THE CAT WHO BROKE THE INTERNET

When Doughnut arrived at JHS, it was plain to see that he was big — but we had no idea just how big he would become! Weighing in at a whopping 28 lbs., this big guy was not only large but had purrsonality plus. Doughnut quickly charmed the staff and volunteers. During a photo session, a special picture of him demanding attention was posted to social media and quickly went viral. Soon Doughnut was national news! JHS received calls from all over the world, including Japan and Germany. He was very popular but we wanted to make sure that his new owners kept him on a special diet to help him lose weight. A loving couple came to meet him at JHS and adopted him into their family. Doughnut, now named Ziggy, is doing great in his new home and sticking to his diet. Thank you to all our JHS fans for helping Doughnut and JHS break the internet!
Wow — 2018 was an amazing year for the Jacksonville Humane Society! It was our first full year in our brand new Adoption, Education and Pet Help Center. I am proud to share just a few of the amazing things we accomplished thanks to your support:

- Cared for 8,863 animals. That’s 1,700 more than 2017!
- Provided love to 4,165 underage kittens thanks to the help of foster families.
- Helped more than 100 animals from across Florida to safety during and after Hurricane Michael.
- Kept more than 2,000 pets who were in danger of being surrendered in their homes with their loving families.
- Served more than 1,300 children through our education programs such as Pawsitive Reading, JHS Camp, fieldtrips and special events.
- Raised more than $350,000 with our special events Mutt March, Toast to the Animals and Giving Tuesday.

How could this be possible during our first year in a brand new space? Thanks to YOU! Your support, dedication and commitment makes Jacksonville one of the most compassionate cities in the nation. Each time we call for your time, your talent or your resources — you answer. We could not do this without you.

With your support, we will continue our work in keeping Jacksonville — and our neighbors — a no kill community. That’s right! I’m excited to share the news that JHS has been established as a training center by Best Friends Animal Society to help other communities achieve no kill status, all in an effort to make Florida a no kill state. We can’t wait to bring you on this journey!

We are grateful and inspired by Jacksonville’s commitment to pets and the people who love them. Together we were able to do great things and I look forward to what we will achieve, with your help, in 2019.

Sincerely,

Denise Deisler
CEO

P.S. — Would you like a personal tour? Email our team at Events@jaxhumane.org or call (904) 493-4566 to schedule. Invite your friends and colleagues to come along and see first-hand the difference your donations make to animals in need. We need more supporters like you.

FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends,

SUPPORT WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST

Minnie came to JHS in the arms of a caseworker who recently had a client go into the hospital. The owner was no longer able to care for Minnie and the caseworker did not know what else to do. She gave us the number of the owner’s daughter who lived in Tennessee. We reached out to the daughter; she knew and loved Minnie and wanted to bring her home when she came to visit her mother. “Minnie is my little sister!” she said. However, she did not have the means to travel right away and could not come for two weeks. Thanks to you, a potential crisis was met with compassion. We arranged for Minnie to be boarded with our partners at Pet Paradise for the duration. Minnie was also spayed, given vaccines and a microchip. Soon, Minnie was in the arms of a familiar face when her “big sister” came to pick her up. Minnie’s mother passed away not long after but your gifts made it possible for this sweet little dog to stay with her family and prevented Minnie’s family from suffering another loss.
TRASH TO TREASURE,
HOW TWO KITTENS BEAT THE ODDS

It was early in the morning when an older gentleman heard the sound of cries coming from a garbage can on his street. Following the noise, he found two tiny, grey kittens on top of a trash bag – eyes closed, bodies cold and no mother cat in sight. He wrapped them in a towel and rushed them to JHS. Our veterinarians examined the pair and it was clear that not only were the baby cats just a few hours old, but they had severe deformities to their eyes. We knew that if the kittens survived, they would never be able to see.

A foster parent stepped up to care for them with round the clock feedings and special treatments for their eyes. Thanks to your loving donations, the two babies grew into a pair of sweet and sassy kittens! They reached all the kitten milestones – learning to walk, eating on their own, using the litter box, playing with toys – all without the use of their eyes. Nothing held them back! Soon they were ready for spay surgery and a special procedure that would remove their eyes. Now the question was not “will they survive” but “who will adopt a blind kitten?”

Thanks to the work of our compassionate community, it only took two days for both kittens to find new families! One of the kittens, Lime, was even adopted by someone who saw the picture on Instagram and drove seven hours to adopt a special needs pet. Lime is now an Instagram star and best friends with a rescue dog named Letty. Thanks to the support of friends like you and dedicated foster parents, Lime and her sister went from the trashcan to treasured members of their homes.

Will you consider joining our life-saving foster program? Call (904) 493-4567 or visit jaxhumane.org/foster today.
MUTT MARCH
Grab your leash and join us for the furriest walk in town — Mutt March!

Saturday, April 13th at the Jacksonville Humane Society
Register Today: jaxhumane.org/muttmarch

A “TAIL” OF TWO JAKES
When he arrived at JHS, Jake the dog was 11 years old, underweight, and heartworm positive. He was also dealing with itchy skin, hair loss, and an ear infection to boot. Though Jake’s mellow, friendly personality made him an instant favorite of JHS staff and volunteers, months passed and no one expressed an interest in adopting him. A big fan of kids, Jake became one of our official education dogs and spent lots of time interacting with the children who visited JHS to participate in our Pawsitive Reading program, field trips, and camps. Little did he know, he would soon meet another Jake who would change his life.

Jake the human was nine and in the third grade. A big fan of animals, he was excited to spend a week at JHS’s summer camp learning about kindness, compassion, and how to help pets at home and in the community.

When the two Jakes met for the first time, they instantly bonded. Every morning Jake asked his camp counselors if they could hang out with his canine counterpart and was always disappointed when their time together came to an end. On the last day of camp, he convinced his mom to temporarily foster Jake and give him a break from the shelter. Shortly after Jake and his family finished fostering Jake, he was adopted!

Thanks to your support of our education programs, we were able to enrich the lives of both Jakes as they taught us a lesson in love. You can learn more about the education programs we offer by visiting jaxhumane.org/read or calling (904) 493-4573. Generosity breeds joy!