



Maui Humane Society Impact Report

January 2024

Sheltering Statistics:

Totals for January	2024	2023	Difference
Total Intake	362	306	56 more
Adoptions	167	156	11 more
Returned to Owners	75	66	9 more
Owner Surrendered Pets	61	66	5 fewer
Strays Brought In	297	233	64 more
Returned to Field	49	27	22 more
Died in Care	2	3	one fewer
Euthanized	31	34	three fewer
Spay/Neuter Surgeries Performed	687	546	141 more
Live Release Rate - Dogs	99%	100%	1% lower
Live Release Rate - Cats	90.3%	82.9%	7.4% higher
Live Release Rate - Other Species	78.8%	86.4%	7.6% lower
Average Length of Stay - Dogs	22	20	2 days longer
Average Length of Stay - Cats	32	36	4 days shorter

January 2024 Overview:

- **Intake** - MHS took in 106 dogs, 229 cats, and 6 other animals in January and achieved a live release rate of 99% for dogs, 90.3% for cats, and 78.8% for other species.
- **Animals in custody** - At the end of January, there were 135 dogs, 398 cats, 18 rabbits, 27 reptiles, and 9 rodents in MHS custody, for a total of 587 animals.
- **January length of stay** - The average length of stay at the shelter was 22 days for dogs and 32 days for cats.
- **Foster care** - MHS sent 165 pets to foster homes in January, for a total of 363 animals and 217 active foster homes at the end of the month. During the month, 35 animals were adopted directly from foster homes.
- **Volunteer program** - MHS had a total of 79 regular volunteers in January and welcomed 32 people for drop-in volunteer shifts, for a total of 2,587 volunteer hours.



- **Veterinary services** - Veterinarians performed 160 spay and neuter surgeries on shelter pets, 355 community cat surgeries, and 172 spay and neuter surgeries for publicly-owned pets. They performed an additional 86 non-spay/neuter surgeries.
- **Humane Enforcement** - Human Enforcement Officers received 303 calls for service and investigated 40 cruelty and neglect complaints. They also responded to 17 calls related to public safety and dangerous dogs.
- **Donations** - MHS received \$279,169 in donations in January.
- **Marketing** - Social media (FB and IG) reached 239,621 users; traditional media - 516,772; e-newsletter subscribers - 18,607 with an open rate of 43%.

Animals In and Out:

Intakes and Outcomes January 2024					
	Type	Dogs	Cats	Other	Total
Intakes	Owner Surrender	21	34	6	61
	Stray	85	191	21	297
	Transfer In	0	4	0	4
	Total	106	229	27	362
Outcomes	Adopted	37	105	25	167
	Returned to Owner	46	28	1	75
	Return to Field	0	49	0	49
	Transfer Out	12	15	0	27
	Died in Care	0	2	0	2
	Euthanized	3	20	8	31
	Total	98	220	36	354

- Total animal intake in January was 362, of which 297 were strays (191 cats, 85 dogs, and 21 other species)
- There were 61 animals surrendered by their owners in January, 21 of which were dogs, 34 cats, and 6 others.
- A total of 167 animals were adopted into new homes in January and an additional 75 were returned to their owners.
- There were 27 animals transferred to partner shelters and rescue groups in January.

Fire Task Force January Updates:

- A total of 70 cats were rescued from the Lahaina burn zone in January, for a total of 716 cats since the August wildfires.
- A total of 10 fire cats were reunited with their owners in January.
- Two fire cats were adopted into new homes and 3 were transferred to partner organizations and/or rescue groups.
- Six catios containing 12 fire cats were placed in the community in January through our Operation Fire Cat Placement Program, for a total of 10 catios containing 20 cats since this program was launched.
- At the end of January, 274 cats remained in MHS care from the Lahaina burn zone. Most of this population was housed in the Cat Hales (151 cats) and Wailuku Annex (74 cats). The remaining 49 were housed between the Cat 'Ohana, Cat Café Maui, and foster homes.
- An estimated 40-50 cats remained in the Lahaina burn zone at the end January, and feeders continued to service 19 feeding stations, down from more than 75 initially.

Wildfire Statistics - January 2024					
	Type	Dogs	Cats	Other	Total
Intakes	Owner Surrender	0	0	0	0
	Stray	0	70	0	70
	Total	0	70	0	70
Outcomes	Adopted	0	3	0	3
	Returned to Owner	0	10	0	10
	Transfer Out	0	2	0	2
	Died in Care	0	0	0	
	Euthanized	0	1	0	1
	Total	0	16	0	16
DOA	DOA	0	0	0	0

Law Law Graduates!

Law Law was rescued from Lahaina on August 13, with severe burns to her feet and abdomen. She spent nearly five months in our care, requiring more than 20 anesthetized procedures and three extensive surgeries over 143 days. In January, Law Law was officially adopted by a member of our veterinary team who had been helping care for her.

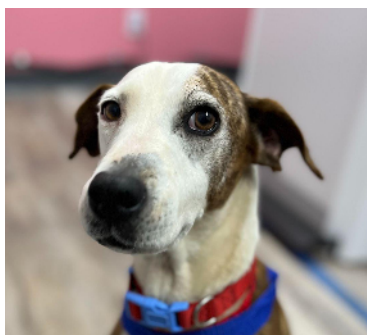


Veterinary Services:

Surgeries & Medical Procedures Performed in January 2024		
	Type	Total
Spay/Neuter	Public Animals	172
	Shelter Animals	160
	Community Cats	355
	Total Spay/Neuter	687
Other Surgeries & Procedures	Hope Fund	334
	Total Surgeries	1,021
Medicine	Intake Exams	158
	DVM Exams	148
	Lahaina Clinic Patients Seen	49
	Public Animals Treated at MHS	61
	Total Medicine Cases	416

Hope Fund Cases

Smudge came in as a stray with a large infected laceration around her neck and she had a severe tick infestation. She was sedated so that her wounds could be debrided. The wounds were cleaned thoroughly and Smudge was started on a treatment plan that included pain medication and antibiotics. Smudge is feeling much better and is on her way to recovery.



Regina Sprinkles was brought in as a stray on January 24 when our HEO team responded to a report of a dog tied to a telephone pole. She was in pain and limping on her left front foot. Bloodwork and x-rays were performed to determine her medical and surgical plan. On January 30th, Regina Sprinkles had a toe amputation, multiple mass removals, and dental surgery. She is recovering well and is adored by everyone who meets her. Her histopathology results came back clear - the toe mass and mammary masses were benign, so she is ready for adoption!



Mahalo to Molokai Humane Society

A weekend “MASH-style” spay/neuter clinic was held on January 13 and 14 to catch up on a long list of animals from the community awaiting surgery. A total of 134 spay/neuter surgeries were performed over those two days. Staff from Molokai Humane Society flew over to help out and show their support. Staff from Maui Humane Society will return the favor by traveling to Molokai for a spay/neuter clinic in March.



Community Medicine Clinics in Lahaina

- Three free veterinary wellness clinics were held in Lahaina in January, with a total of 49 animals seen and treated.
- Previously, clinics were held at the Hyatt in Ka’anapali, but with the opening of our new Lahaina Pet Resource Center, we now have a permanent location on the West Side.
- The first clinic at the Lahaina Pet Resource Center, located at 48 Ulupono St., was held on January 17.
- Staffing limitations only allowed for three clinics in January, but these will return to weekly (or more often) in February.





Humane Enforcement and Community Outreach:

Humane Enforcement Stats	January 2024	January 2023
Calls for Service	303	372
Miles Traveled	6866	7837
Preventative Patrols	876	915
Stray Animals Taken in by Officers	71	80
Cruelty Investigations	40	60
Bite Investigations	11	11
Intakes - Cats	20	23
Intakes - Dogs	64	67

- Officers responded to 69 fewer calls for service (an 18.5% decrease) in January 2024 compared to January 2023.
- There were 33% fewer cruelty investigations in January compared to a year ago while bite investigations stayed the same at 11 cases for the month.
- Cat intakes by Humane Enforcement Officers were down by 13% while dog intakes were down by 4.5%.

A Rescue Story to Brighten your Day

On January 16, a cat was reported trapped inside a light pole in the Walmart parking lot in Kahului. The light pole was laying on the ground, but the cat would not come out. Cries could be heard coming from inside the pole with no way to pull the cat out to safety. HEOs made several attempts to lure the cat out with water and sounds, but the cat appeared to be stuck. The officers reached out to Maui Fire Department, who responded and found that the cat was entangled in wires inside the light pole. Mahalo to MFD for always being a call away when our HEOs need help!



Shelter Dogs Attend Conferences at Grand Wailea

The Grand Wailea hosted two outreach events in January - the Hawaii Orthopedics Conference on January 10 and the Hawaii Eye & Retina Conference on January 16. For the orthopedics conference, a mobile adoption event was held and dogs got to play on the beach with our Outreach staff and visitors. The eye & retina conference was held on a very rainy day, so it was not possible to take the dogs to the beach, but





the Grand Wailea set our team up in the Grand Ballroom Lanai. MHS staff brought three adult dogs and a litter of puppies. Approximately 400 people attended the event and learned about Maui Humane Society’s fire response and how their donations go directly to our community fire response programs. All attendees for both conferences were also invited to stop to volunteer at the shelter or the Wailuku Annex, or to take a dog out for the day through our Dog on Demand program.



Volunteers

- A total of 2,587 volunteer hours were accrued in January, for a value of \$90,545 in services.
- 39 new volunteers were onboarded in January and an additional 32 volunteers assisted with shelter needs through our new “drop-in” volunteer program.

Volunteer Statistics January 2024	
Total volunteer hours served	2,587
Total value of service	\$90,545
Active volunteers	79
New volunteers onboarded	39
Drop-in volunteers	32
Drop-in volunteer hours	146
Active volunteer hours	2,412

MHS Volunteer Shares the Impact of Dog Outing Programs

Lorna Griffin, a dedicated MHS Volunteer of three years, was featured in a [story with Hawaii News Now](#) about MHS' critical need to relieve shelter capacity. Lorna shared her experience volunteering with the Kama'aina Beach Buddies program, which allows volunteers to take shelter dogs to the beach for necessary out-of-kennel time, socialization, and exposure to potential adopters. Lorna is so dedicated to helping through this program that she chose to purchase her car based on its ability to transport pups for outings!

4EverPets and Pet Retention

MHS’ 4EverPets Program stayed busy in January providing support and resources to low-income community members and others experiencing financial hardship.

- 183 families and 955 pets received support from 4EverPets in January.
- In January, surrender for 44 pets was prevented, thanks to support received from the 4EverPets Program.



- 11,655 lbs of pet food were distributed at the shelter and an additional 2,141 lbs at offsite locations across Maui.
- Supplies provided included 90 collars, 11 crate/carriers, 10 harnesses, 57 leashes, 11 litter boxes, 3 scoops, 1 tie out, 57 beds, 23 blankets, 9 scratchers, 11 towels, 114 toys, 1 nail clipper/grinder, 5 other grooming supplies, 8 bottles of shampoo, 214 flea meds, 44 bowls, 2 food storage containers, 10 doggie diapers, 72 rolls of poop bags, and 135 potty pads.

4EverPets Statistics - January 2024	
Number of new families enrolled	102
Number of families served	183
Number of animals served	955
Pounds of pet food provided at MHS	11,655
Pounds of pet food distributed in the community	2,141
Pounds of cat litter provided	1,045
Number of other supplies provided	888
Number of animals deferred from surrender	44

Success Story

A representative of Global Empowerment Mission (GEM) reached out to us for assistance with a displaced family trying to keep their cats. Because the multi-generational family did not qualify for FEMA, they have been staying in hotels. GEM has provided this family with free rent for a year at an Airbnb, but as the property owner does not allow cats inside the home, an outdoor catio was suggested. GEM reached out to MHS to help this family stay together. We were able to provide a catio for the family to keep their cats with them in their new home.



Enrichment Activities and Outings

The goal of MHS' Enrichment Program is to ensure that each animal's "five domains" are being addressed. These are: nutrition, environment, health, opportunity, and mental state. The benefits of an enrichment program include preventing behavioral and mental decline, reducing illness, shortening the length of stay for those in our care, creating intrinsic motivations within our animals, and strengthening the human-animal bond.

The Enrichment Program serves as a necessary precursor to any behavioral training or modification as it creates an environment of





positive mental wellbeing for animals to be in a receptive mindset. This program is data-driven; with each enrichment activity, we collect data and behavioral observations from the animals. This includes body language, how they are socializing conspecifically, how they socialize with people, FAS (fear, anxiety, stress) levels, recording the atmosphere of the shelter environment that week, and identifying any stressors. Our animals' preferences are recorded in our shelter software for interdepartmental communication, and the overall data helps influence the trajectory of future enrichment activities and scheduling.

Enrichment Activities January 2024	
Dog activities	27
Dog playgroup sessions	23
Cat activities	18
Guinea Pigs & Rabbits	27
Total enrichment activities	95
Dog Outings January 2024	
Dog on Demand Pre-Registered	90
Dog on Demand Walk-Ins	48
Kama'aina Beach Buddies	29
Outreach Events	14
Maui County Office Dog Program	3
Total Outings	184

Maui County Council Office Dogs

MHS and Maui County Council are collaborating on a new program called “Office Dogs.” Staff at the Maui County Council offices saw a social media post late last year about the stress of long-term sheltering on dogs, and that we are over capacity, especially with large dogs. Maui County Council contacted MHS to offer to host dogs in their offices for the day to give them a break from the shelter.



MHS volunteers drop the dogs off at the County offices in Wailuku in the morning, and MHS staff pick the dogs up in the afternoon to return them to the shelter. During the day, the dogs get treated to frequent walks to visit the various County offices where they meet dozens of people and receive lots of friendly rubs and pets. They also get quiet time for naps. Mahalo Maui County Council staff for partnering with us on this next activity for shelter dogs!

Expansion of Dog Play Yards

The previous Agility yard at Maui Humane Society underwent renovations in January. The new Canine Visiting yards, when completed, will provide 10 large spaces for visitors to view dogs out in “Day Groups.” There will also be new spaces to visit dogs, allowing for better engagement and interactions. Having these outdoor Day Groups gets dogs out of their kennels for enrichment activities and better supports their natural, species-specific behaviors, improving their mental health. The Animal Care & Enrichment (ACE) Team matches dogs based on personality and oversees this out-of-kennel time. The initial goal is for dogs to spend at least two hours out of the kennel each day, extending over time to six hours each day. Another focus of building more exercise yards was to create low-stress areas for the public to walk through and interact with and spend time with the dogs.



Beginning of construction



10 new dog play yards



Gazebos for shade (in progress)

Foster Updates

- A total of 1,951 animals were housed in foster homes in 2023 (1,121 cats, 681 dogs, and 146 other animals). In addition, a few birds and some livestock were placed in foster care in 2023.
- MHS placed 174 pets in foster homes in the month of January, and at the end of the month, 363 animals were housed in foster homes (147 cats, 163 dogs, 53 rabbits and other small animals).
- At the end of January, there were 217 active foster caregivers.
- In January, 35 animals were adopted directly from foster homes to new homes.
- There was a 25% increase in the number of animals housed in foster homes from January 2023 to January 2024.

Foster Success

Athena was trapped by a good Samaritan who reported seeing her running with another dog in the wooded area behind their house. She was severely emaciated and fearful of people. Because of how shut down she was at the shelter, once she was medically stable she went to foster for some much needed TLC. For the first couple of weeks she hid under the bed, but over time as her confidence increased, she learned how to be a dog. She went directly from foster to her forever home through our Paws to Adopt program on January 3. Her adopters report that she has blossomed into a very happy, amazing dog.





Transfer Updates

- A total of 27 animals were transferred to partner shelters, rescue groups, and sanctuaries in January.
- Two cats were transferred to Lanai Cat Sanctuary in January while new enclosures are being built to house additional cats.
- Our Transfer program was impacted by Alaska Airlines' plane door malfunction. All animal travel was put on hold as flights were canceled across multiple airlines and minimal cargo space available to transport animals.

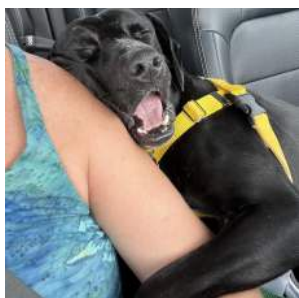
Transfer Statistics for January			
Location	Cat	Dog	Total
Maui County	5	0	5
Lanai Cat Sanctuary	2	0	2
The Continent	8	12	20
Total	15	15	27

Prince Heads to NY!

Gina came to Maui for vacation. She had read about our Dog on Demand program and arrived at the shelter to take a dog out for the day. She was paired with Prince, and it was love at first sight. Two more times during her vacation, she came back to take Prince out. On Wednesday, January 31, she arrived back at MHS and announced that she wanted to adopt and fly Prince home with her to New York.

Our team had hours to make it happen.

Our Transfer Coordinator worked with Veterinary staff to gather all the needed information for a health certificate. He was examined, given a rabies vaccination, and his microchip was verified. Thanks to our amazing team who all pulled together to get Prince to his new home, Gina was so happy to be able to leave with him. It was a match made in heaven.



Submitted by,

Lisa Labrecque

Lisa M. Labrecque, DVM

Chief Executive Officer, Maui Humane Society