



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Diego Humane Society and Local Pet Adopters Celebrated by Petco Love

Two San Diego pet adopter's stories selected as winners in annual Petco Love Stories campaign, surprising San Diego Humane Society with \$11,000 lifesaving grant award. Now San Diego Humane Society can earn \$25K more with public's vote.

San Diego, CA (Dec. 7, 2021) – San Diego Humane Society was surprised with an \$11,000 check from [Petco Love](#) during a celebration at Petco earlier today, all thanks to two stories submitted by adopters Veronica Bunn and Veronika Lazarus in the [Petco Love Stories campaign](#).

Bunn's and Lazarus's heartwarming stories of how their adopted pets changed their lives were selected as two of 100 [Love Stories](#) winners from across the country this year. Now San Diego Humane Society can earn up to an additional \$25,000, but they need the community's support. From now through Dec. 15, 2021, Noon CST, the public can vote for San Diego Humane Society's winning stories in the People's Choice competition at [petcolove.org/lovestories](#).



"These stories show how adopted pets change our lives for the better and we are so thankful they shared their stories in the annual Petco Love Stories campaign to help us receive a grant award. These funds will help us bring more pets in need together with loving families," said Gary Weitzman, president and CEO at San Diego Humane Society. "Now you can help us save even more pet lives by voting for our story in the People's Choice Competition."

People's Choice Competition: The top five stories with the most votes will earn additional grant funding from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The deadline to vote is December 15, 2021, Noon CST. Winners will be announced before Christmas. To view all 100 stories and vote for a favorite, visit [petcolove.org/lovestories](#).

Quotes from the Winning Stories:

Veronika and Bailey: "Brian was not feeling well and went to lie down and rest. After about an hour, Bailey came to find me and started his meowing routine asking me to follow him. He took me to the bedroom where he jumped on the bed and started crying in Brian's face. It was then I realized Brian was not breathing."

Veronica and Pharaoh: "Life has been exceptionally happier since Pharaoh joined our family. Pharaoh has brought a new ray of hope for my husband's health, and they do everything together."

Since 2013, more than 20,000 adopters have shared how their pets have changed their lives in the annual campaign, with Petco Love granting nearly \$7 million to the hardworking animal welfare organizations making these adoption matches possible. For more, visit [petcolove.org/lovestories](#).

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About San Diego Humane Society

San Diego Humane Society's scope of social responsibility goes beyond adopting animals. We offer programs that strengthen the human-animal bond, prevent cruelty and neglect, provide medical care, educate the community and serve as a safety net for all pet families. Serving San Diego County since 1880, San Diego Humane Society has campuses in El Cajon, Escondido, Oceanside, Ramona and San Diego. For more information, please visit sdhumane.org.

About Petco Love

Petco Love is a nonprofit changing lives by making communities and pet families closer, stronger, and healthier. Since our founding in 1999 as the Petco Foundation, we've empowered animal welfare organizations by investing \$300 million in adoption and other lifesaving efforts. We've helped find loving homes for more than 6.5 million pets in partnership with Petco and organizations nationwide. Today, our love for pets drives us to lead with innovation, creating tools animal lovers need to reunite lost pets, and lead with passion, inspiring and mobilizing communities and our more than 4,000 animal welfare partners to drive lifesaving change alongside us. Is love calling you? Visit petcolove.org or follow at [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to be part of the lifesaving work we're leading every day.