It’s A Win!

PAHS and Assembly Member Mullin spearhead California Assembly Resolution 144

We begin with some exiting news. The Palo Alto Humane Society’s commitment to educate children starting at an early age has received a major boost with the passage of California Assembly Concurrent Resolution 144. This groundbreaking legislative resolution is one of the first in the country to be aligned with state school standards. ACR144 was spearheaded by Palo Alto Humane Society (PAHS) in partnership with Assemblyman Kevin Mullin (San Mateo). It highlights the State Code of Education mandate for the development of character through education on kindness towards pets and all living beings, in order to create a more humane world.

PAHS’ acclaimed Humane Education K–5 Teaching Program and Telly Award-winning children’s film were created to help teachers fulfill this mandate. This imaginative, bilingual curriculum will reach thousands of children in California schools through humane lessons aligned with science, language arts, and social science. The program’s supplemental community outreach component includes: Kiddies 2 Kitties, where children read to shelter animals; Adoptables Art, engaging children in painting portraits of shelter animals to aid in their adoption; and Critter Club after-school sessions, providing compassion in action activities connecting kids with their neighborhoods.

As stated by Assemblyman Mullin, “PAHS has demonstrated exemplary dedication to creating compassionate communities through their many successful education, intervention and advocacy programs. By bringing together parents, teachers, children, and business and civic leaders, they have opened a dialogue and path of action for a kinder society.

“I commend and support PAHS humane initiatives and its commitment to providing our youth with an ethical framework for the future.”

If you would like to help ensure wide distribution of the PAHS Humane Education Program in Schools, please contact us to see how you can help.

“PAHS has demonstrated exemplary dedication to creating compassionate communities through their many education, intervention and advocacy programs.”
—Assembly Member Kevin Mullin
It Takes a Village

Last September Norma Rosales and her daughter, Marilyn Alonso, were out for a walk when they heard squeaking sounds from under a parked car. There they discovered five tiny kittens, huddling together for warmth. Norma and Marilyn carefully collected the kittens, took them into their home, and contacted Palo Alto Humane Society.

PAHS called on Mid-Peninsula Animal Hospital, and the doctors there generously donated care and lodging while PAHS worked on longer-term arrangements and later sponsored the vaccinations and spay-neuter surgeries. There was still work to do for these kittens, and PAHS’ friends and staff tapped into their networks to find foster homes.

Two of the kittens were adopted by their foster parents, Curtiss and Pam. The other three found their foster home with Deborah Buck, an all-star animal advocate. Deborah, a volunteer with Give Me Shelter Cat Rescue, lends her time and expertise to PAHS’ education program. She reports that the three have found a home.

PAHS frequently plays a vital role of networking with a caring community of veterinarians, Good Samaritans, kindhearted volunteers, local businesses, and nonprofits to save the lives of animals in need.

The Daisy Fund

Palo Alto Humane Society is pleased to announce the creation of the Daisy Fund. The Daisy Fund will provide assistance for sick and injured stray animals and animals whose owners cannot afford their pets’ urgent care. In this way, sick or injured animals will not have to be surrendered to animal shelters or euthanized for lack of means. This generous gift from Sue Klapholz memorializes her family’s beloved dog, Daisy. Adopted from a local shelter, Daisy was underweight, unhealthy, and frightened but eventually blossomed into a trusting and happy dog and provided many years of grateful devotion to her human companions.

Assistance with managing crisis veterinary costs is one of the unique ways in which Palo Alto Humane Society helps people and animals in the communities of the mid-Peninsula. PAHS is grateful to Sue for this generous support. Donations to the Daisy Fund are welcome in care of PAHS and earmarked for the Daisy Fund.

PAHS is grateful to these local businesses and foundations for special support:

AKA Creative
Garden Court Hotel
Patxi’s Pizza
Pip Printing
Sheraton Palo Alto
SIX14 Design
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Wizdom on Wheels

Acton Family Fund
Cotter Charitable Foundation
Highway Community Foundation
On Shore Foundation
One Hope Foundation
Pegasus Family Foundation
Rock Paper Scissors
PAHS Legacy Circle: Planning for the Future

Generous bequests and planned gifts to Palo Alto Humane Society provide needed funds for its far-reaching animal welfare work to thrive and continue into the future.

In 2016, Palo Alto Humane Society’s Legacy Circle honored Stanford University Professors Caroline and Blair Hoxby. Caroline is the Scott and Donya Bommer Professor of Economics, and Blair is Professor of English. Their selfless work in providing a safe transitional haven for abandoned cats has resulted in the placement of 29 kittens and three mother cats in 2016 alone, and 250 since they began their rescue work. Not only do Blair and Caroline care for and place the cats, but they also manage a database that tracks the cats in their program. Through their rescue of abandoned animals and their donation to PAHS of the adoption fees received from the placement of these animals as well, they actively support PAHS’ mission.

Caroline and Blair took the next step in their commitment to animal welfare by providing a planned gift to PAHS. PAHS is grateful to Caroline and Blair and many others for supporting our mission of Creating Compassionate Communities through intervention, advocacy, and education.

Others honored at the 2016 Legacy Circle event were Reine Flexer, who received the PAHS Volunteer of the Year award, and Sheraton Palo Alto, for Business Supporter of the Year. PAHS thanks the Sheraton Palo Alto for generously sponsoring the Legacy Circle and Gleim the Jeweler for producing the Legacy Circle lapel pin.

For questions about leaving an estate gift or for planning for the future of your companion animals, contact the executive director at (650) 424-1901.

Mark Your Calendar for the 2017 Legacy Circle Reception

The 2017 Legacy Circle reception will be held on Wednesday, June 28, at the Sheraton Palo Alto. The reception highlights the work of Palo Alto Humane Society and honors volunteers and inductees to the Legacy Circle. For more information, or to attend, please contact PAHS at (650) 424-1901 or the executive director at carole.hyde@paloaltohumane.org.
PAHS Talks with Board President David Rutan

David was asked about his vision for the Palo Alto Humane Society and what keeps him motivated in his important work as President of the Board of Directors. Here are his responses:

Connecting Community
I’m interested in PAHS’ connection with the community. Helping animals is much easier when you have a community involved. PAHS is committed to community outreach. Teaching people helps expand your reach and deliver your message to future generations. Assisting people of limited means helps them care for their animals and reduce the stray and shelter population. Working together as a community is the easiest way to help the greatest number of animals.

Building Partnerships/Expanding Web Presence/Mow Wow Education in Schools
Short term, I would like to see PAHS expand its Web and social media presence so that reaching out and connecting with a diverse community becomes much easier. Long term, I would like PAHS to expand its partnerships with shelters, education programs, and animal welfare groups so that our hard work has a greater impact and we can share ideas and optimize efforts. I would like to see our Mow Wow Animals humane education program used in schools throughout California.

Advocating for Animals Who Have No Voice Themselves
The vision I have for PAHS is rooted in our long history of service to the community. I want PAHS to continue to help animals through online and in-person education, spay-neuter assistance and vet visits for at-risk animals, and advocacy as a voice for animals. As the needs of the community change, I would like to see PAHS adapt to meet these needs. Growth can take place through new types of programs, different approaches, staffing to accomplish those goals, and partnerships with other local groups.

PAHS might not look the same in the next 100 years; however, our goal of helping the community and its animals will continue as long as the need exists.

David Rutan is CEO of Wizdom on Wheels.

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The mission of the Palo Alto Humane Society is to alleviate the suffering of animals, increase public sensitivity to animal issues, and elevate the status of animals in our society.

To find out more about the Palo Alto Humane Society’s programs and to donate online, please visit our newly redesigned Web site at www.paloaltohumane.org.

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