

Byron's Warm Fuzzy Tale



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1. Byron's first days at SAFe.
2. Testing chair ergonomics in the Adoptions Office.
3. Byron's adopted brother and fellow SAFe alum, Neegan.

Byron, Neegan, and hundreds of other cats were able to get support **thanks to cat lovers like you!**

Some cats find loving homes as soon as they arrive at SAFe. Others, like Byron, need more time.

Byron desperately sought engagement with his environment and people nearby. When his needs weren't met, he would escalate his frustration by biting in an attempt to communicate. Craving interaction and playtime, he found comfort in SAFe's Adoption Team office, where he was fostered.

After months working with staff and volunteers, Byron finally went home with a compassionate individual—along with a new feline friend, Neegan! The transition was a success, and both the kitties and the resident dog get along great.

Byron's adopter marvels at his transformation. Not only has he stopped biting: "He's the first cat I've had that actually seems to like belly rubs!" His new habit is following his adopter from room to room.

Though he's opened up more, Byron retains his office cat skills. "He seems to have settled into his role as my work-from-home supervisor and takes every opportunity to sit on the unoccupied keyboard!"

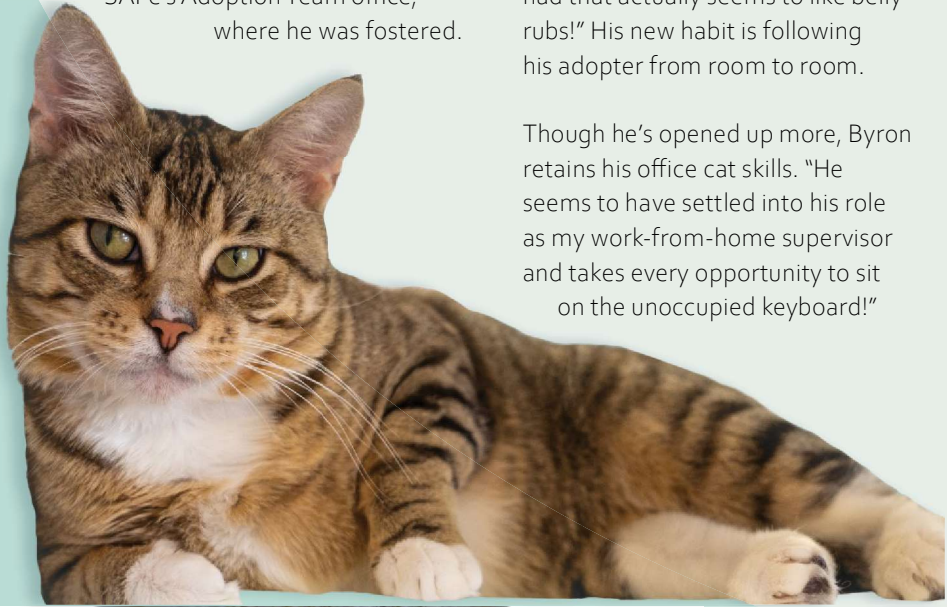


Photo by Kathy Jones

Adopted July 2023
Sophie



a new home for the Rescue

Seattle Area Feline Rescue
Annual Report | 2023

20226 Ballinger Way NE
Shoreline, WA 98155

**SEATTLE AREA
FELINE
RESCUE**



Letter from Emily | Executive Director, SAFE Rescue

2023 was a year of exciting growth and change at SAFE Rescue!

The move to a larger facility has transformed our work, allowing us to take on new challenges, build community in new ways, and save even more lives.

SAFE's new home would not have been possible without our amazing community. More than 500 supporters contributed to the Capital Campaign. A team of more than 75 staff and volunteers packed and moved our entire operation in a mere 10 days. Meanwhile, our foster community stepped up to house all the cats offsite during the closure. This incredible work let us welcome more than 100 community members to a Ribbon Cutting celebration in July.

Then, we went right back to work. **Just 12 days after closing our old location, we were open for adoptions!**

Thanks to your support, we can now help cats in need in new ways. Our new medical area includes a surgical suite, imaging room and ICU. This enables our medical team to provide more specialized care and take in cases we previously could not.

With our new space, we can also embrace larger groups of volunteers and fosters. Our community support programs continue to grow, providing much needed help for pet families in need.

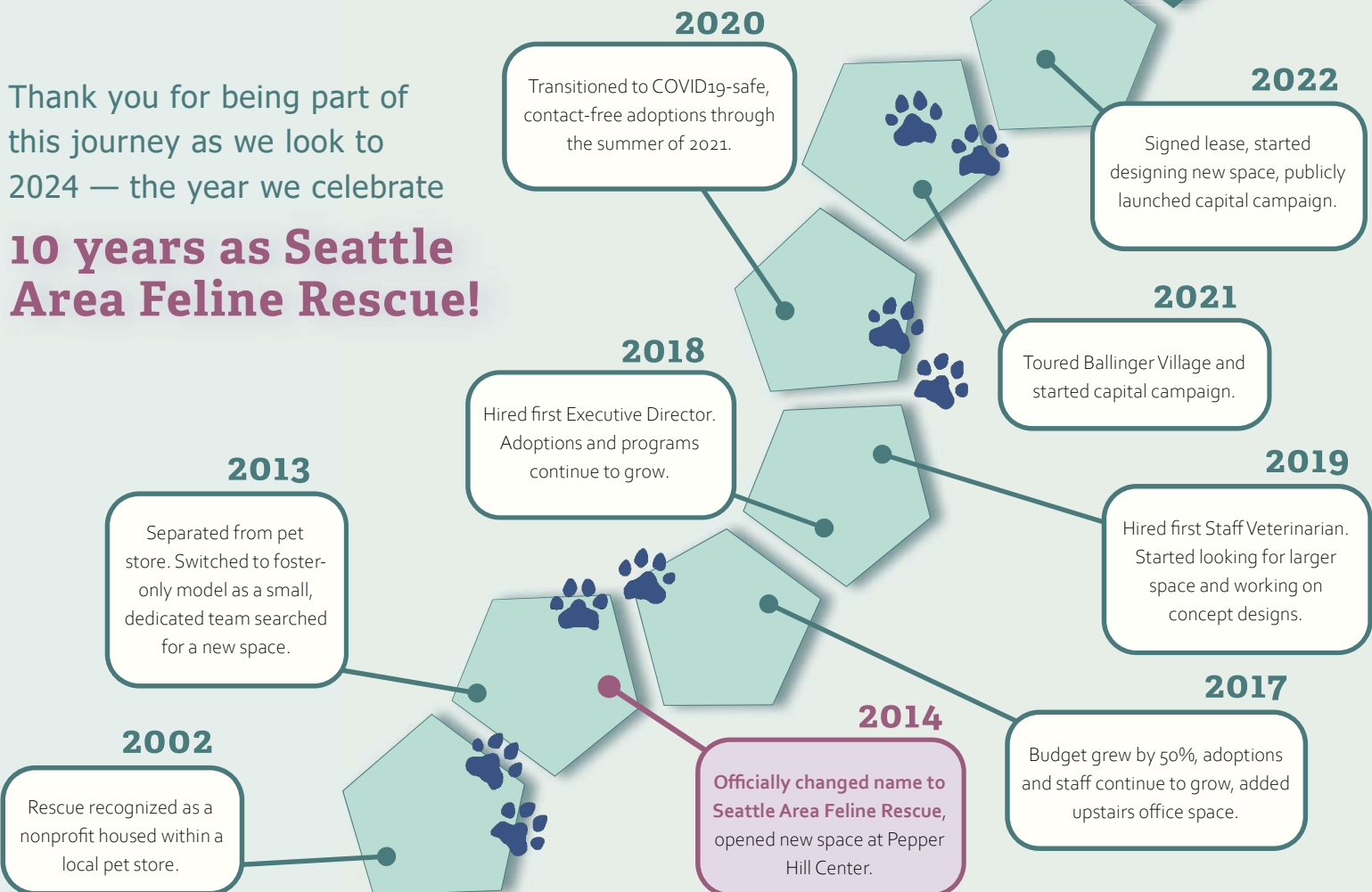
As we celebrate the life-saving work we have accomplished together, we are excited for the potential for even greater impact in the years to come.



Photo: Emily Sprong (center) at the Ballinger Opening Ribbon Cutting with Jennifer Cadigan (2023 Board Member and former Board President, left) and Julie Edwards (2023 Board President, right).

Thank you for being part of this journey as we look to 2024 — the year we celebrate

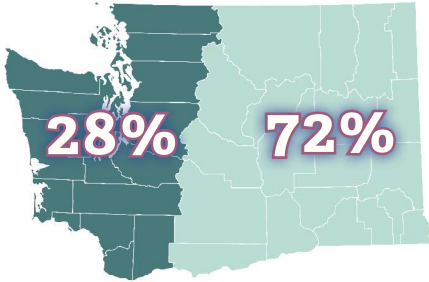
10 years as Seattle Area Feline Rescue!



Counting Paws | 2023 in Numbers

Intake

Of the **1,707 incoming cats** we had in 2023, **1,338** came from Washington.



382 cats from Western WA **956 cats** from Eastern WA

The remaining **369 cats** came from five states:

California	276 cats
Louisiana	28 cats
Oregon	8 cats
Texas	1 cat
Hawaii	56 cats



In August, wildfires devastated the island of Maui.



Full shelters there suddenly had to find room for displaced kitties. To help open up space, SAFE agreed to take in cats who had long been looking for homes, including Bean (above) and Fiona (right).

Pep and Olive brought our house together...

Thank you for helping bring them into our home and for your help through the process!

- Adopter, Feb 2023

Clockwise from left: Poseidon, Shenanigan, Dolly, Pepperoncini (Pep). Cat photos by Kathy Jones.

Adoptions

Thanks to your support, **1,695 cats** found homes in 2023!

Foster Homes

Not every kitty is ready for adoption right away. From tiny kittens too young for vaccines to injured felines on the mend, SAFE's **125 fearless foster families** opened up their homes to **1,100 cats** in 2023. That's 396 more meowers than the year before!

Pet Pantry + Community Clinics

Now at three years old, our Pet Pantry program has expanded to provide **over 6,500 meals per month**. Meanwhile, **119 cats** received low-cost services through our **monthly Community Clinics**.



Spay + Neuter

Our terrific medical team performed **663 spay and neuter surgeries** in 2023. Plus, our new facility allows us to take more complex medical cases.

Volunteers

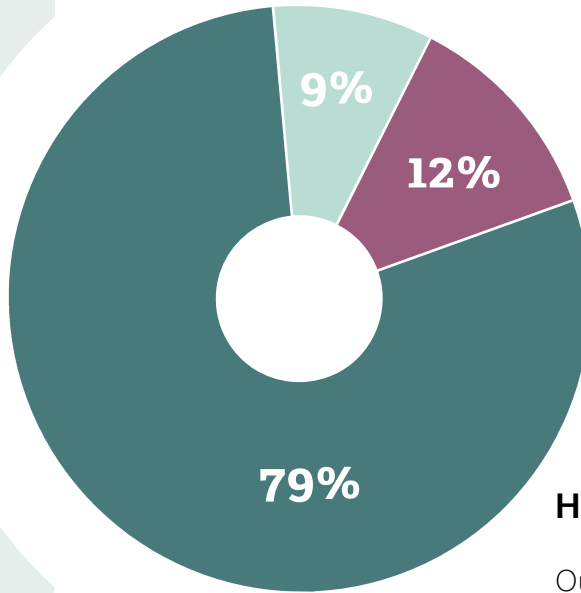
A total of **123 volunteers** helped keep SAFE Rescue residents clean, fed, and cared for on their way to adoption. Altogether, these committed cat lovers dedicated **8,129 hours** to our kitties, an increase of over 10% from 2022!




Financials

What did it cost to create SAFE's new home?

The total cost of the project came to \$1,053,280. In 2023, SAFE spent \$920,462 on the expansion. Of these costs, \$908,347 were capitalized. The remaining \$12,114 were included in program expenses.

Expenses



 Program	\$1,137,751
 Administrative	\$126,452
 Fundraising	\$174,354
TOTAL	\$1,438,587

Helping Paw Circle

Our community lent **254 Helping Paws** in the form of recurring gifts to Rescue kitties! (That's over 63 cats' worth of paws!)



How you made it happen!

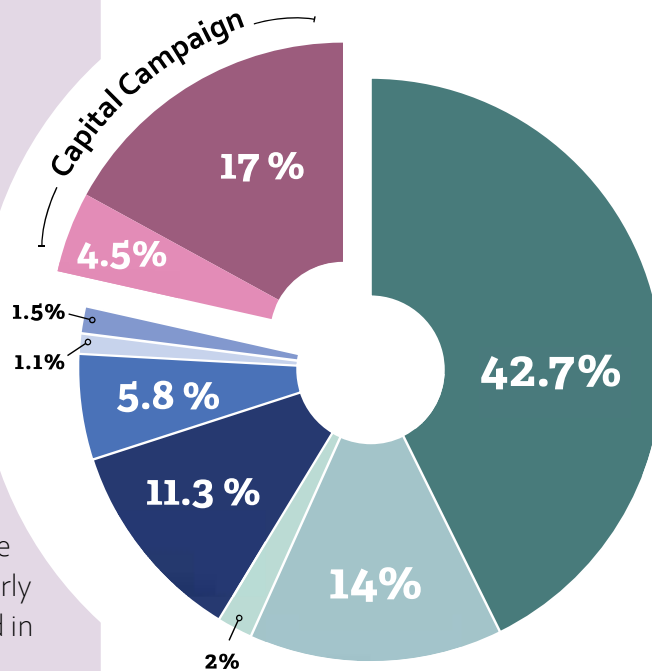
In 2023, SAFE received \$260,899 in restricted gifts to the capital campaign, as well as \$68,400 in grants for equipment for the new facility.










This was in addition to the \$302,742 raised in 2022.

A \$269,471 tenant improvement allowance credit was received in early 2024 and is not reflected in our 2023 financials.

The remaining \$151,768 was paid for with reserve funds.

General Operating Income



 Donations (General Fund)	\$653,974
 Adoption Fees/Other Program Revenue	\$214,742
 Retail Sales (Net)	\$30,495
 Nine Lives Gala/Other Events	\$173,560
 Tax Credits + Interest	\$89,581
 In-Kind Donations (Donated Items)	\$17,307
 Grants - General Fund	\$23,000
 Expansion - Grants	\$68,400
 Expansion - Donations	\$260,899

TOTAL

\$1,531,958

Big Move | Bigger Impact

In July 2023, after over three years of planning, we packed up the Aurora Avenue location and hit the road for SAFE's new home in Ballinger Village.

With **double the square footage** of our previous building, the new location offers increased capacity and wider spaces for the transport, housing, and

care of cats. More room for support services like an expanded Pet Pantry and designated spaces for adopter conversations ensure **comfort for both felines and humans!**

Right: More than 75 members of our community showed up to help SAFE move in!



Community Support

The new space has **heightened awareness** of our Pet Pantry and Community Clinic programs, giving them

a greater reach than ever. We've also been able to **collaborate more with fellow pet welfare organizations.**

Program impacts

Brigid was able to have a healthy recovery

thanks to SAFE's team and her foster family's dedicated care. She is a sweet little soul and has done so well transitioning into her new home and life.

- Brigid's adopter

Thank you, SAFE Medical Team!



Brigid arrived at SAFE with a spinal and tail injury. Medication, foster care and even regular acupuncture helped her feel so much better!



At first, **Bennie** seemed like a medical mystery. Eventually, tests and radiographs revealed a chronic upper respiratory infection. Antibiotics and antivirals help to manage Bennie's symptoms so he can resume his zoomies!



Lucy was a new mama with a previously broken leg. Our medical team used radiographs to monitor her recovery while she and her babies stayed in foster care.

Her leg wasn't healing, so the medical team safely amputated it. After her surgery, Lucy found a new home and a fresh start.

Medical Suite

Our expanded medical suite, including a **dedicated surgery area, exam rooms, an ICU, imaging room, and ringworm ward** is one of the highlights of SAFE's new facility!

Separate exam rooms mean that cats can be seen in a **quiet, enclosed space**, and an imaging room allows the Medical Team to perform **radiographs in-house.**

Even small details matter, like special glass-fronted cupboards for the pharmacy area so **life-saving medications** can be quickly and easily dispensed.

Big Move | Bigger Impact



Adoptions Program

Our new Adoption Center is more **comfortable and inclusive** for adopters. **Quiet spaces** to interact with cats and fill out paperwork improves the experience for humans and felines alike. We've also been able to support training for **more Adoption Counseling volunteers!**

Intake Program

Having **more enclosures** helps our Intake Department **plan for new cat arrivals**, and allows **more space** for cats who need it! Wider hallways and separate spaces for different feline populations help ensure **feline health and lowers stress.**



Photo by Kathy Jones.



There's always plenty of laundry to do — thank goodness for volunteers like Tanja!
Photo by Sampradha Gopalakrishnan.

Volunteer Opportunities

In 2023, our volunteers took initiative and showed up for this community like never before. Already integral to every part of SAFE's operations, many volunteers **bravely branched out into entirely new levels of on-site support**, from ringworm treatment to feline enrichment activities.



*It is so rewarding to be able to have even a small part in **helping someone meet their new best friend.***

- Heather K, Foster

Foster Program

The new facility makes it possible for **staff and fosters to spend more time together in-person** and our updated **behavior-based resources and new enrichment tools** help cats settle in, create positive associations and receive medical care without stress.

Save the Dates



GiveBIG 2024

Join us online for the statewide giving marathon **May 7th – 8th!**



Nine Lives Gala

Going once, going twice! Our iconic event returns **Saturday, September 21st.** Time to exercise that bidding arm!

Far left: Panda washes his beans. Photograph by Sampradha Gopalakrishnan.
Above: 2023 Nine Lives Gala live auction. Photograph by Kellen McHugh.