



# RESCUE REVIEW

YOUR COMPASSION IN ACTION



Humane Society  
FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

## “Good on a Skateboard” - Luna’s Story

Luna’s journey with the Humane Society for Southwest Washington began with a bit of mystery. Surrendered by her previous owner, the only information we received about her was the cryptic note, “Good on a Skateboard.”

Luna, a beautiful husky/shepherd mix, was shy and anxious when she arrived at HSSW. Thanks to the support of our generous community, we were able to provide her with a place to stay and the care she needed while she waited for a new family. Although Luna was a sweet dog, her anxiety and escape artist tendencies made our staff and volunteers worry that finding her a new home might be challenging.

A recent note from Luna’s new family proved our worry was unnecessary. Her adopter, Lindsay wrote, “Luna is the sweetest and most gentle little girl...she’s already brought in so much love.”

Despite her initial shyness, Lindsay also shared that Luna has become a social butterfly, eager to make friends with everyone she meets—including cats! She enjoys visits to the dog park, where she not only makes new friends but also teaches puppies how to play. Luna has also taken on the role of peacemaker, intervening whenever play gets too rough, showing her innate desire for harmony.

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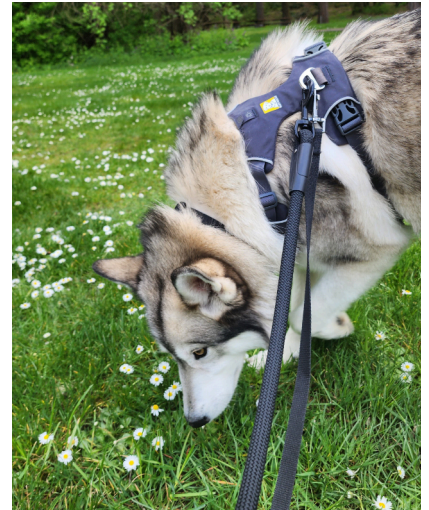
## Luna's story continued

In her new home, Luna has fully settled in and even sneaks onto the “no dogs allowed” couch when her family’s backs are turned. Her days are filled with zoomies in the backyard, hikes in the forest, playtime with her toys, and delightful treats like pup cups.

Interestingly, Luna gets excited whenever she sees kids on skateboards, though her new family is still unsure what “good on a skateboard” truly means.

Luna’s story is a beautiful example of how love, patience, and a caring home can transform a timid and anxious dog into a beloved family member. We are incredibly grateful to her new family for giving Luna the loving home she deserves.

Thank you to all our generous donors and adopters who make uplifting stories like Luna’s possible. Together, we can continue to make a difference, one animal at a time.



# Caring for Our Community: The Sandra Richardson Miller Mobile Veterinary Clinic



The cost of basic veterinary care has increased in communities around the country. For some families who lack access to affordable pet care, their only option is to turn to local animal welfare groups to help their pets receive the care they need.

Enter the Sandra Richardson Miller Mobile Veterinary Clinic, an innovative solution addressing this critical need in Clark County. This first-of-its-kind program in Southwest Washington is bridging the gap in accessible and affordable veterinary services.

Equipped with kennels, exam space, two surgery tables, and state-of-the-art medical equipment, this 33-foot RV offers comprehensive medical and surgical care. Staffed by a dedicated team, including a veterinarian, a certified veterinary technician, and a veterinary assistant, the clinic is designed to deliver essential services directly to underserved communities.

## Impact of the Mobile Veterinary Clinic:

- Provides affordable spay/neuter and wellness care, making these services accessible to all community members.
- Targets low-income families, veterans, seniors, and the unhoused.
- Helps manage and decrease the cat population through spay/neuter services.
- Partners with local organizations to reach rural and underserved communities.
- Aims to keep people and pets together, reducing the need for shelter services.
- Expands HSSW’s service area throughout the region.

The Sandra Richardson Miller Mobile Veterinary Clinic is a lifeline for many, ensuring pets and their owners receive the care they need without having to part ways.

*To learn more about the Mobile Veterinary Clinic services, how to qualify, and make an appointment, visit [hssw.org/mvc](https://hssw.org/mvc).*



# HSSW provides a Safe Place for Piper to Recover - Thanks to You!

Earlier this summer, a rescue mission unfolded in Clark County when Animal Control Officer Paul Batchelder responded to a call about a kitten stuck in a pipe. The tiny feline, trapped for a harrowing 48 hours, was carefully pulled to safety by Officer Batchelder. Despite the ordeal, the kitten, whom we've named Piper, was in good health, though understandably frightened.



Thanks to the unwavering support of our generous donors, the Humane Society for Southwest Washington was able to provide Piper with a safe place to recover and placement with a fantastic foster family. Here, he received the care and love he needed while waiting for his new home.

During this Kitten Season, we're projected to far exceed previous years. We cared for 987 kittens through the end of July—compared to 764 during the same period last year! We're deeply grateful to our community and wonderful kitten foster families for giving Piper and all the other kittens a safe place to grow and thrive.

To learn more about how you can foster a shelter pet or make a donation to support our efforts, visit us online at [hssw.org/foster](http://hssw.org/foster).



# The Rule of Threes - Helping Your New Pet Settle In

You've just brought home a new family member, now what? Bringing a dog home is a joyous occasion, but it can also be a period of significant adjustment for both you and your new pet. Understanding the "Rule of Threes" can help smooth the transition for your new dog, particularly for adolescent and adult dogs whose history may be unknown.

- **Three Days:** In the initial 72 hours, your dog is likely to feel overwhelmed by the new environment and unfamiliar faces. During this time, they might be anxious, timid, or seem restless. It's crucial to provide them with a quiet, safe space where they can decompress and begin to process their new surroundings.

- **Three Weeks:** As the weeks go by, your dog will start to feel more comfortable in their new home. By the third week, many dogs begin to show their true personality and start understanding the household's routines and rules. Patience and consistent guidance are key during this period.

- **Three Months:** By the end of three months, your dog should be well-integrated into your daily life. They will likely be more relaxed, confident, and settled into a predictable routine. This stage marks the beginning of a deeper bond and trust between you and your new companion.

Remember, each dog is unique, but providing structure, patience, and love will help them adjust and thrive in their new home.

Happy adopting!

# A Word of Thanks from Andrea

Dear Friends,

Welcome to HSSW's new Rescue Review! We're excited to launch this newsletter so we can share more pet success stories - stories of rescue, restoration to good health and well-being, stories of reuniting families and helping make new ones – stories about the animals in our care, made possible by you.

We're also excited to share how we are broadening our story and expanding our mission to reach animals in the community whose owners need a little extra help caring for them. The Sandra Richardson Miller Mobile Veterinary Clinic is bringing wellness care and vital spay/neuter services out into the community to ensure that more pets have access to affordable veterinary care. Reaching pets and people where they are feels right to us, and we know we are strengthening our community by keeping pets healthy and with the families who love them.

This strategy also helps keep more pets from ever needing to come into the shelter for lack of basic health care or supplies. Of course, we will always be here to provide for animals that need rescue from cruelty or neglect, animals who are lost or stray, and those, like Luna featured on the cover, whose families can no longer keep them – all with the goal of giving them a second chance for a happy life.

Animals bring us joy and comfort, keep us active, and give us that little nudge that keeps us going through thick and thin. And in return, we owe it to our animal companions to keep them healthy, safe, and loved.

As a supporter of HSSW, I know you share these values. From the ground up, your generous donations make our work possible. Please consider making a gift today to help us realize our vision of a community where everyone loves and cares for animals.

With gratitude,  
Andrea



**Andrea Bruno, President**

## Meet Our Trainer: Cierra Silva

Ready to help your best friend be their best? We are here to help teach your old dog some new tricks and help your puppy put their best paw forward.

Our instructor is Cierra Silva, CPDT-KA, CCFC, AKC CGC Evaluator. Cierra is a passionate animal advocate with more than a decade of experience in dog behavior, training, and care.

Using a positive approach that emphasizes relationship building and proper socialization, Cierra has successfully trained and managed a variety of breeds and temperaments. Her dedication to science-based, positive training methods not only eases the anxiety of shelter dogs but also enhances their chances of finding loving homes.

Cierra has developed a full suite of training classes for dogs of all ages including: basic manners, reactive dog classes, puppy kindergarten and puppy preschool. Classes are now open and occur at the HSSW Behavior and Training Center at Wellhaven Pet Health on Mill Plain. Learn more and register at [hssw.org/training](https://hssw.org/training)



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