

A woman with blonde hair tied back, wearing a dark blue PETA jacket with a red collar, is kneeling on a grassy area with straw bedding. She is holding a white and tan dog, Princess, who is looking up and barking happily. The woman has a joyful expression. The background shows a wooden fence.

PETA staff and volunteers are out in the field every day, in all weather conditions, making sure that “backyard dogs” like Princess have food, water, shelter, and insulating straw bedding during the winter. Read about more animals we helped this quarter.

PETA's
**LOCAL QUARTERLY
REPORT**

January–March 2021

PREVENTING ANIMAL HOMELESSNESS



Nina

During this quarter, the veterinary staff of our **mobile spay/neuter clinics** sterilized **3,224** animals, including **Nina**, who was suffering from pyometra, a potentially fatal uterine infection. We performed the surgery, which would cost up to \$1,500 at a private veterinary clinic (and significantly more on an emergency basis), free of charge for Nina's grateful guardians. Many of our sterilization surgeries and other services are performed for free to help indigent families.

PETA's mobile clinics division celebrated **20 years** of service to communities across the region, with an astounding **190,277** animals spayed and neutered since 2001!



Five of our mobile clinics staffers traveled nearly three hours from our headquarters to an underserved rural community for a spay-a-thon in **collaboration** with the **Lake Country SPCA of Clarksville**, where **we sterilized 105 animals** in just two days.

Batman, Cupcake, Bandit, Pebbles, and Max were among **165** animals we transported for free to and from their no-cost spay and neuter appointments. We also treated Max for a paw injury free of charge at the time of his surgery.



Batman



Cupcake



Bandit



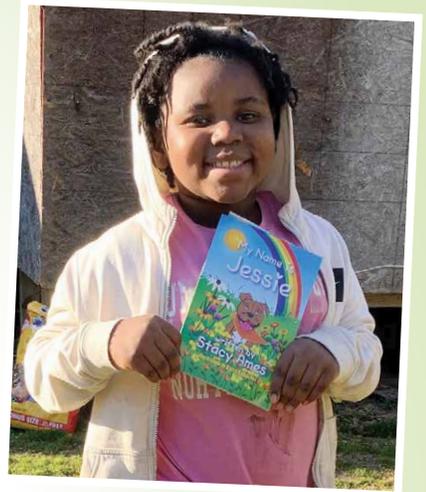
Pebbles



Max

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Through our **Barks & Books** program, we continued to give out children's books with animal-friendly themes to kids we met in the field and at our spay/neuter clinics.



We delivered dozens of children's books to **little free libraries** across our service area, and we're ensuring that the libraries are always stocked with animal-friendly books for kids.



We held **free straw giveaways** in **Franklin** and **Hopewell** and advertised the new Virginia legislation prohibiting tethering in extreme weather with a large banner on our van. Local animal control officers came out to support the event and to pick up straw to give away to residents of their jurisdictions.



SHELTER PARTNERSHIP PLACEMENTS



After many visits and much persistence, **Snowball's** owner agreed to let us have this young dog, who was being kept tied up outside. We transferred her to the Norfolk SPCA, where she was quickly adopted. She was among the **593** animals received by our shelter this quarter and one of the **159** we transferred to other Virginia shelters for adoption.

When **Olga's** owner realized that her energetic young Labrador retriever mix, kept outdoors 24/7 in this small pen, needed far more attention and exercise than she could provide, she gave the dog to PETA. We transferred her to the Norfolk SPCA, where she had a short stay before a lovely family adopted her.



We got outdoor cat **Africa**, suffering from a lice infestation and a severe upper respiratory infection, off the streets and into the caring hands of the Virginia Beach SPCA for medical treatment and a chance at adoption. PETA subsidizes the cost of any needed veterinary care when we transfer animals like Africa to partner shelters.



HELPING PEOPLE KEEP AND CARE FOR THEIR ANIMALS

One of the **480** requests for assistance that we received this quarter was for **Dior**, whose ear infection caused her to shake her head so much that blood vessels in her ear flaps broke, causing blood to pool under the skin. Our veterinary staff drained the hematoma and treated the ear infection. We also transported Dior to and from the clinic for treatment, all free of charge. Her family was among the **335** we helped to keep their animals.



Our staff and volunteers continued helping animals like **Psycho** (whose name is completely inaccurate!) and **Bentley** by ensuring that they had access to fresh water, food, and doghouses stuffed with insulating straw bedding to help protect them from frigid temperatures. We also provided toys (like the one we gave **King**), trimmed nails (such as for the **puppy** pictured below), repaired doghouses, and replaced short, heavy chains with 15-foot lightweight tie-outs. This quarter, we spent nearly \$645,000 on local services to help **4,680** animals.

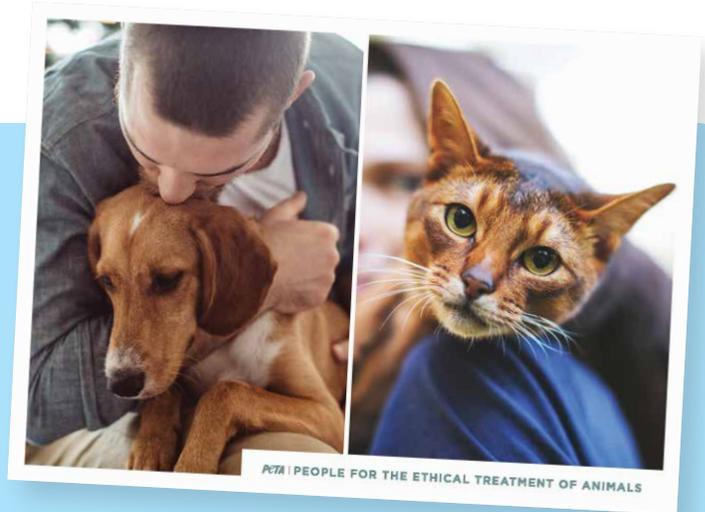
This quarter, we gave new wooden doghouses to **48** “backyard dogs,” like **DJ**, who was chained outside without shelter in near-freezing temperatures. We rushed to provide him with a sturdy, insulated, custom-built doghouse, as well as transporting him to and from the clinic for a free neuter surgery.



We also gave a new doghouse to **G**, who previously had an old, rotting house in an area that was perpetually muddy, with poor drainage. We worked with his owners to set up his new house on a more suitable part of the property and to replace his choke-chain collar with a comfortable nylon one and his heavy chain with a lightweight tether.

FREE END-OF-LIFE SERVICES

Autumn, a 13-year-old pit bull, was brought to PETA for end-of-life help because she had gone blind and was suffering from numerous cancerous tumors, including one that had ruptured. She was one of 104 animals we euthanized at no cost for those who couldn't afford this vital service at a private veterinary clinic. Autumn's guardian filled out postcards asking her state legislators to safeguard our ability to offer such services. This quarter, 319 of our constituent families sent similar postcards to their elected officials regarding our services, including end-of-life assistance.



my pitbull Autumn is 13 yrs old. She's my world. She has tumors. PETA is the best place that my family and I would ever use.

He's my best friend. He's been with me since I was 10 years old. I'm so glad he'll be in a better place. He deserves that.

She'd stopped eating & drinking. In spite of efforts to hydrate & nourish, her body did not recover. Having the ability to release her from obvious pain, from her body shutting down is a miracle. Thank you PETA



Jack

Jack spent his life chained outside 24/7. His owner called PETA when he began to show signs of end-stage heart failure from heartworm disease. He was lethargic, with a greatly distended abdomen, and he could hardly breathe. We rushed out, and his owner made the humane decision to end his suffering.

After an elderly woman died, her family contacted PETA for help with more than 40 unsocialized and feral cats on her property. Animal control in that county does not accept or deal with cats at all, and the family had nowhere else to turn. The local sheriff referred them to PETA for help. Most of the cats were underweight, suffering from severe upper respiratory infections and ear mites, and missing eyes from injuries and untreated infections. Almost all the cats had to be euthanized because of poor health, contagious diseases, and aggressive temperaments. They were among the 332 animals we euthanized this quarter.



Feral cat



Feral cat

PETA euthanized 155 feral cats who were suffering from conditions that included advanced upper respiratory infections, ulcerated eyes, ear mites, nasal and oral ulcers, neurological problems, infected wounds, matted fur, broken teeth, a suspected urinary blockage, a broken leg, and a broken tail. The elderly feeder of the geriatric feral cat pictured here couldn't find a local agency to help her trap him when he became ill, so she called PETA for help. It took several days, but he finally went into the trap. He was suffering from an infected paw injury and tested positive for feline immunodeficiency virus (feline AIDS), which is endemic among free-roaming cats and impairs their ability to fight off infections.

IN-HOUSE ADOPTIONS

When PETA got a call from someone concerned about a cat stuck in a tree for more than four days, we found a local tree climber to help get her down safely. After recovering from the harrowing ordeal and receiving a clean bill of health, **Wendy** was adopted into an indoor-only home with Sherman, another cat rescued by PETA.



PETA secured relinquishment of this tiny, terrified beagle who was confined to an outdoor hutch with nothing but pine straw for bedding. Weak and barely mobile from Ehrlichiosis and severe malnutrition, **Delilah** nevertheless enjoyed her life indoors with a foster home while she recovered. Happily, she has since been adopted by her foster family, including her new canine sibling, who helped her learn how to run, jump, play, and snuggle like a champ.



We also found loving homes for **10** other animals, including **Roxy**, who was previously kept chained outdoors. After months of medical treatment, she's finally heartworm-free and living the good life with her adoring new family.



Please, don't abandon me.

The average life expectancy of an outdoor cat is just one to five years, compared to 12 to 20 for a cat living indoors. On the streets, cats typically die slowly of untreated illness, injuries, infections, dehydration, or exposure. They frequently get hit by cars, attacked by predators (including cruel humans), poisoned, or shot or meet some other terrible fate.

Instead of abandoning cats outdoors, we must address the root cause of feline homelessness by requiring that all cats be spayed or neutered, vaccinated, licensed, microchipped, and *kept indoors*.

