

# For The **ANIMALS**



WINTER 2024

## *Your Updates:*

You Helped a Rescued Gull Fly Free

12 Weeks Old and Critically Sick: How You  
Saved Austin's Life

Create A Day of Giving

Your Love Saved the Tiniest (and Cutest) Patient

Healthy, Happy, and Home in the Wild,  
Thanks to You

A Feral Filly Was Saved — By Back Scratches!



**SPCA**  
Monterey County

1002 Monterey-Salinas Highway  
Salinas, CA 93908

[www.SPCAmc.org](http://www.SPCAmc.org)

**(831) 373-2631**

- Veterinary Clinic**      831-264-5400
- Behavior Training**    831-264-5422
- Lost & Found**        831-264-5471
- Report Cruelty**        831-264-5413
- Wildlife Center**       831-264-5427
- Barn Pet Rescue**      831-264-5437
- Benefit Shop**         831-624-4211
- Donation Services**    831-264-5444

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**We Respect Your Privacy**

SPCA Monterey County respects the privacy of our donors. We do not sell or exchange any personal information about our donors to any organization.

# Thank You For Being Part of Their Journey

We rescue stray and unwanted pets every day. Thanks to you, we are here when dogs, cats, small animals, horses, local wildlife, even exotic pets like turtles and birds need us. But few animals are ready to go into new, loving homes right away ...

Some need to be spayed or neutered. Others need grooming, from baths to removing painful matting. Many are under-socialized or untrained, and arrive fearful or timid. Still, others arrive sick or injured.

Our veterinary team has to be adept at treating a wide array of medical emergencies, including broken bones, abdominal obstructions, respiratory conditions, infections, eye injuries, and painful dental issues.

Some situations would break your heart. Animals arrive shot or poisoned, grossly underweight or malnourished. We perform limb and tail amputations, Cesareans, eyelid surgeries, bladder stone removals, mass and teeth removals and emergency surgeries to help them. Our skilled team addresses lacerations, ulcerations and complicated allergic reactions. If we need a second opinion or further consultation, we collaborate with outside veterinary specialists, but it's amazing what we can address with our incredible and professional in-house staff, facility and equipment.



Once the animals' bodies are healed, we often need to turn to their emotional scars.

We never put time limits on the pets in our care. The average length of stay is three weeks, but some animals are here for weeks or months longer. Thank you for being there for them.

Your donations make these treatments possible for so many animals with nowhere else to turn. We're so grateful.

Scott Delucchi, President & CEO

— Did You Know? —

# 809 PETS

were rehabilitated through our Treatment Learning and Compassion (TLC) Program last year, which mends broken bones and heals broken spirits.





*Your support, combined with our team's ingenuity, saved this grateful gull's life!*

## You Helped a Rescued Gull Fly Free

**On a foggy Monday morning, the SPCA Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Center received a concerned call.** A gull was standing near Monterey Harbor, unable to fly, with fishing line dangling from her beak. Our wildlife rescue team immediately responded to safely capture the bird, who needed help before the situation turned deadly.

We gently wrapped the gull's beak with tape, trapping the line to prevent her from swallowing it further. She was thin and had hematomas and puncture wounds all over her body, which told us that she had likely tangled in multiple fishing hooks.

Your donations fund lifesaving equipment, like our Veterinary Clinic radiograph. We used it to confirm that the gull had swallowed a dangerous fish hook.

Our team discussed surgical removal, which is risky and requires many weeks of recovery. Then we tried a different plan. We stuffed cotton cast padding, which birds can't digest, inside fish. She hungrily ate the fish, then just a few hours later, regurgitated the cotton with the fish hook trapped safely inside.

Once the hook was out, we administered pain medication and antibiotics, then moved her to our specialized shorebird pool to evaluate her for release.



*Here, you can see the potentially deadly hook before and after it was removed.*

Since we saved her without surgical intervention, the gull recovered very quickly. We released her on Del Monte Beach just six days later, and she happily flew off to rejoin other gulls in the area.

Please encourage friends and family to safely dispose of all fishing hooks and lines and always be careful around our local wildlife. Thank you for giving to make all our rescues possible! 🐾

# 12 Weeks Old and Critically Sick: How You Saved Austin's Life

**Austin, a 12-week-old puppy, was in critical condition. He'd been sick for two weeks, and hadn't eaten or taken a drink in three days.** The poor pup weighed just half what he should have when he came to the SPCA.

But you were there for him. Here's how ...

Thanks to your support, our veterinary team could take radiographs that confirmed our suspicion: Austin had an obstruction in his intestines.

SPCA Registered Veterinary Technicians administered intravenous fluids, pain medication, anti-nausea medication and antibiotics to help prepare the emaciated puppy's body to fight as we rushed him into surgery.

"Thankfully, we quickly found the obstruction — a green foam ball," says Dr. Riley, SPCA Veterinarian.

Without our quick response, Austin would not have survived. Thanks to your support, he healed and recovered quickly.

*Continued ...*



*We put your gifts to work for Austin and pets like him.*



*You powered the care that removed the deadly obstruction.*

## Create A Day of Giving to Help Pets and Wildlife

Join friends and neighbors and help animals during A Day of Giving. This is a fun way to create your own fundraiser or support one! All gifts help rescued pets and wildlife and every dollar stays right here to help local animals.

It's easy to give or create your own fundraiser at [www.spcamc.org/DayOfGiving](http://www.spcamc.org/DayOfGiving).



*“Thanks to your support, we had the resources to rush him to surgery and save him.”*



“When Austin woke up, he wanted to eat right away,” says Dr. Riley. “We re-fed him slowly with high-calorie, easily digestible balls of soft food to prevent blockages. He kept trying to tell us he was fine and that we should give him more meatballs!”

Over the following days, the SPCA team carefully observed Austin to ensure the blockage was clear and that he was free of infection. Soon, he was feeling much better. He acted like a normal puppy, and he was happy, active and playful with our clinic staff.

Although still skinny, Austin was soon healthy enough to continue his recovery in a new home. His whole life changed the moment he met Jenn — his new family.

**Your support means everything to us, and to Austin.**

“I wish there was a good enough word to describe how I felt when I met Austin,” his adopter says. “It was instant love. I’m going to start crying just thinking of that moment.”

Today, Austin spends his days with his new family and his feline and canine siblings. His family tells us that he reduces their stress with his snuggles and hugs, and he is highly intelligent and eager to learn. The SPCA team

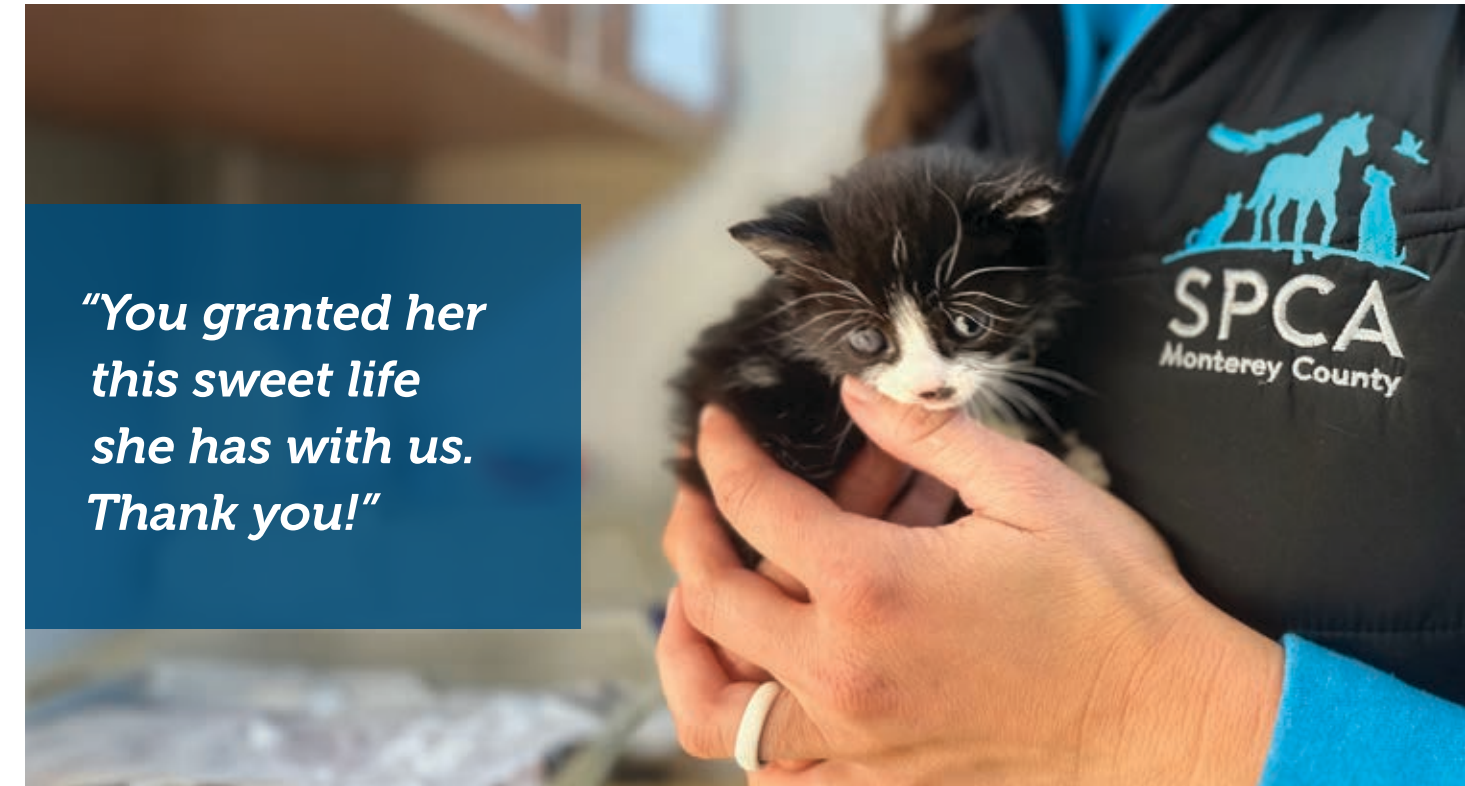


*You gave Austin the best gift of all: his new family!*

gets to see him often and he’s always quick to ask for pats and kisses.

Jenn says, “I couldn’t be more grateful to the SPCA for saving Austin. The SPCA is so committed to their mission and they help and save so many animals every day. Thank you, SPCA, for bringing Austin into my life.”

“We are incredibly thankful that our donors provide us with the tools we need to respond to emergencies right away,” says Dr. Riley. “We didn’t have time to spare, and thanks to your support, we had the resources to rush him to surgery and save him. Your support means everything to us, and to Austin.” 🐾



*"You granted her  
this sweet life  
she has with us.  
Thank you!"*

*Thanks to supporters like you, we have special surgical equipment to help even the smallest patients.*

## Your Love Saved the Tiniest (and Cutest) Patient

**Binxy's life almost ended when she was just three weeks old.** Kind citizens found her in a garden shed with her tiny leg crushed under heavy equipment. They rushed her to the SPCA for help.

Binxy needed surgery. There was just one problem. Weighing only one pound, Binxy was too small for anesthesia. The SPCA veterinary team provided pain medication and antibiotics to keep her safe as she grew. Unfortunately, despite our most careful efforts, her leg began to swell and the infection spread.

"She needed surgery right away," says Dr. Kate Riley, SPCA Veterinarian. "At just 1.1 pounds, this was by far the smallest amputation I'd ever done. But because we have a Wildlife Center which treats small patients, we have smaller surgical equipment available than most veterinary hospitals."

Dr. Riley brought Binxy home that night to observe her as she recovered from the "tiniest dose of anesthesia we've ever given." The sassy

kitten woke up and immediately hissed at Dr. Riley's 100-pound dog — who was thankfully unfazed by her miniature shenanigans!

"I knew at that moment she was a fighter and she'd be okay," says Dr. Riley.

After weeks of recovery in a skilled foster home, Binxy's life, and name, changed again.

"Lemonade Crystal Diamond is doing great!" says her adopter, Ryan, adding that his 4-year-old daughter picked out the fabulous new moniker. "Most people don't realize she only has three legs until we point it out."

Lemonade is now feisty, nimble, and very loved in her new home.

"It's hard to imagine life before Lemonade," says Ryan. "She now is such an integral part of our family. We are completely indebted to everything the SPCA did for her. You granted her this sweet life she has with us. Thank you!"

Thank YOU for making her amazing story possible! 🐾



The coyote was in so much pain ... until you helped.

## Healthy, Happy, and Home in the Wild, Thanks to You

**Cold, starving, and unable to move.** This young coyote was in peril until a Good Samaritan called the SPCA, where friends like you helped us come to her rescue.

The emaciated coyote was suffering from severe mange, a painful skin disease that causes infections and wounds from scratching at the relentless itching. Her situation was critical, as initially, she could only manage a liquid diet.

We got to work nursing her back to health. Our skilled wildlife rescue team administered multiple lifesaving measures, including fluids, antibiotics, vaccines, iron supplements for anemia, mite treatment, and pain medication to soothe her inflamed skin.

After a month of intense treatment, she became healthy enough to move from our critical care room to an outdoor enclosure, where we ensured she could move, hunt, and live in an environment more suited to her needs. And finally, after 40 days in care, we released her back into the wild near her coyote family. She got her life back — thanks to you! 🐾

## A Feral Filly Was Saved — By Back Scratches!



Today, you're giving her a chance to live a happy life.

Little Roo was hurting, and it showed.

**Little Roo was just five months old when SPCA humane officers rescued the foal and her mother, Tilly.** Little Roo was stuck in a small stall and never handled. Her coat was rough from neglect and malnutrition, with painfully matted patches of muddy fur. She was skinny, suffering from parasites, and afraid of people. She was also born with a club foot. It needed farrier work at a young age so her leg could grow properly, but she'd never received that vital care.

Our skilled team humanely weaned her from Tilly, who was too malnourished to continue nursing, and offered her quality food. Although Little Roo initially feared us, she soon learned this of humans: we could scratch the painfully itchy spots in her unkempt coat! We earned her trust with scratches and started to work providing lifesaving care and vaccines.

Because she'd been confined to a small stall for so long, Little Roo never learned to run and could only trot in a straight line. She's now in a lush pasture with another rescued baby, learning how to be a horse. Thank you for the love and support that helped Little Roo and makes all our rescues possible! 🐾

# IMPACT REPORT

How your donations make a difference for pets, people, and wild animals in need

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## 3,059

### PETS ADOPTED

Cats, dogs, horses, rabbits, barn pets, exotic animals, and more adopted into new, loving homes



## 0

### TURNED AWAY

Thanks to you, we never turned away any pet due to breed, species, age, health, or behavior

## 2,220

### WILDLIFE RESCUED

Your support enabled us to rescue injured, sick, and orphaned wild animals



## 811

### CRUELTY CASES

Our officers worked to stop animal abuse and neglect in Monterey County

## 7,951

### KIDS EDUCATED

Children educated about humane and compassionate treatment of animals and each other



## 809

### PETS SAVED WITH TLC

We mended broken bones and healed broken spirits through our Treatment, Learning & Compassion Program

## 7,170

### SPAY/NEUTERS

Low- and no-cost surgeries in our clinic, our mobile clinic, and by providing grants to local animal welfare groups



## 1,218

### PETS TRAINED

Pets kept in homes thanks to our training classes for all abilities and 770 people helped with our free behavior helpline

## 63,838

### POUNDS OF FREE PET FOOD

Your support kept families together with our free Pet Food Bank



## 1,194

### PETS FOSTERED

Compassionate SPCA fosters raised underage puppies and kittens in loving homes

## YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

Your SPCA is not a chapter of any other agency, we don't have a parent organization, and we receive no funding from the ASPCA or HSUS. Everything we do is only made possible by you!