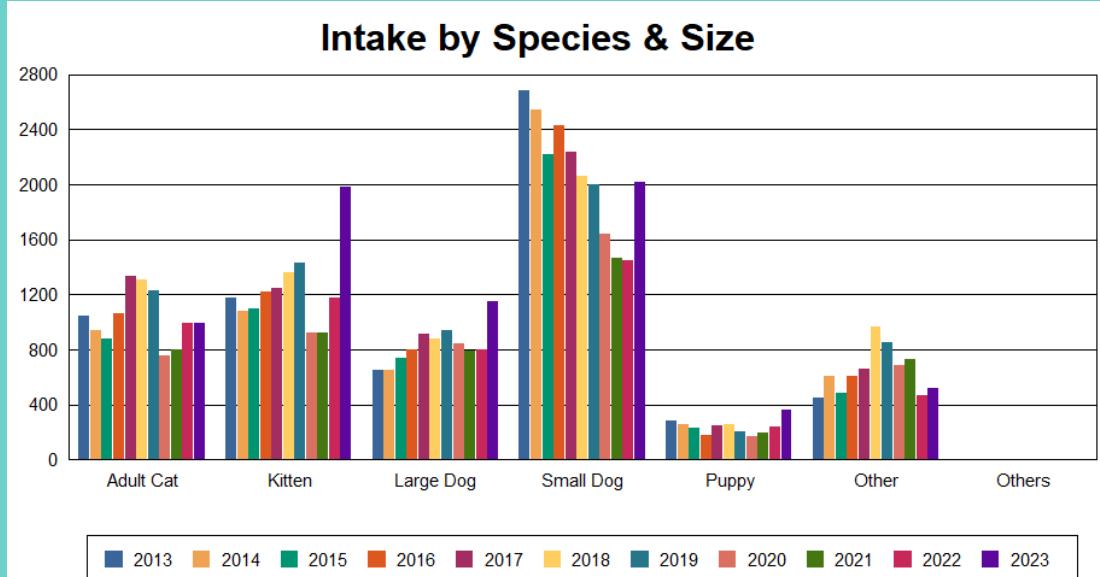
At the core of our triumphs lie the invaluable partnerships with organizations like ASAP, BUNS, the SBC Animal Care Foundation, CAPA, K-9 PALS, C.A.R.E.4Paws, and Shadow's Fund. Together, our tireless efforts have been a dedication to serving the community, saving lives, enhancing services, and elevating the overall quality of life for both pets and people. These collaborations empower us to comprehensively address the diverse needs of our community with unyielding determination, offering programs that keep pets with their families, creating safety nets, improving health, and honoring the profound human-animal bond.

The statistics from 2023 underscore our unwavering commitment to creating a positive impact. Almost 6,000 pets sought refuge in our care, and the surging numbers of adoptions and volunteer hours showcase the growing support from our compassionate community. Our clinic services experienced a commendable uptick, providing nearly 14,000 touches—a testament to our dedication to offering accessible veterinary care. Additionally, our Animal Control Officers and Project Pet Safe witnessed a significant surge in public interactions, showcasing our commitment to reaching animals in every corner of our community. Gifted volunteer hours are more than ever in our history and finally, our foster placement numbers nearly doubled, affirming our steadfast belief in the transformative power of temporary homes to nurture and prepare animals for their forever families.

As we revel in these triumphs, we acknowledge the challenges ahead—rising costs, divisive politics, and evolving landscapes. In 2024, we renew our commitment to forging a more compassionate and sustainable future for the animals and people we are honored to serve. Driven by our shared passion and purpose, we stand resilient in the face of challenges, determined to continue making a meaningful difference in the lives of those who depend on our care and advocacy.



YOUR CITY AND COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER



- 4,569 lost and stray pets
- 674 surrendered pets
- 273 community cats
- 259 pets confiscated by animal control officers
- 71 kittens, bunnies and puppies born in care
- 69 transfers of pets into care

In pursuit of creating a nurturing haven for animals, SBCAS is establishing the most extensive foster caregiver network across the Central Coast. This initiative embodies our commitment to ensuring each animal's well-being where a supportive network of temporary homes become sanctuaries of care, comfort, and companionship.



Foster caregivers like Aprille provide the love and nurturing that pets need while waiting for their family.

LIVE OUTCOMES

- **1,934 pet adoptions**
- **969 pets returned home**
- **718 transferred to rescues**
- **250 community cats**
- **65 wild animals safely relocated**
- **2,157 pets were housed in foster homes**



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If you would like to become a foster caregiver and help us save lives today, sign up at linktr.ee/sbcanimalservices

29% OF LOST AND STRAY PETS WERE REUNITED WITH THEIR FAMILIES

A photograph of a man and a woman kneeling on the floor, holding a small white dog. The man is on the left, and the woman is on the right, both looking at the dog with affection. The dog is wearing a yellow collar.

Koda was lost for over a year following a minor fender bender while traveling. They never gave up. After seeing her on social media, they traveled 8 hours to be reunited with their beloved pup.

SBCAS provides free microchips every day during regular business hours.



18,500 VOLUNTEER HOURS



ANIMAL CONTROL

Officers responded to 8,778 calls for service

Call Type	#	Description
Bites, investigations, and potentially dangerous animals	3,115	Animal control officers are highly focused on public safety
Law enforcement assistance and confiscations	1,025	Officers assist fire, sheriff and police departments whenever animals are involved
Lost and stray pets	1,006	Reuniting stay pets with their families immediately
Reports of abuse, neglect, or hoarding	731	Officers investigate and follow up on all reports of neglect and abuse
Routine and emergency transportation	1,982	When injured pets need to get emergency care, our officers take them there
Essential public services and education	919	Officers participate in community outreach, pick up deceased animals, and a variety of other duties

Our animal control officers provide enforcement, education, support, and resources to our communities. These lifesaving heroes spend their days protecting public safety, rescuing pets from cruelty and neglect, responding during disasters, and connecting with pets and people in our community.



VETERINARY CARE



Our clinic team performed:

- **8,552 exams**
- **2,399 surgeries**
- **10,225 vaccinations**
- **834 lab draws**
- **163 public services**



Across the country, there is a critical and growing shortage of veterinarians. SBCAS is lucky to have a committed group of doctors who support the work we do and provide oversight for the medical care of our pets.



Project PetSafe

License. Vaccinate. Spay-Neuter. Microchip.

Santa Barbara County Animal Services

Powered by Petco Love, Project PetSafe relaunched this year bringing together partners across the county to support the health and safety of our community's pets. We distributed over 20,000 pounds of food, placed thousands of free microchips, and contributed to hundreds of free and lowcost spay and neuter surgeries.

LICENSE

Our new partnership with Docupet makes it even easier to purchase or renew your license online, while improving the customer experience! A license is your pets free ticket home if they are ever picked up by SBCAS.

VACCINATE

Thanks to Petco Love, we are able to offer free vaccines to protect your pet against preventable deadly illnesses like parvo and panleukopenia. We also keep records for every rabies vaccine administered throughout the County.

SPAY/NEUTER

Through our Beat The Heat collaboration with ASAP and CARE4Paws, we sterilized several hundred owned pets. A portion of every license sold goes to our

MICROCHIP

Our new partnership with Docupet makes it even easier to purchase or renew your license online, while improving the customer experience!



It takes a village!

A family arrived at Santa Barbara County Animal Services with a heavy heart and their furry companion, Coco, a German Shepherd. Despite ongoing efforts, Coco's escape tendencies posed challenges for the family. Collaboration saves the day! Team members contacted partners: The Animals in Need Fund and dedicated volunteers reinforced Coco's kennel, while Shadow's Fund provided resources and advice. The transformation was remarkable, symbolizing hope and resilience. With renewed smiles, Coco's family and volunteers celebrated the success, showcasing the power of community collaboration in saving and enriching lives like Coco's.

**Follow us online for
more feel good
stories!**





Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to the pets and people of Santa Barbara County!

It takes the whole community to care for pets and we have so many ways for you to help!

Looking for **career**?

Want to **volunteer**?

Looking to **foster or adopt**?

linktr.ee/sbcanimalservices

Taxpayer dollars provide public health and safety services, and ensure basic animal care to sheltered pets. Donations directly to us, or to our partners, provide specialized medical and behavioral support beyond what the County can do alone. Please consider donating today.

Santa Maria Animal Services
548 W Foster Rd
Santa Maria, CA 93455

Lompoc Animal Services
1501 W Central Ave
Lompoc, CA 93436

Santa Barbara Animal Services
5473 Overpass Rd
Goleta, CA 93111

ALL SHELTERS OPEN
Tuesday - Sunday
10am - 6pm
833-422-8413



BOONS



K-9 PALS
K-9 Placement and Assistance League, Inc.

SBCAS is part of the Public Health Department of Santa Barbara County, serving nearly 500,000 people across the county



Santa Barbara County
PUBLIC
Health
DEPARTMENT