



ICARE



Inyo (and Mono)County Animal Resources & Education

Dedicated to the welfare of the Eastern Sierra's companion animals

Twist of Fate for Young Girl's Act of Kindness

Budding animal activist, Alicia Ramirez, was about to turn 10 years old and wanted to do something that most kids her age wouldn't dream of doing. She decided that this birthday she would ask her family and friends to *not* give her any birthday gifts. Instead, she asked that



Alicia at the Tri-County Fair

they make donations to help Shelter pets in need. Her favorite channel is the Animal Planet and one of her favorite programs is "Animal Cops Houston." She thought she would raise money to send to the Houston SPCA featured on the show, but her mom, Karine, suggested that a local animal shelter (with no television exposure) might need the donations more. Karine, her husband, Rich, and Alicia, are frequent visitors to the Eastern Sierra and part-time Bishop residents. They were aware of the Inyo County Animal Shelter and the ICARE animal welfare organization through the Pets of the Week in the *Inyo Register* and the ICARE web site. Alicia chose to make her birthday donation to the ICARE Stitch Fund, which helps ill or injured Inyo County Shelter animals receive lifesaving veterinary care so they can be placed up for adoption.

When the Ramirez family visited Bishop over Labor Day, they were looking forward to presenting Alicia's birthday donation in the amount of \$400! As luck would have it, the ICARE Pet Contest was taking place at the Tri-County Fairgrounds in

Bishop that same weekend, so we thought it would be a great opportunity to have Alicia present her donation and, in turn, ICARE could present Alicia with a Certificate of Appreciation, along with an ICARE cap and t-shirt to thank her for her unselfish act of kindness.

Meanwhile, just two days before the Tri-County Fair, a Black Lab puppy had arrived at the Inyo County Animal Shelter as an injured stray. He had been hit by a car and his right back leg appeared to be badly injured. X-rays revealed that his femur and femoral head were damaged beyond repair—amputation was recommended. Would



Photo by
Brittany Wright

home. He was fostered by Bishop Veterinary Hospital's Brittany Wright while he recovered.

Alicia's family saw the puppy's photo

featured on the ICARE web site and they were immediately drawn to the adorable pup. Alicia started calling him "Trace" or "Tres" as in three. On their next visit to Bishop, they arranged a face-to-face



Rich, Alicia and Karine Ramirez with Trace on adoption day

the ICARE Stitch Fund pay for his surgery? The answer was "yes" and, thanks to Alicia's \$400 donation, we were well on our way to the \$750 needed to operate. The surgery was a complete success and the now 3-legged homeless and nameless puppy needed a forever home. He was fostered by Bishop Veterinary Hospital's Brittany Wright while he recovered.

meeting with Trace and it was an instant love connection. The adoption took place right then and there!

Trace is such an easy-going pup, he had no trouble fitting right in with his new family, which includes a senior Chocolate Labrador Retriever named Bailey. Trace is a bit of a celebrity in the Ramirez' home town of Azusa, California, and even made the Channel 9 news when Alicia took him to school for Show and Tell. He's logged some major beach time, too, and loves frolicking in the waves.

What started as a young girl's act of kindness came full circle with a special needs Shelter pet finding his adoptive family. We are very grateful to Alicia and her folks for helping with the cost of Trace's surgery and for making him a cherished member of their family. 🐾

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NEWSLETTER

Lisa & Ted Schade

WEB SITE

www.ICAREforPets.org

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Message from the President, Ted Schade:

ICARE Donors—Key to Success

What a difference a caring community can make! Your donations to ICARE helped the Eastern Sierra's pets in need (see chart below). ICARE is touched that our programs are supported by you—our members and donors.

Your faithful support of our mission for companion animals makes it possible to operate a successful Spay/Neuter Program, promote the adoption of Inyo County Shelter animals, and educate the public about responsible pet ownership.

Total program expenditures for 2012 were \$51,030 with the Spay/Neuter Program accounting for 71% of the pie. 727 cats and dogs were sterilized this past year at a cost of \$36,374. Since 1998, the Spay/Neuter Program has funded sterilization surgeries for 9,800 cats and dogs of needy pet owners. This has prevented the birth of thousands of unwanted pets and, as a result, has reduced Animal Shelter impounds and euthanasias.

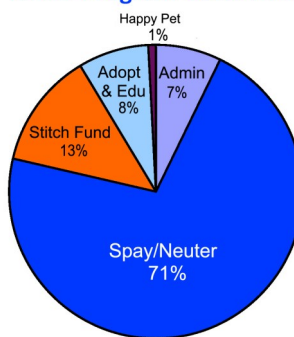
The ICARE Stitch Fund paid for the veterinary care of 21 sick/injured Shelter animals in 2012 at a cost of \$6,543 or 13% of expenditures. These special needs pets were given a second chance

thanks to your donations. The Stitch Fund has helped 157 Shelter dogs and cats at a total cost of \$55,490 since it was established in 2004.

Promotion of Shelter animals for adoption and our Education Program accounted for 7% (\$3,947) of expenditures in 2012. We appreciate the *Inyo Register*, *Mammoth Times*, KIBS and Sierra Wave Media for featuring Inyo County Animal Shelter pets for adoption. Education costs include paying 50% of the cost of obedience classes for dogs/puppies adopted from the Inyo and Mono County Animal Shelters.

The Pat Nahin Happy Pet Fund enriches the environment for cats and dogs during their stay at the Animal Shelter by providing items of comfort (see page 3). \$456 was spent in 2012 or 1% of the budget.

Overhead costs (monthly telephone bills, postage and office supplies) accounted for just 7% (\$3,710) of expenditures. ICARE is proud that we are volunteer-based and have no paid employees, making the lion's share of your donations available for programs that directly benefit the animals. They are, after all, our priority. 🐾

ICARE Program Costs 2012**Thank you for your Donations:** Gifts of \$100 /more listed

Paula Accusani, Allied World Insurance, Donna Archer, Myrle Baker, Stephanie Bethurum, Bishop Welding Supply, Terry & Lynn Bowyer, Mike & Ingrid Braun, Jim Brock, Stacey Brown & Ceal Klingler, Charles Byrne, Campy & Ski Camphausen, Leslie Chapman, Jan Clover, Tim Converse, Mary Crider, Roger DeHart, Aurora Eden, Kathryn Erickson & Pete Watercott, Diane Escobar, Dory Feit, Madelyn Ferrell, Darcy & Lance Bauer, Sean & Kim Frank, Steve, John & Michelle Frederickson, Kyle & Emmeline Graham, Nancy & Bob Graham, H&R Block, Anthony Halicki, Ellen Hardebeck, Nickoline Hathaway, Joan & Kurt Hedani-Lauber, Laird Hendricks, Jr., Bill Hines, Rosie Hirsch, Chuck & Bobbie Hoeberg, Steven Horman, Inyo Register, Lisa Isaacs, Robin & Chris Johnston, Ben & Denise Jones, Ronald Kaylor, KIBS/KOBV, Phil & Brenda Kiddoo, Chuck & Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Roberta Kramer, Erika Kroenlein, LA Police Gear, Robert Lavenburg, Vincent Lamia, Irene Lamos, Ron & Annette Larson, Cathy Leja, Margaret Marshall, Norm & Mel Matoza, Stacey & Robert McCoy, Leo & Laura Mizrahi, Kathy Morey, Ed & Pat Nahin, Bob & Glenda Newcomer, Jerry Oser, Dave & Vivian Patterson, Jane Paul, Ted & Janice Pederson, Jon & Kathy Peterson, Glen Pierson, Rich, Karine & Alicia Ramirez, Ken & Janet Reeling, Ralph Rickords, Scot & Cheryl Rogala, John Rogitz, Roma Boutique, Hilde & Max Ruland-Riegg, Ted & Lisa Schade, Sheila Schatteles, Robert Schaubmayer, B.J., Jeanette & Joanne Schneider, Brian Shibley, Jota & Claudia Shohtoku, Bob & Marcella Siefken, John Siegel, So Cal Edison, Robin Stater, Jan Sudomier, Lyn Dunlap -

Tailwaggers, Virginia Thorson, The Toggery, Sue Tracy, Michelle Turk-Newby, Union Bank, Patricia Waitthall, Heleen & Tom Welvaart-Boo, Katie & Stephen Wider, Aaron Wilczek, Gary & Betty Williamson, Jenny Wilson, Ann Wong, Heather & Kjol Wopperer-Profitt, Donald & O'Cilla Zeleny, Joseph & Betty Jo Zappia

Memorial donations:

♥Debbie Eilts for Robin ♥Dory & Mark Magit for Buster ♥Rich Garner for Precious ♥Bill & Peggy Horn for Cheyenne ♥Karen & Steve Ingram for Marilyn Ferrell ♥Jean Jarvis for Kevin James Jarvis ♥Tim & Juanita Judge for our Milo ♥Bill Lang for June Lang ♥Brad & Diane Mettam for Katy & Sonya ♥Venetia Parker for Stinker & Spike ♥Jean Jarvis for Kevin Jarvis ♥Debbie Lake for Kolby Shafer ♥Dorothy MacArthur, William Rowan & Nancy Prange for Dorothy Vandervalk ♥Mollie Scott for my beloved Jeffrey ♥Susan Terry-Ortega for Margaret Terry ♥Toni & Dar Tockey, Jr. for Dar Tockey, Sr. ♥Bob Todd for Molly ♥

Honorarium donations:

♥Ana & Alexander Danielson-Wells for Freeda ♥Laird Hendricks, Jr. for Ted Schade ♥Robert & Nancy Graham for Kyle & Emmeline Graham ♥Robin & Chris Johnston and Ted & Lisa Schade for Robin Stater & Philip Hertzog's marriage ♥Julie & Ted Metz for Dr. Carl Lind ♥Ed & Pat Nahin for Ginger ♥Rob & Marcella Siefken for therapy dogs Morgan, Lulu, Delilah, Luna and their owners ♥George & Dolly Stade for Kyle & Emmeline Graham ♥Nancy Wallan for Ed & Pat Nahin ♥Ann Zack for Tom & Kate Zack's birthdays♥

Shelter Stats Just Keep Getting Better!



Cats and dogs of the Eastern Sierra (Inyo and Mono Counties) had a great year! The year-end statistics for the Inyo County Animal

Shelter help tell the story. They show how we are doing with our goal of reducing pet over-population, especially through our Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program. The number of cats and dogs impounded at the Shelter is one indicator, because fewer animals born means fewer homeless pets ending up at the Shelter. This past year **469 cats and dogs were impounded** (compared to 1,164 in 1995 or a **60% decrease**). Since 1998, ICARE has provided **low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for 9,800 cats and dogs** in need for a total cost to date of \$409,000. Just think of the number of litters that were

prevented thanks to this valuable program!

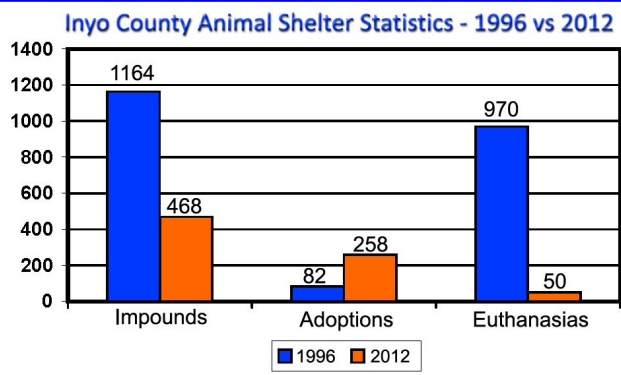
ICARE promotes Inyo County Shelter animals for adoption through our web site, radio and newspaper ads. **Adoptions have risen an amazing 315%** over the past sixteen years. Only 82 animals were

welfare programs is to reduce the number of cats and dogs that are euthanized each year at the Inyo County Animal Shelter. We're encouraged by the fact that 2012 ended with only 50 animals (40 dogs and 10 cats) put to sleep versus 970 in 1996. **That's an unbelievable 95% decrease in**

euthanasias! Of course, we believe that even one animal killed is a tragedy and we will continue our work, with your help, until that number is zero.

ICARE is a 501(c)3 volunteer-based, non-profit organization with no paid employees, no government funding and no rented office space. Every one of our programs is supported by you, our thoughtful donors. We hope you will

continue to partner with us to support the lifesaving work we're doing for the Eastern Sierra's cats and dogs in need. It's working! 🐾



adopted in 1996 compared to **258 animals adopted in 2012**. We appreciate Shelter Manager, Julie Laughon (*see spotlight below*), and part-time assistant, Katie Bird, for their care of our homeless pets.

The primary goal of each of our animal

Shelter Spotlight on Julie Laughon

A shelter is a place where the homeless are protected, the hungry are fed and the abandoned are given care. This past year (2012), the Inyo County Animal Shelter took in a total of 469 animals (317 dogs and 152 cats)!

Julie Laughon began working at the Animal Shelter in 1996 and is now the Shelter Manager. She is responsible for the primary care of the Shelter's animals. Julie not only handles the feeding and care of all the cats and dogs, but she may be the first person to have ever shown them any tenderness or compassion. The animals become very attached to her (and vice versa) and eagerly anticipate her arrival each day. This isn't "just a job" for Julie—she truly loves these homeless pets and it shows in everything she does.

Julie is a very gifted matchmaker. Because she gets to know each and every animal and its temperament, she is able to assist adopters in finding just the right dog, puppy, cat or kitten to suit their lifestyle. She is so successful that adopters often keep in touch with her long after the adoption to tell her how much their pet



means to them.

Julie keeps a "wish list" for people interested in certain breeds or types of cats or dogs and will contact potential adopters as soon as their dream pet arrives. You won't have to wait too long either! An average of 26 dogs/puppies and 12 cats/kittens arrive at the shelter each month!

Julie gives vaccinations and any necessary medications to Shelter residents. She also bathes and grooms dogs and puppies before they go to their new homes. Julie has even been known to take animals home whose time has run out and foster them until she can personally place them in a loving home. Inyo County is very lucky to have such a dedicated employee caring for our community's homeless animals.

The Animal Shelter is located on County Road in Big Pine, California and is open Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Shelter phone number is 760-938-2715. 🐾

Happy Pet Fund



In the Fall of 2006, Nancy Wallan, the daughter of Bishop's Pat Nahin, contacted ICARE with a proposal to honor her mother. She wanted to create a fund that would provide extras for Inyo County's Shelter pets, such as cat and dog toys and dog beds. This became the "Pat Nahin Happy Pet Fund" and has enriched the lives of many cats and dogs that have spent time at the Shelter. Pat's family has continued to support the fund and have helped us purchase Kuranda dog beds for each of the Shelter's dog kennels. These cot-like beds provide a comfy place for the dogs and puppies to relax and get off the concrete floor. The cat toys have been a big hit with the resident cats and kittens, too. Life in a dog kennel or cat cage can be pretty sad, but the Happy Pet Fund is making life a little brighter for our deserving Shelter animals. 🐾

ICARE

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ICARE's 17th Annual Dinner

Catered by:



Sponsored by:



Saturday 🐾 April 13 🐾 6:00 pm
Tri-County Fairgrounds in Bishop

I cannot attend the dinner, but,

Yes, I do want to help pets in need!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to ICARE
for:

🐾 ☐ \$50 🐾 ☐ \$100 🐾 ☐ \$250 🐾 ☐ Other
\$ _____



No deadline
for donations!

ICARE 🐾 P.O. BOX 76 🐾 BISHOP, CA 93515



Vincent's Voice

Hi! My name is Vincent and my owner turned me over to the Inyo County Animal Shelter four years ago. Let's just say they got new carpet and I didn't like it. 'Nuff said! Funny thing is, I never had an accident at

the Shelter (go figure!), so I was placed up for adoption. Just one problem, no one wanted a 7-year old cat. But, with each passing week, the Shelter staff was falling more in love with my charming ways and cute face. They promoted me to Shelter Mascot and I got a new hang-out with Julie and Katie in the front office.

My only "job requirement" was to keep the place free of mice. Sadly, I am a complete failure at this so-called natural cat skill. In fact, I'm so pathetic, the Shelter had to get a "live trap" for the mice, which are humanely relocated off the property.

I do have a special talent, though. Because I have no fear of dogs, I'm the official "cat scan" for Shelter dogs that need to be tested for tolerance of cats. I've helped many adoptive dogs and puppies find just the right home, with or without cats, depending on their reaction to me.

These past four years, I've seen many animals come and go. And, even though I never got my ticket out, I love my new life. I get loads of attention, plenty to eat and a nice, soft bed to call my own. This *is* my home! 🐾