

VOLUME 19
ISSUE 1

SPRING 2025

FOREVER HOME

CAMANO ANIMAL SHELTER ASSOCIATION



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Camano Island, WA 98282
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Stanwood WA 98292
360-387-1902

www.camanoanimalshelter.org
facebook.com/camanoshelter

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

It is my honor to serve the CASA Organization, a wonderful protector for the safeguarding and wellbeing of our beloved pets. For over 25 years, CASA has relied on people for support. For over a decade and a half our “forever home” organization was led by Martha Huyler. She continues to support CASA by providing needed insight and guidance. The strength of an organization is its people. Rozalynn Muscolo, CASA’s shelter manager, leads dedicated staff as they perform the daily feeding, medicating, bathing, exercising, cleaning, and monitoring, often accepting mistreated or malnourished pets, revitalizing them and finding them new and loving homes. Supporting them are our volunteers, sponsors, and donors. It couldn’t have happened without their help. Our sponsors and donors provide financial resources while our volunteers and adopters are critical in keeping the wheels turning. Our Board of Directors team, freely donating countless hours to fundraising, public awareness and oversight. It is this conglomeration of people, synergistically working towards the common goal of providing all pets a safe and loving home that has kept CASA viable and relevant all these years. The Future. In October 2024, the Board of Directors, Shelter Management, and two Volunteers, convened at the Stanwood Camano Area Foundation. Led by Julie Vess, Outreach Director of SCAF, we were able to achieve a major milestone. We created and approved CASA’s Strategic Plan. These coming years will be exciting for CASA Forever as we work through our three-year strategic plan. We have been very fortunate to receive donations and bequests from individuals, allowing us to look at the possibility of rejuvenating our services and operations. There is a special team working on this. Towards this end we need more Board Members, caring and industrious people to guide us to our future.

We can change the world.
-Wendy Weaver

Uniting animals in need with caring people, forever enriching their lives.

THANK YOU TO OUR 25th ANNIVERSARY SPONSORS

Camano Center
Camano Island Chamber of Commerce
Cat Nap Inn
Gilbertson Funeral Homes
Good Knight Homes
Lenz Enterprizes
S & S Roofing
Seattle Credit Union
Stanwood Hearing
Studio 271
Tim Labs Net
Titos Handmade Vodka
WA Fd Bank
Windermere Real Estate
Work of Art Auto Detailing

THANK YOU 2025 BUSINESS SUPPORTERS

Camano Center
Camano Veterinary Clinic
Stillaguamish Tribe
Tim Labs Net
Tulalip Tribe
Work of Art Auto Detailing

2025 SUPPORTER PROGRAM

BRONZE PAW \$150

Business Name at Shelter, logo on website with link to your business under 'meet our supporters', name displayed at CASA events and in CASA newsletter with a distribution of over 1500.

SILVER PAW \$250

Bronze Paw + Logo displayed on our lobby TV during select business hours.

GOLD PAW \$500

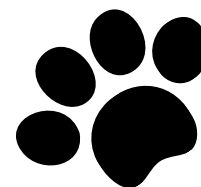
Silver Paw + Logo featured on our website homepage & at all outreach and fundraising events with special acknowledgement

Business Supporter Applications are available on our website.

www.camanoanimalshelter.org

PAWS FOR APPLAUSE

Thank You



Camano Canine Resort

Camano Canine Resort volunteers their time to help shelter pets. They never miss a chance to groom our canine friends who arrive in need of TLC. Thank you for making a difference!

Jeanne Poling- Natures Wild Side Photography

Jeanne dedicates her time each week to photograph our shelter pets. She ensures each and every one of CASA's adoptable pets has a profile picture that showcases their looks and personality.

DAVIS SIGN CO

Thank you, DAVIS SIGN CO, for pleasantly surprising us with your generous donation of our banners and signs. We appreciate your donation and talent!

Titos Handmade Vodka and Blue Heron

This past December, Blue Heron teamed up with Tito's Handmade Vodka and their incredible guests to raise funds for Camano Animal Shelter. They were able to make a meaningful donation to CASA!

Stanwood Country Store

Stanwood Country store provides space each year for CASA to host our Annual Santa Photos fundraiser and includes CASA as a recipient of donations raised during their annual Pet-A-Palooza.

Grocery Outlet, Stanwood

Grocery outlet supports CASA by displaying our donation boxes at their registers. Their support allowed Stanwood Grocery Outlet customers to become our greatest donation box contributors for 2024.

IGA, Camano Island

Camano IGA and customers also raised significant funds through donation box contributions for 2024. Each year Camano IGA asks customers to participate in a 'round up' for CASA at the register. IGA also provides space for CASA'S annual food and supply drive.



LENGTH OF STAY

The last few years have been particularly taxing on animal welfare organizations across the US, CASA included. We see numerous dog surrender requests every week and lack the capacity to take in the requests as they come in. We spent a majority of 2024 with 2-3 week-long waitlists for kennel space. That wait reached 6-8 weeks during peak season. Despite these challenges CASA was able to facilitate 137 dog adoptions in 2024.

The time between dogs entering the shelter system and adoption seems to be increasing every year. Length of Stay is the phrase used to refer to this time period. Our average length of stay for dogs in 2024 was 32 days. Compared to 27 days in 2022 and 2020. Longer length of stays can be taxing on shelter dogs emotionally and can cause behavioral side effects. CASA has been planning and working hard behind the scenes to fight these trends, keep adoptions flowing and advocate for our dogs.

CASA had to get creative. We worked extra hard on marketing adoptable dogs and are still working at finding more effective ways to spread the word about our adoptable dogs. We have a wonderful photographer from Nature side wildlife photography who donates her time to photograph shelter animals. These professional shots provide a great first impression for adopters searching for their new fur friend. Our shelter volunteers have really stepped up and have helped us spread the word through social media, posting photos and videos of our dogs on Nextdoor and Facebook.

Marketing aside, we have been putting our heads together to brainstorm ways to enhance the stay for our shelter dogs. This includes further development of our volunteer program, and improvements to our dog areas. We hope to see shorter length of stay in 2025 and will work diligently to advertise our pets, advocate for adoption and provide excellent care in the meantime.

You Can Help!

Like us on Facebook facebook.com/camanoshelter and share our adoptable pet posts with your friends and family! Word of mouth helps countless pets find their forever home every year!

CASA STAFF

Shelter Manager
Rozalynn Muscolo

Assistant Manager
Gillian Trujillo

Animal Caretakers
Lilly Bledsoe
Emerson Sauer
Kyle Nakata
Hannah Hill
Anika Costa

CASA BOARD

Board President
Wendy Weaver

Treasurer/Acting Vice President
Cathy Massimino

Secretary
Gloria Ingraffia

Members at large
Jim Howard
Marita Smith

DOG YARD UPGRADES

CASA is thrilled to announce plans for exciting enhancements to our dog yard and outdoor runs. At the end of 2024 we had revitalized the dog yard with a fresh coat of paint! Our updates will include some enjoyable modifications to improve the experience for our furry friends. We will be replacing the cover over the back dog kennel area. This cover provides shade in the summer and protection from rain in the winter to the outdoor portion of our dog runs. We currently are using a cloth awning material that often tears and needs replacement. We are hoping to replace it with something more durable. We will be researching options and gathering funding.

However, most exciting; CASA will be introducing a sensory and enrichment item to our main play area. If you're not familiar with a dog sensory garden, you're in for a delightful surprise! This garden offers various forms of enrichment for dogs, engaging their senses through sounds like rustling bushes, birds, or music. It stimulates their sense of smell with pet-safe herbs such as lavender, jasmine, and marigold. Additionally, it features a variety of textures and surfaces, including dig pits, grass, platforms, and obstacles. We are still in the planning processes of this project. We hope to have the sensory garden complete and open for our shelter resident's enjoyment by May 2025. Pictured in the first photo on the right is the new paint improvements. The second photo is a current picture of our dog yard and the final picture are some inspiration photos of what a dog sensory yard can look like. Check back with us soon for updates on this project! If you wish to volunteer or donate towards our sensory garden please contact Rozalynn Muscolo (shelter manager) at manager@camanoanimalshelter.org



In Loving Memory of

Finley Titon
Lily Bryant
Mitzi Dobbins
Murphy Gibson
Rocky Blackman



Romeo Hickenbottom
Rosie Jorgensen
Sammy Jones
Stella Gildow
Parsons' Past Pets



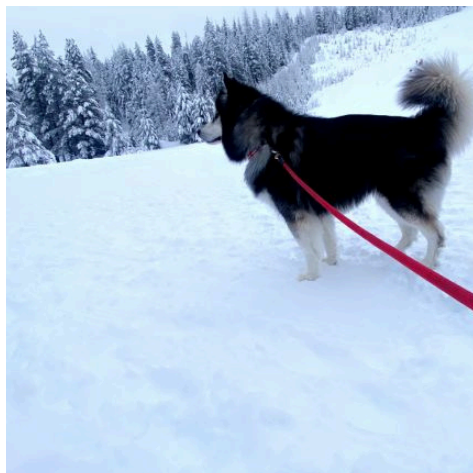
HAPPY TAILS



Velma

Velma is doing well! She's still coming out of her shell a bit, but has been a great addition to the family. We're still working on some reactivity training and minor behavioral things but she's been making amazing progress. She has absolutely fallen in love with my wife Payton, following her all over the house. We plan on keeping her forever!

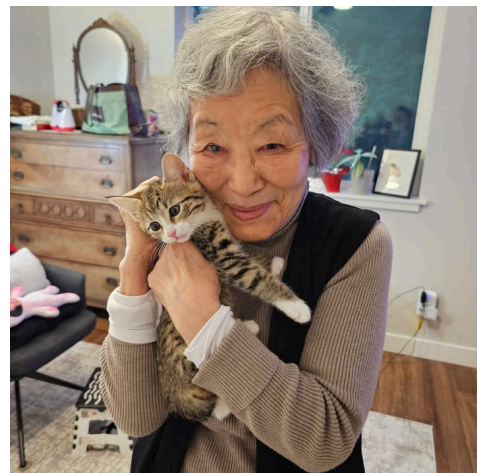
-The Johnsons



Toby

Toby is doing fantastic! We love this boy so much!! He's gone hiking and cross country skiing (which he LOVED!) with us and he also loves his daily play dates at the indoor dog park. Christmas was so fun with him...Santa even brought him gifts!! We've made so many new friends thanks to this beautiful boy and couldn't imagine life without him. Toby has progressed so much, it's wonderful to see him become an amazing dog and watch his personality shine through!!

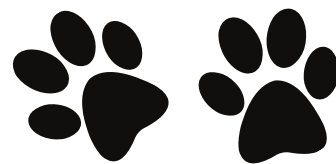
-Johanna



Minnie

I went to CASA before Christmas and saw three adorable sisters in a cage. Someone else had their eye on two of the kittens and I felt like the third was meant for me. We named her Minnie and she has been such a good girl. My 89-year-old mom has fallen in love with her, and I think Minnie feels the same way. She spends more of her days hanging out with my mom in her room. She's not afraid of anything and loves interacting with all her humans. She's the perfect kitty.

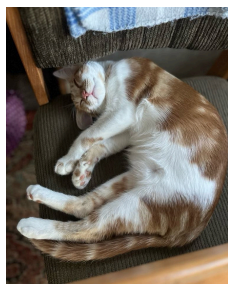
-Mariko



C.A.S.A. Alumni



Howie 2023



Cheddar 2024



Hughie 2024

Have you adopted from CASA? Send us an email message with a photo of your pet and we will include it in our next newsletter! Please be sure to include the full name of your pet and the month/year adopted. Have a Happy Tail?
casa@camanoanimalshelter.org

GET INVOLVED

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM OPEN POSITIONS

volunteercoordinator@camanoanimalshelter.org

Morning Cleaning:

Assist staff with cleaning/feeding duties for cats prior to public hours. Ready the shelter for visitors, adopters, and incoming pets. Tasks include sweeping, mopping, scooping litter boxes, cleaning cat condos, washing dishes and laundry.

Friends of CASA

As we enter into our busiest season, we will be actively recruiting volunteers to join the friends of CASA. Friends of CASA meet monthly on the second Thursday at the Camano Multi-Purpose Building next to the shelter. Participate in community outreach and fundraising events (Spring Market, Pet Food Drive, Dog Wash) to promote the work of CASA.

Join the CASA Board of Directors:

We are pleased to be recruiting new Board Members to support our organization. We are looking for talented and motivated individuals who are enthusiastic about contributing to the well-being of the animal shelter. Our mission is "Uniting animals in need with caring people forever enriching their lives." Candidates who possess leadership skills and experience and expertise in business administration, accounting, finance, sales, marketing, law, public relations, or current or prior board experience and the ability to operate as part of a team are urged to apply. All Board Members are expected to attend monthly Board meetings and actively participate on at least one committee. If you are hardworking and interested in being considered as a candidate for openings on our Board, please contact Gloria Ingrassia at gfabis@wavecable.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



CASA FREE MICROCHIP CLINIC Saturday, April 12th 11AM-4PM.

We will be microchipping dogs and cats all day for free. Come on down, register and get in line. All pets must be greater than two pounds, older than 8 weeks and easily handled by staff. We microchip on a first come first served basis. No appointment necessary. Pets should arrive on leash or in a secure carrier.

CASA SPRING MARKET Saturday, May 10th 10AM-4PM

Join CASA this spring at our annual spring market! We will be selling baked goods, pet themed merchandise, CASA gear, and other goodies. All proceeds support the homeless animals in our care.



-----YES! I WANT TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED-----

Did you know you can make a difference?

Veterinary services and all supplies have risen dramatically, but your tax-deductible charitable gift of:

\$25 can provide vaccines for one animal or microchip 3 animals

\$50 can provide KMR milk replacement formula for a litter of kittens or vital blood and urinalysis lab work for one sick and/or senior animal

\$100 can provide two months of basic care for a typical long-term animal or microchip 12 animals

\$250 can provide FIV/FelV blood tests for 16 cats

\$500 can help us spay/neuter one litter of kittens and their moms

\$1000 can provide dental cleaning and extractions for an older cat or dog

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of:

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____



Helping Animals in Need

☐ My donation is in ☐Memory ☐in Honor of a pet (Please include a note with honoree's name and contact person)

☐ My donation is in ☐Memory ☐in Honor of a person (Please include a note with honoree's name and contact person)

☐ Please send my gift receipt via e-mail so more of my contribution can go toward helping the animals (Please include e-mail address)

☐ I do not need a receipt for my donation.

☐ My employer will match my gift. Enclosed is my completed matching gift form.

CASA does not share/sell donor information, and every dollar you give makes a difference. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization and no-kill shelter. Federal Tax ID #91-1913293 CASA appreciates your generosity. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. By providing your email address, you are giving permission to be included in our eNews communications. You may opt out at any time and we never share your information.