

# PAWSCHICAGO

magazine

Summer/Fall 2018



SMASHING PUMPKINS FRONTMAN

## **WILLIAM CORGAN & CHLOE MENDEL**

Advocacy, Family and  
Touring With a Toddler

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**20 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES**

PAWS Chicago Past, Present and Future


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**RAISING BABIES AND  
PETS TOGETHER**

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**SPECIAL 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION**

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Society

# ABOUT PAWS<sup>®</sup> CHICAGO

## PAWS CHICAGO'S NO KILL MODEL

PAWS Chicago is a national model in No Kill animal sheltering, committed to bringing an end to the killing of homeless cats and dogs. As Chicagoland's largest No Kill shelter, and one of the largest in the nation, PAWS Chicago has helped to reduce the number of homeless pets killed in the city by 87 percent since its founding in 1997. In just 20 years, PAWS Chicago has grown from a grassroots organization to a national leader in the No Kill movement, guiding other communities in how to dramatically reduce the euthanasia of homeless cats and dogs. By supporting PAWS Chicago, you are part of the solution to end the killing of homeless animals and are taking us closer to the goal of a No Kill community.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The foundation of the No Kill model is inspiring people to act on behalf of homeless animals. Engaging and mobilizing individuals is what brings about real change.

Sitting atop the foundation of community engagement are the four mission-critical pillars that are essential components in solving the problem of pet euthanasia. PAWS Chicago has deployed each of these programs, bringing Chicago closer to No Kill:

## PREVENTION

With the majority of homeless pets originating in low income, under-resourced communities, the main tools to reduce overpopulation are spay/neuter and community outreach.

PAWS Chicago's Lurie Clinic is the city's largest provider of subsidized spay/neuter surgeries. Through the Clinic, GusMobile and the PAWS for Life door-to-door programs, PAWS Chicago is preventing pet overpopulation.

**2017: 16,237 animals spayed/neutered**

## ADOPTION

A robust and visible adoption program is essential to saving lives and building a No Kill community. PAWS Chicago finds new, loving homes for animals through its two No Kill Adoption Centers and innovative off-site events.

**2017: 5,371 pets adopted**

## ANIMAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR

No Kill means being a safe haven for animals, no matter where they come from or how much rehabilitation they need. Through PAWS Chicago's state-of-the-art shelter medicine program, each rescue receives full medical treatment, while a comprehensive animal behavior program provides social and behavioral enrichment and training.

**2017: 98.48 percent saved**

## VOLUNTEERS

A dedicated team of volunteers is essential in every aspect of saving lives, including adoption, medical care, behavior rehabilitation, engagement, spay/neuter and outreach programs. Foster families provide nurturing, warm, stress-free environments that help homeless pets heal and develop socialization skills. Without this impassioned and charitable labor force, the scale and quality of PAWS Chicago's lifesaving work would not be possible.

**2017: Hours equivalent to nearly 68 full-time staff**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP



### ADOPT

Meet pets in need of loving homes.  
[pawschicago.org/adopt](https://pawschicago.org/adopt)

### VOLUNTEER

Donate your time. Volunteer or foster to save lives.  
[pawschicago.org/volunteer](https://pawschicago.org/volunteer)  
[pawschicago.org/foster](https://pawschicago.org/foster)

### CONNECT

Become a part of our life-saving community.  
[pawschicago.org](https://pawschicago.org)  
[facebook.com/pawschicago](https://facebook.com/pawschicago)  
[instagram.com/pawschicago](https://instagram.com/pawschicago)  
[twitter.com/pawschicago](https://twitter.com/pawschicago)

### DONATE

Help an animal in need today.  
[pawschicago.org/donate](https://pawschicago.org/donate)



## DEAR FRIENDS,

This issue of *PAWS Chicago* magazine is a momentous one. It features a momentous anniversary (twenty years!), a momentous celebrity (William Corgan, page 30) and some momentous challenges for the future (Getting to No Kill, page 26).

We have accomplished so much together in these past two decades. The most momentous story of all is the progress we've made in reducing animal homelessness in Chicago through our No Kill Model.

Thanks to the combined efforts of animal lovers across the city, 87% fewer animals are now killed in Chicago each year. When you consider that, in 1997, more than 42,000 homeless pets were euthanized in the city, the results are even more remarkable.

The numbers tell an important story. They represent lives saved and they chart impact. But the real measurement of success is in the personal story of every pet saved and every person who has given their time, their love and their resources to make a difference. Our lifesaving work is sustained each day when people make that same decision...to volunteer, to donate, to foster, to adopt, to advocate.

After twenty years we pause to celebrate both what we have prevented (page 6) and what we have built (page 12). And we renew our resolve to transform Chicago into a truly humane No Kill community, offering life, treatment and

rehabilitation to all homeless animals not irremediably suffering or deemed dangerous.

As we enter our third decade, our goal is to create a sustainable model of lifesaving success which can be replicated in cities across the country. It's a momentous goal, but one that is within reach. With our experience over the past 20 years, we know that no challenge can match the loving determination of the PAWS Chicago community.

As always, we reserve our deepest thanks and appreciation for you—the dedicated supporters who believed we could conquer what many thought was an impossible mountain; the devoted animal lovers who have sustained our climb for the past twenty years; the community members committed to helping PAWS through the paths ahead.

With your efforts we have come so far, but we still have great heights to reach. Together, we will continue to climb towards a better future for pets and people.

Warmest regards,

Handwritten signature of Paula Fasseas.

Paula Fasseas  
Founder and Chair

# PAWS CHICAGO

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20 Years of Saving Lives



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William Corgan and Family



**ON THE COVER:** WILLIAM CORGAN, CHLOE MENDEL,  
AUGUSTUS JUPPITER CORGAN, DIAMOND BABY  
AND ANGELFACE

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**  
BOB COSCARELLI



# Survivor **STORIES**

Charlie



Charlie needed help to get back on his feet – both figuratively and literally. This senior Bichon Frise arrived at PAWS Chicago with his back legs nearly paralyzed, likely from a car accident. Between his injured legs, raw tail and filthy condition, it was clear Charlie had a long, uncertain road to recovery.

Thanks to the efforts of PAWS Chicago's medical team and two wonderful foster homes, Charlie's mobility and future both steadied. But Charlie's unique medical requirements made finding the right home a process that would take time.

It can be easy to become despondent at the tragic circumstances in which we first discover the pets who come to PAWS. But it is dogs like Charlie who show us that what matters most is not where we begin, but rather how far we are willing to travel.

At PAWS Chicago, the answer to that question is always, "As far as necessary." Charlie traveled to his new loving home with a family who adopted him this past April.



Visit the [PAWS Chicago Facebook page](#) to view video of Charlie in action at his new home and to see other inspiring PAWS pets.

Norman



Like many of our animals, Norman's story begins at an end. This gray kitty came to PAWS Chicago covered in soot and smelling of smoke. Norman survived a harrowing house fire, ending life as he knew it. He needed to begin again.

We began simply, with a bath. When we washed away the fire, we discovered an entirely new cat underneath. Once revived, not only was Norman affectionate and playful with all our volunteers, but he also transformed into an orange tabby once the soot washed away!

Norman next won over his feline suitemate, Eduardo, at the adoption center. The two quickly bonded, so when Hailey decided to adopt Norman she couldn't bear to leave his new best friend behind. Based on her recent letter to us, we're delighted to report this story has a happy ending:

*"We just moved to Chicago in January and our apartment didn't feel right without a furry friend. We knew we were going to come to PAWS to become some kitty's forever home, we just didn't think we'd be bringing home two good boys! After seeing the handsome Norman on Instagram and then meeting the sweetheart at the shelter we knew he was going to be a good match, and since PAWS recommended he would do better with other cats, we brought home a playmate, Ed too! These two have been snuggling, playing and grooming each other ever since! Norman is right at home. We love Norman and Ed and wanted to send a note thanking the entire PAWS team for a seamless adoption."*

An end is not the end. It is an opportunity to begin again. To rise from the ashes like a Phoenix. Or like a Norman, as we prefer to say.



**WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT**  
**PAWS CHICAGO**

Being your community bank means doing our part to give back to the local charities and social organizations that unite and strengthen our communities. We're particularly proud to support PAWS Chicago and its dedication to improving the care, resources, and welfare of cats and dogs in our area.

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20 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES

# 20 YEARS OF PAWS CHICAGO

by Alexis Fasseas

Welcome to our 20th anniversary issue, where we commemorate the birth and first two decades of PAWS Chicago. Twenty years and hundreds of thousands of stories to be told of animals rescued, saved, treated or spayed/neutered and the people behind that progress.

We honor all the animals who endured terrible circumstances and persevered; who were damaged but not defeated; who inspired us with their resilience, their love of life, their love for humanity.

And we honor all the people behind that progress, not always captured in photographs, which is fitting since many of our most important victories are not photographed either.

They can't be because some of the most momentous achievements never happened.

## We Celebrate!

- \* The unwanted litters who were not born, who did not suffer and ultimately die in overcrowded kill shelters.
- \* The families who did not have to struggle with what to do when their pet became pregnant.
- \* The feral cats who are not breeding on the streets.
- \* The animals who are not being abused because there are too many and are considered a nuisance.
- \* That 15,917 fewer animals entered the Chicago city pound in 2017 than 20 years before. (That's a 56% decrease!)
- \* That 24,480 fewer dogs and cats were killed at the city impoundment facility than 20 years before. (That's a 92.75% decrease!)
- \* Because animals are being cherished and adored as members of our families, and that makes us a more humane, more compassionate and more connected community.



Maria Smithburg, Juanita Jordan, Carol Walter and Mayari Pritzker at First Fur Ball

In these pages, we showcase only a small sample of PAWS Chicago love, but we celebrate every story, every animal, every person and every life that was touched by PAWS Chicago the past 20 years. But equally, we celebrate what did not happen because of the work of the PAWS Chicago community. Thank you for doing your part!

## PAWS CHICAGO MILESTONES

1996

The Fasseases adopted stray dog Phippen from Greece.

1997

Paula and Alexis Fasseas discover the disturbing truth about what was happening to pets in Chicago and founded PAWS Chicago.





Michele McIntire at PAWS 5K



Pam Carey at Beach Party with Auburn and Mocha



Red's adoption



Barb Cooke, Team PAWS Chicago



Judy Tullman, Wayne Gailis, Bonnie Spurlock at Angels with Tails



Hurricane Harvey Rescue



Dina Kinnan, Paul Harvey, Jr., Paula Fassens, Lynne Harvey and Paul Harvey Sr.



Rochelle Michalek, Gus Bus launch



Hurricane Katrina Rescue



Sarah McDonald, Assoc. Director of Media and Community Relations in NBC studio



Weeks Wringle helping in Louisiana Rescue



Lisa Ward and Toni McNaughton, first volunteers at Clark St. Adoption Center

## 1998

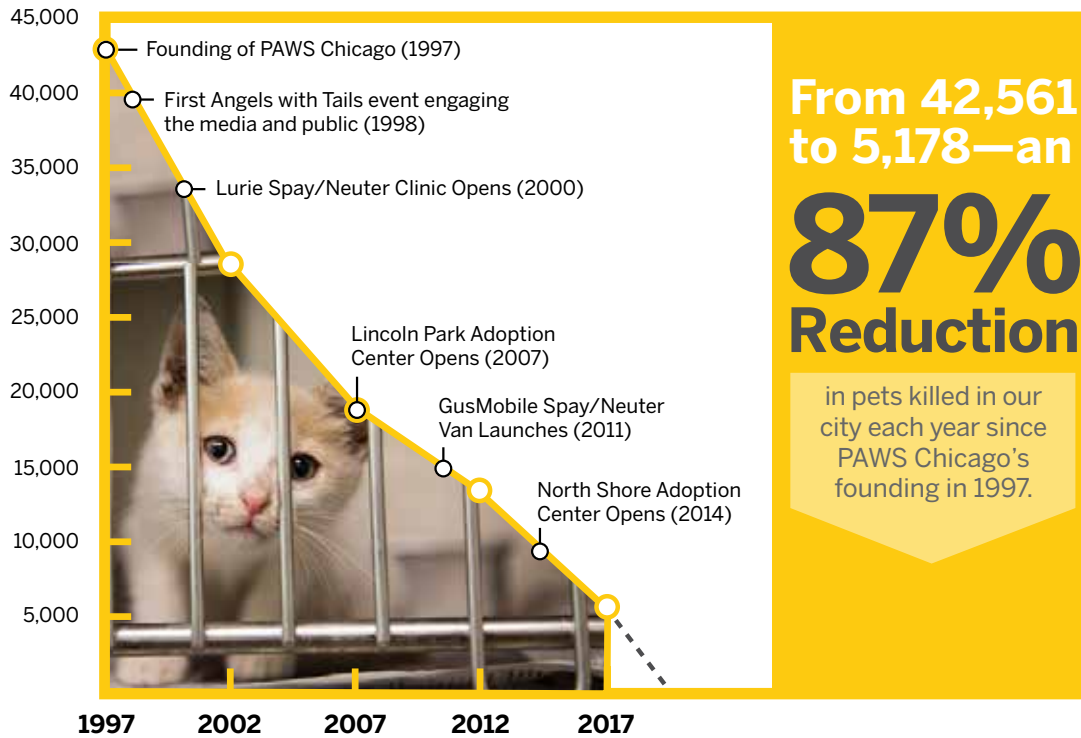
Launched the first Angels With Tails adoption event on Chicago's Magnificent Mile; the first time homeless pets from Animal Control were taken off-site for an Adoption Event.

## 1998

Opened first boutique adoption center on Clark Street and began hosting weekend adoption events.

## 20 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES

### EUTHANIZED PETS IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO



### DRAMATIC DECLINES AT CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL

#### EUTHANASIA DECREASE

**92.7%**

Down From 26,394 in 1997 to 1,914 in 2017

#### INTAKE DECREASE

**56.2%**

Down From 28,314 in 1997 to 12,397 in 2017



#### 2000

Opened the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic in Little Village, providing high-volume, free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries for pets of families who could not otherwise afford it.

#### 2001

Governor Ryan signed the Humane Euthanasia in Animal Shelters Act at PAWS Chicago, setting new standards for euthanasia and effectively outlawing the gas chamber.

# THEY BELIEVE IN THE NO KILL MISSION



## Judith Blazer

"The sign outside the Adoption Center, 'It's great to be alive!' makes me cry every time I see it. That philosophy sums it up." Judith's generosity began with a donation for Miss Kitty's Senior Cat Room, followed by a donation for the Judith Blazer Community Room in the Lincoln Park Adoption Center. One of her most substantial donations was used to purchase the Judith Blazer Building. "I'm just grateful to be part of PAWS," Judith says. "PAWS makes my heart sing."

*Judith with homeless kitten*

## Jamee Field

"PAWS has answered all of our concerns about animal care and welfare in the city of Chicago," Jamee said. The Field family helped launch PAWS Chicago and they were among the earliest PAWS Chicago supporters, naming the Marshall Field Family Surgical Suite. As an adoption advocate, Jamee said "I can't imagine the number of dogs out there that are sweet, lovable dogs that get euthanized simply due to the fact that there are too many of them out there without homes."

*Jamee photographed for the PAWS fall 2010 magazine.*



## Ann Lurie

"I believe in the PAWS Chicago mission" says Ann, whom the PAWS Lurie Family Spay/Neuter Clinic is named for. "I do not believe it is humane or human to euthanize a living creature because his owner no longer wants him or to euthanize animals who, for some reason, have fallen into the hands of the system. Helping to care for animals who are helpless and unable to take care of themselves is a wonderfully gratifying experience" says Lurie. "I hope more and more people will consider becoming involved in this initiative."

*Ann at Fur Ball 2009*



## 2003

*Became the first nonprofit to receive the Chicago Sun-Times Chicago Innovation Award for the PAWS Chicago Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic.*

## 2005

*Opened the Admissions & Recovery Center above the Lurie Clinic to care for sick and injured animals.*

# REFLECTING ON TWENTY YEARS

by Alexis Fasseas

**I WAS SIXTEEN — A SOPHOMORE IN HIGH SCHOOL — SITTING WITH A GROUP OF STUDENTS WHO HAD SIGNED UP TO BE JUNIOR VOLUNTEERS AT THE LARGE PRIVATE SHELTER EVERYONE THOUGHT OF AS “THE HUMANE SOCIETY.” TWENTY YEARS LATER, I CAN STILL TAKE MYSELF BACK THERE IN AN INSTANT. THAT IS HOW IMPRESSIONABLE IT WAS.**

Our group had already participated in educational sessions where we learned about pet overpopulation, about our throw-away society where pets were disposable and about how people at large were doing terrible things to animals. The shelter was there to save animals, we were told. “But there are just too many,” the instructors bemoaned.

So what was the natural thing for the humane society to do with the pets in their care?

Kill them, of course.

In that moment, everything stopped for me – I saw the world as it was and I saw the world as it should be. And it just didn’t make sense.

We were told how the shelter was there for animals when no one else was. We were told about how “humane” euthanasia was. We were told, “If you are



*Alexis Fasseas at an early PAWS adoption event*

*How had we, as a society, reached a point where our “humane” solution for too many loving, gentle cats and dogs was to kill them?*

– Alexis Fasseas

strong enough, you can even sit in on the euthanasia of a pet to participate in the whole process.”

Everything inside me revolted. How had we, as a society, reached a point where our “humane” solution for too many loving, gentle cats and dogs was...to kill them?

Still, part of me thought I should be strong enough and brave enough to answer the call. I should be the martyr who was there for the animals when no one else was, helping to ease their suffering by delivering a peaceful, permanent rest.

## 2005

*Number of homeless animals euthanized in Chicago cut in half since PAWS Chicago’s founding.*

## 2007

*Opened the cageless, 13,000-square-foot Pippin Fasseas Adoption Center in Lincoln Park, bringing state-of-the-art No Kill sheltering to Chicago.*

I'm grateful each and every day that I didn't force myself to participate in taking the life of an innocent, loving dog or cat. I'm grateful that I don't have that image permanently branded in my brain—and that I don't have the warped justification and rationalization that comes with participating in the worst part of a broken system.

For more than 100 years, shelters and shelter workers had taken on the burden of pet overpopulation. They blamed society for irresponsibility. They "took care" of the problem and "cleaned it up" out of public eye. It was us vs. them; good vs. bad; humane vs. society at large. And the problem kept getting worse.

When I told my mom what was happening, she was shocked. "Why don't we know about this?" she said.

She tried to partner with the shelter to raise awareness about the reality facing homeless pets in shelters. They resisted. "We are going to be blamed but it's not our fault!" the Executive Director said. As if keeping this secret tucked away in the dark was the only way.

But my mom knew that sunlight is the best disinfectant. She rallied the stores on Michigan Avenue and Oak Street, a few friends, and pro bono support from Ogilvy—the result was an invitation to local shelters to showcase their animals in Chicago's most visible destination.

Angels with Tails in May of 1998 was an inflection point for homeless animals in Chicago. The media brought light to the tragic truth that more than 42,000 cats and dogs were killed in the city the prior year. For many Chicagoans, it was their first exposure to the wonderful pets in shelters and to the idea of animal rescue. It was the first time ever the city permitted anyone to take dogs and cats from the pound to an offsite location. And PAWS Chicago was born.

PAWS Chicago is not simply an organization—it is a living, breathing, evolving community that rises to tackle the biggest problems facing pets. Each step along the way, when the animals have needed us, our community has responded with the resources, time and talent needed to save more lives.

The past two decades have ushered in massive transformation for cats and dogs. From their role in our families to how they are treated when they have no family, pets are no longer voiceless, forgotten and alone. We have all come together to forge a better path forward. In Chicago alone, the killing of homeless pets is down more than 87% from where we started twenty years ago.

There is still work to be done, but we are closer to reaching our goal: a future where junior volunteers in orientation are shocked to learn that healthy and treatable homeless pets were once killed.



*"There is still work to be done, but we are closer to reaching our goal: a future where junior volunteers in orientation are shocked to learn that healthy and treatable homeless pets were once killed."*

— Alexis Fasseas

## 2007

Charity Navigator placed PAWS Chicago on their Charity Hall of Fame national top 10 list at #4.

## 2008

Oprah Winfrey surprised PAWS Chicago with a visit, highlighting PAWS Chicago bringing the No Kill movement to national attention.

20 YEARS OF SAVING LIVES

# PAWS CHICAGO PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

by Danielle Gordon & William Kearney



**In June of 1996, on the island of Crete, PAWS founders Paula Fasseas and her daughter Alexis fell in love with a stray dog they named Pippen. If left on his own, they learned that Pippen, like many of the island dogs, would likely meet a grim fate.**

The Fasseas family rescued Pippen from that fate, not knowing their decision to save one dog would change the fate of tens of thousands of lives over the next twenty years.

Since its founding in 1997, PAWS Chicago has revolutionized the standard of care and treatment of homeless animals in Chicago. In this issue of *PAWS Chicago* magazine, we track PAWS' impact on the animal welfare movement in the past, present and future. We then consider what it will take to reach the ultimate goal – creating sustainable No Kill communities where all healthy and treatable animals are saved.

Since 1997, the number of cats and dogs killed in the city has been reduced from 42,561 to 5,178—a reduction of 87 percent.

Shifting the paradigm of how society cares for the most vulnerable animals has taken the effort of countless people. PAWS and the animal welfare movement have grown tremendously, and so much has changed for the better.

But some things remain unchanged. Each day when faced with the monumental challenge of thousands of homeless pets at risk and in need, we remember to begin by saving one.

## Since 1997

**Adoptions: Over 55,000**

**Spay/Neuter: Over 230,000**

IMPACT AT CHICAGO ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL

**92.7% decrease in euthanasia**

**56.2% decrease in animal intake**

**2008**

*PAWS Chicago partnered with Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine to receive a Maddie's Fund Shelter Medicine grant, becoming one of the first shelters with a robust shelter medicine program.*

**2008**

*Paula Fasseas honored as Chicago Magazine's Chicagoan of the year.*

## THE PAST: HUMBLE ORIGINS

If Pippen was the spark for PAWS, then Alexis's volunteer experience at a local shelter was the kindling. Like many, Alexis assumed the shelter's primary work was to save pets. What she discovered was a system largely designed to euthanize the vast majority of homeless pets behind closed doors.

The need to address the status quo grew in the minds and hearts of Paula and Alexis in 1997 after they visited Chicago Animal Care & Control (CACC) for the first time.

In CACC's massively overburdened facility, Paula and Alexis were confronted with a horrifying reality:

- **Every week, as many as 800 animals were sent to high-capacity gas chambers.**
- **Euthanasia crews operated 24 hours a day.**
- **Volunteers were not permitted and there were no transfer groups rescuing animals.**
- **Few animals were available for adoption, and they often waited months in their cages, neither walked nor socialized.**



*Pippen the endearing stray*



*Pets had become  
throwaway items in  
a disposable society.*

*– The Chicago Sun Times*

The *Chicago Sun-Times* commented in a story published the same year that “pets have become throwaway items in a disposable society.” Dogs and cats were dumped at shelters or owners would request they be euthanized because the family was going on vacation and did not want to pay boarding fees.

Chicago's 84% euthanasia rate in 1996 was one of the highest in the country – far above New York's 69% rate and the 62% rate in Los Angeles. Paula and Alexis founded PAWS to bring attention to this invisible crisis, and to engage the community in helping to develop solutions. They envisioned PAWS would serve as an advocacy organization, focused on increasing awareness of the plight of homeless animals.

“When I went to the city pound for the first time and saw the beautiful animals lined up in cages, I kept thinking, ‘If people could only see these animals, they would adopt them. How can I increase their visibility?’ I knew how difficult it would be to get people to Animal Control, so I started thinking about how to bring the animals to the public,” said Paula.

### 2009

*Oprah Winfrey makes another visit to PAWS Chicago to photograph the cover of O, The Oprah Magazine and adopts PAWS homeless pup, Sadie.*

### 2010

*PAWS Chicago makes the Oprah Winfrey Show again, this time delivering PAWS pups Sunny and Lauren to their new mom, Oprah.*



In 1998, Paula, Alexis and a small group of friends hosted the first “Angels with Tails” adoption event on the Magnificent Mile. The event successfully showcased adoptable pets from area shelters. It was also the first time the city allowed its animals out of the pound. That single event brought out the community and the media, sparking a conversation about the more than 42,000 cats and dogs who were killed in Chicago in 1997. With the success of Angels with Tails, Paula received 50 calls the next day from people who were shocked by what they learned and wanted to get involved.

“What PAWS Chicago is today is the culmination of starting one initiative at a time and engaging one person at a time,” said Paula. “From our founding, we have been laser focused on solving the most critical issue facing animals. We then do our research on what exists, combine what we learn with our own vision and experience and find the passionate people who want to help bring the new life-saving program into the world.”

The first project was opening the boutique, volunteer-run Adoption Center on Clark Street. “We started with 60 adoptions,” Paula said. “The next year, we doubled it. Today, we perform more than 5,500 per year. But it starts small and, inch by inch, the movement moves forward as more people come forward wanting to help.”

While saving lives was the inspiration, it was clear that the volume of pet overpopulation was the most critical part of the problem. Without addressing the staggering

number of unwanted pets flooding shelters it would be nearly impossible to bring an end to the killing.

With University of Chicago economist Mark Duggan analyzing city stray call data, the PAWS team identified the area where a high-volume spay/neuter clinic would make the most impact. Generous Chicagoans including Ann Lurie, Jamee and Marshall Field and Howard Draft came forward to support PAWS Chicago’s first major project—opening the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic in November 2000.



2010

Senator Dick Durbin held press conference at PAWS Lincoln Park Adoption Center, introducing new federal legislation cracking down on puppy mills.

2011

The GusMobile Spay/Neuter Van launched to reach communities with limited access to veterinary services.





*PAWS Chicago Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic client*

“It did not take long for our lobby to be overflowing with people. We started with 4,000 surgeries and soon had to add another vet. Now, we do between 16,000 and 18,000 surgeries each year,” said Paula. In 2003, the Lurie Clinic was a recipient of the Chicago Innovation Awards, the first non-profit to do so.

PAWS’ growth continued with the inaugurations of the Phippen Fasseas Adoption Center, the Blazer Building and Training Center, the Glenn L. Felner North Shore Adoption Center, the PAWS for Life Program, and most recently the Canine Enrichment Center.

Each event, each project and each building brings us another step towards the goal of creating a sustainable No Kill community.

A fire lit twenty years ago has grown into a blazing beacon, ready to light the way forward.



*Adoption Center Groundbreaking*



*The very busy Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic*



*Glenn L. Felner North Shore Adoption Center*



*PAWS Chicago Training Center*



*Learning to relax in the Canine Enrichment Center*

## 2012

*Launched the first diversion program at Chicago Animal Care & Control, placing a full-time PAWS Chicago staff member at the city pound to offer people giving up their pets alternatives and resources.*

## 2012

*Opened the Blazer Building for PAWS’ expanding operations.*



## **2013**

*PAWS Chicago is highlighted on TODAY Show with Kathie Lee & Hoda—and Hoda adopts PAWS pup, Blake.*

## **2014**

*Opened the 3,000-square-foot Training Center designed to provide training and enrichment for the public and PAWS Chicago's homeless dogs.*

# THE PRESENT

## HOW FAR WE'VE COME

As it relates to animal welfare, the Chicago of 1997 is thankfully difficult to imagine today. Chicagoans now regularly spay and neuter their pets to curtail overpopulation. They volunteer, foster and adopt shelter animals at never-before-seen rates. And they use social media to spread the No Kill message throughout Chicago and across the country.

At the core of PAWS' sustained, life-saving success remains its grounding principle of community engagement. There is no better way to bring lasting change to the plight of pet homelessness than by raising awareness and fostering a communal response.

"When my daughter first came home crying about animals being killed at the shelter she was volunteering at, I was shocked," said Paula. "I felt so terrible that this was the message we were giving to our young generation. We have a problem and we solve it by killing, yet we cover up that dirty little secret so no one really even knows. That had to change!"

Even though shelters at the time tried to keep the truth hidden, Paula knew that if armed with information, people would want to do the right thing.

"Transparency continues to be the most critical component of No Kill. When people know the facts about how many animals are being killed, about how many animals are in need, they jump in to help."

This is why community engagement has been the foundation of PAWS Chicago's No Kill model. Ending the euthanasia of homeless animals requires a community-wide effort.

*"Transparency continues to be the most critical component of No Kill. When people know the facts about how many animals are being killed, about how many animals are in need, they jump in to help."*

Resting upon the foundation of community engagement are mission-critical "pillars"—the comprehensive suite of programs required to build a No Kill community. Over twenty of years of work addressing the most critical need at the time, PAWS Chicago has built a comprehensive No Kill model that solves the killing and mistreatment of homeless pet. The four building blocks for success are: Prevention, Adoption, Animal Health + Behavior, and Volunteer Engagement.

**2014**

Opened the Glenn L. Felner North Shore Adoption Center in the Highland Park Petco.

**2014**

Paula Fasseas featured on the TODAY Show with Kathie Lee & Hoda as part of their "Amazing Women" series.



*Volunteer nursing staff inside the Gus Bus mobile clinic*

## PREVENTION

**The best time to solve a problem is before it happens. In fact, 73.75 percent of Chicago Animal Care & Control's steadily decreasing euthanasia rate is directly attributable to fewer animals entering the city shelter.**

For PAWS, controlling the birthrate of unwanted dogs and cats has been the single most important component towards achieving a No Kill Chicago. An intensive focus on prevention reduces the number of stray and unwanted animals born, many of whom would otherwise end up in shelters.

Because of the pivotal role prevention plays in moving a community towards No Kill, PAWS has led the way in building the programs necessary to combat overpopulation. PAWS' two main prevention initiatives are a large and robust spay/neuter program and intensive, door-to-door direct outreach in communities where most stray and unwanted pets originate.

PAWS Chicago runs one of the largest high-volume spay/neuter operations in the nation, performing these surgeries both at its Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic in

Little Village and on the mobile GusMobile, which brings veterinary services to those living in neighborhoods with the highest levels of pet overpopulation.

**Each year, PAWS performs around 16,000-18,000 surgeries, a majority for free or highly subsidized. In total, PAWS has spayed/neutered more than 230,000 animals since the Clinic opened.**

While spay/neuter programs have a significant impact on the number of unwanted and ultimately homeless pets in the city, PAWS found that offering these surgeries alone was not enough if people did not know about them nor have the resources to access them.

The PAWS for Life program was started in 2014 to address these issues through door-to-door canvassing in the city's most underserved neighborhoods, starting with the South Side community of Englewood. Since the program began, PAWS for Life has reached more than 2,600 families and performed 3,166 free spay/neuter surgeries for their pets. PAWS is now expanding the program to encompass more communities in the city.

### 2014

*Launched the PAWS for Life program in Englewood to bring spay/neuter services and other pet resources to a community where they were not otherwise accessible.*

### 2016

*PAWS Chicago announced its plan to expand the Medical Center and to create an animal hospital that will significantly increase its capacity to treat sick and injured animals.*



Community Day volunteers



GusMobile check up



GusMobile spay/neuter client



Door-to-door outreach



Community cat outreach



Visitor to GusMobile Community Day



Laurie Maxwell, Director of PAWS For Life Community Outreach, serving the community.

**2017**

Opened the Canine Enrichment Center for fearful, shy, under-socialized or behaviorally challenged dogs.

**2017**

PAWS Chicago reaches 50,000 adoptions.



Spring Adopt-a-thon



Dylan's Candy Bar: Adoption event



Adopt-a-Thon



Angels with Tails



Holiday Adopt-a-Thon

## ADOPTION

In addition to education and prevention, PAWS was founded with a commitment to help save those homeless pets who are at risk of euthanasia.

PAWS Chicago brought homeless pets into the fabric of daily living by opening two adoption centers in the heart of communities where people live, work and play. Adoption efforts are further bolstered through Angels with Tails events in highly populated city and suburban neighborhoods and at weekend adoption events in malls. When people see the faces of homeless animals in need, they begin to think about adoption first. This life-saving sentiment continues to grow and results in more and more people choosing to adopt their pets.

In 2008, Oprah Winfrey made a surprise visit to the Phippen Fasseas Adoption Center in Lincoln Park. She broadcast a tour of the Adoption Center on her *Oprah Winfrey Show*, proclaiming that she would always rescue her pets from No Kill shelters in the future. Not long after, she returned to the PAWS Chicago Adoption Center for a cover photo shoot for *O, The Oprah Magazine* and fell in love with Sadie, a Cocker Spaniel puppy. She subsequently adopted PAWS littermates, Sunny and Lauren, on her birthday and once again featured PAWS Chicago on her show. From her first visit to PAWS Chicago, Oprah single-handedly transformed how people get their pets, highlighting the importance of adopting.

While PAWS Chicago's founding focus was on animals in Chicago, the community's life-saving success in both preventing unwanted pets from being born and finding homes for those who are in shelters means that PAWS Chicago is now able to widen its net to save pets from certain death in southern states like Oklahoma, Mississippi and Tennessee. "We hear horror stories about people with a pillow case full of puppies going to the river to drown them. We no longer have an overpopulation of puppies in Chicago, so we are able to expand our efforts."

**Last year, PAWS Chicago found homes for 5,371 pets. In all, PAWS has placed more than 55,000 cats and dogs in new homes.**

## 2018

Charity Navigator places PAWS Chicago on its "10 Charities with the Most Consecutive 4-Star Ratings" Top 10 List at #4.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Keep up-to-date with PAWS Chicago initiatives. Visit: [pawschicago.org](http://pawschicago.org), [facebook.com/pawschicago](https://facebook.com/pawschicago), [instagram.com/pawschicago](https://instagram.com/pawschicago), [twitter.com/pawschicago](https://twitter.com/pawschicago)

## OPRAH WINFREY

After losing her beloved dog Sophie, Oprah Winfrey made a surprise visit to PAWS Chicago's new Adoption Center and toured it for *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. She proclaimed on air, "The next time I adopt a dog, I'm going to go to a No Kill shelter!"

Soon after, Oprah returned to PAWS Chicago to photograph the cover of *O, The Oprah Magazine* and she met Sadie, pictured below.

*In 2010, Oprah invited Paula and Alexis Fasseas to appear on The Oprah Winfrey Show on her birthday to showcase her newly adopted PAWS Chicago pups, Sunny and Lauren.*



## HODA KOTB

"This is a life changing day for me, I am going to choose my dog," said Hoda when she was preparing to choose pups to adopt live on the *TODAY Show*. With the help from Kathie Lee Gifford in making her decision, she chose a five-month-old cockapoo. The next day on the show, she named her new PAWS Chicago companion Blake, after Blake Shelton called in to help convince her.

*Left bottom: Kathie Lee Gifford and Hoda talk to Paula Fasseas about animal welfare on the Today Show. Right: Hoda adopting PAWS Chicago pup, Blake*





*Heading to the canine isolation unit*



*Received specialized orthopedic care*



*Treated for skin condition*

## HEALTH AND BEHAVIOR

At PAWS, uniting pets with their new loving families through adoption is the icing on the cake. The hard work of treating each and every pet as an individual and working to cure illnesses and heal the scars of emotional abuse is where No Kill really diverges from standard sheltering.

“I’ll never forget the moment when I realized that an “E” on the cage card of the shelter I was volunteering at in high school meant that pet would be killed,” said Alexis. “I couldn’t believe it was reality when a shelter worker stormed the cat adoption cage bank after a sneeze, asking volunteers to point out which cat it was so she could mark the kitten’s card with the equivalent of a death sentence.”

Tragically, that was the “herd management” practice in most shelters. Because shelter medicine and training or socialization programs did not exist, any sign of disease or questionable behavior, including being too playful or too shy, meant that pet would be killed.

No Kill shelters always treated each pet as an individual, but it was never performed at a large scale until Maddie’s Fund of San Francisco launched partnerships between No Kill shelters and veterinary colleges to develop the field of shelter medicine. Veterinarians were trained in the best quarantine and treatment protocols for common shelter diseases, and thus able to treat many more animals than a traditional veterinary practice.



In 2009, PAWS Chicago and Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine were the recipients of a five-year Shelter Medicine grant, greatly elevating the practice of shelter medicine at PAWS Chicago. While many shelters are unable to accommodate pets with virulent diseases or lifelong medical conditions, PAWS is able to help these animals with the expert veterinary care available through its Medical Center.

The organization has taken an equally innovative approach to helping pets that have suffered abuse, neglect or a lack of socialization. The robust PAWS Chicago Training Center opened in 2014 and the Canine Enrichment Center opened in 2017. Here, a team of trainers and specially-trained volunteers provide one-on-one and group classes with the most scared, fearful, shy, under-socialized, overactive and otherwise poorly behaved homeless residents, giving them much-needed structure, training, play time and exercise. With the right programs, these animals are well prepared for their new adoptive homes.



*Learning to wait with Level Three volunteer  
Behn Rudo*



*Exercise with Fit PAWS*



*Learning to listen with Level Three volunteer  
Carol Glasroth*

**HELP ANIMALS RECEIVE THE  
TRAINING AND CARE THEY NEED**  
[PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/DONATE](http://PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/DONATE)



*Level Three Volunteers: Allison Gamble, Dennis Schroeder, Tim Cross, Randy Egge, Carol Glassroth*

## **VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT**

Volunteers are the lifeblood of PAWS Chicago. Thanks to a dedicated volunteer base thousands strong, PAWS is able to do more with its resources and provide the highest quality care for each of its animals. In 2017, PAWS' volunteers worked 141,075 hours, or the equivalent of nearly 68 full-time employees.

Every aspect of the organization is leveraged with volunteer labor, supporting talented and efficient employees. Volunteers deliver vital animal care and are an invaluable resource for community building, fundraising, and humane education. Volunteer foster families are an indispensable extension of the PAWS Chicago Medical Center, caring for pets in their home before they are ready for adoption

because they are too young to be adopted or need additional medical services and training before adoption. In 2017, 2,667 PAWS pets spent time in foster homes.

**PAWS is now sharing twenty years of successful volunteer experience through Maddie's® Optimizing Volunteer Engagement Apprenticeship. The apprenticeship, sponsored by Maddie's Fund®, offers a full travel stipend for shelter directors, staff and volunteers from around the country to learn how to grow their own organizations through community management and volunteer management.**





## MANU PURI

Manu has seen the organization grow from a few hundred adoptions a year, to over five thousand adoptions in 2017 alone. "PAWS has raised awareness of the need to adopt first, promoted spay and neuter, educated people on animal welfare, and moved this city towards No Kill by changing people's attitudes and perceptions about shelter animals" said Manu.

"When someone engages as a volunteer with any organization they want to give of themselves, but they also want to feel a derived benefit, in that their efforts lead to progress whatever their charitable cause may be. With PAWS, that feeling is very direct and tangible, and you can see it every day."

Manu knows firsthand how challenging the work can be, but after all these years he continues to appreciate how worthy his efforts are. "When you see these animals go to loving homes and live long happy lives, it is a fulfilling experience."

## LINDSAY WALTER-CARLTON

One of PAWS Chicago's first volunteers, Lindsay shepherded PAWS through its formative years by helping however she could. Long before PAWS had any vans of its own, Lindsay transported animals in her own car, driving them to off-site adoption events and bringing them back at the end of the day.

Lindsay continues to be among our most dedicated supporters. Her passion for animal welfare has led her to work in various roles for PAWS including animal handler, adoption counselor, event site manager and caring foster. "I love working with PAWS. It's been neat to see the growth and brand recognition in Chicago" Lindsay said.



## GET INVOLVED

[PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/VOLUNTEER](http://PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/VOLUNTEER)



# THE FUTURE

## GETTING TO NO KILL

**Chicago is at a pivotal point in its journey to becoming a No Kill community that saves all healthy and treatable animals.**

**As we get closer to No Kill, a larger percent of the dogs and cats in shelters—those that have been left behind—require more extensive medical treatment and rehabilitation, have more significant behavioral challenges and generally require more time and resources to be ready to unite with a new family.**

**PAWS Chicago is committed to expanding its capacity to accommodate this neglected population in order to rescue the remaining sick, injured and socially-challenged animals.**

## **Saving the Sick and Injured: New Pet Hospital**

Expanding PAWS Chicago's ability to treat sick and injured animals is essential to building and sustaining a No Kill Chicago. While there have been investments in the PAWS Chicago Medical Center over the years, the limitations of the current facility have created a bottleneck in the organization's capacity to save more animals.

Thousands of the animals coming to PAWS Chicago require treatment for medical conditions beyond the standard care protocols. Many suffer from contagious but treatable illnesses, which require that they be kept in isolation or quarantine.

To address these challenges, PAWS plans to build the most advanced homeless pet hospital in the nation, a project that will double isolation and quarantine capacity to treat sick and injured animals.

The first floor of the medical center will be the intake and triage unit – the first stop for every PAWS animal. It will also house non-contagious animals and those in need of medical attention. The second floor hospital will care for all animals being treated for contagious illnesses. Maddie's Fund has once again recognized PAWS Chicago by partially funding the hospital expansion with an incredible \$2.5 million grant. The second floor hospital will be named in recognition of that generosity.

The expansion will convert 20,000 square feet of raw space in the same building as the current Medical Center into a top of the line, medical-grade facility with one purpose: caring for animals. It will feature a foster welcome area, an additional surgical suite, a feline healing wing for stress-free recoveries, and a dog play space for dogs undergoing medical treatment who currently have limited interaction and exercise.

## **The Remaining Piece to the No Kill Puzzle: A Suburban Socialization Center**

While the Homeless Pet Hospital will help us save pets with more severe medical conditions, the last frontier to No Kill is a Socialization Center with wide open spaces.

While only in conceptual planning stages, PAWS Chicago has been scouting out land to house this ambitious new project which will reinvent how abused, neglected and under-socialized animals are rehabilitated. A suburban location will also be ideal to unite larger and more active dogs with families who have backyards and more open space – especially dogs who are fearful of city activity and noises.

In addition to being a place to work through manageable behavioral challenges, the Socialization Center will be a perfect destination to treat cats and dogs with ringworm a very common shelter fungus that is highly contagious in a shelter environment. With open spaces and sunlight, PAWS envisions building the ideal setting for ringworm treatment, which can take up to three months to cure. Ringworm is still a common reason for euthanasia in traditional shelters despite available remedy.

### No Kill: No Finish Line

While we have seen incredible progress, with Chicago's euthanasia rate falling by 87 percent since our founding, we continue to work diligently to build a No Kill community, knowing that this goal is not a finish line.

Many communities have reached lifesaving success, only to return to massive killing. The No Kill Model must be continued with all of its spay/neuter and prevention, animal health and behavior, adoption and volunteer programs running at full speed ahead for No Kill to be sustained.

Beyond Chicago, millions of homeless animals still die each year in shelters in America. Shelters across the nation reach out each year to visit and learn about PAWS Chicago's life-saving strategies and best practices.

PAWS Chicago is committed to supporting other communities, while helping save at risk pets, one by one. By continuing to implement solutions to unresolved problems in animal welfare, our ability to take in and save more cats and dogs expands and we continue to call out for help to save more lives.

For twenty years, PAWS Chicago has been fortunate that so many people have answered that call. We still have so much work to do, but we are more confident than ever in the success of our mission because we share it with each one of you.



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**Please contact Sheryl Lesch at  
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# SHINY + OH SO BRIGHT!

## *Catching up on All Things William Corgan*

*His outspoken animal advocacy, his new family and his reunion tour with the Smashing Pumpkins*

*by Alexis Fasseas*

**It's been four years since William (Billy) Corgan last appeared on the cover of PAWS Chicago magazine and what a four years it's been! From critically-acclaimed solo albums to fatherhood to now reuniting with iconic Smashing Pumpkins for a new album and tour, our 20th anniversary issue presented the perfect opportunity for an update on one of PAWS Chicago's most vocal supporters.**

**Corgan and partner Chloe Mendel welcomed their son Augustus Juppiter Corgan to the world on November 16, 2015. The couple continues to advocate for and support PAWS Chicago and homeless animals with every venture – Corgan with his rock star celebrity status, now embarking on a momentous tour, and Mendel with her new innovative fashion company.**

*William with Angelface*

### FIRST COMES LOVE

Corgan's latest chapter began at a social dinner party in 2012, though it was not an obvious pivot at the time. Chloe Mendel had moved to Chicago to attend the School of the Art Institute, wanting the experience of moving to a town where she knew nobody. "When we met, there was definitely an immediate connection that we would make good friends," Mendel said. "It definitely took time for our friendship to develop into a relationship. We simply got along great."

**"My guess is he'll very much want to come on stage to say hello or sing"**

– William Corgan



Corgan echoed the sentiment: "What happened between us was very casual, peaceful, and serene, and over six years later that remains how we are. The decision to start a family was an extension of that."

### ADDING TO THE PACK

As animal lovers, neither Corgan nor Mendel were new to parenthood when Augustus was born. He came into a home that was bustling with life. Just a few months earlier, Angelface and Diamond Baby (see sidebar on page 35) had been adopted from the PAWS Chicago North Shore Adoption Center. Senior Mr. Thom, adopted from PAWS in 2004, was the Feline patriarch ruling over the house, which included Chin Chin and Ling Ling, two Lab-Shar Pei mixes Mendel had taken in from a friend.

"Honestly, life hasn't changed much since Augustus was born," Corgan said. "Except perhaps a restructuring of my priorities, which I don't mind at all." Mendel agrees. "A lot has stayed the same, except I wake up at 6 am daily, which is not any easier than it was before I had a child. But it's totally worth it!"

Both parents agree that life is brighter with Augustus. As a young child, he radiates a unique combination of serenity, curiosity and love of people. And, like his parents, seems to love dogs and cats.

### BALANCING BABY AND PETS

Bringing an infant home to a house full of pets can be a stressful situation for all parties, but Corgan and Mendel managed with both care and ease. "We let Augustus figure out his own relationship with the pets while very closely monitoring any behavior that was over the line regarding their space or well-being," Corgan said. "He learned with them what was appropriate. But the pets seemed to know he was a baby and were very patient."

"It's important to still make time for the pets while allowing them to create their own relationship with the child," said Mendel. "The pets are fully aware of the new baby in the home. It's important that they know they are loved and a part of the family and that it is their job to welcome in the new addition as if it were their own."

Both parents emphasized the importance of always monitoring children when they are with animals. “But we make sure that Augustus is aware that animals are sacred, and it is our job to love them too,” said Mendel. “He feels unconditional love for the dogs and cats and allows the pets to love him back.”

“He chases the cats and thinks they are the silliest things in the world,” Mendel said. “And the cats are so gentle with him.” As kittens, Angelface and Diamond Baby would sit on Mendel’s pregnant tummy. “I always felt they had a strong connection with Augustus before he entered the world,” she said.

Corgan senses that the dogs initially were concerned they would be pushed aside by the new baby, “but now they are quite sweet about it all and love that Augustus is messy and willing to give them treats,” he continued. “I’m proud of how patient they’ve been as he has grown and learned how to be gentle with Chin and Ling. The cats have also been remarkable with allowing Augustus to figure out what is appropriate behavior.”



## Introducing Your Pet and Child

**Let interactions between pet and baby happen naturally, don't force things. When your pet is calm, allow them to sniff the baby's feet, and reward them with a treat.**

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**FOR MORE ABOUT PETS AND CHILDREN, SEE PAGE 38 OR VISIT [PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/BABY](http://PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/BABY)**





### BALANCING BABY AND CAREER

Creative energy and inspiration runs deep into the bloodline for Augustus, and he is already a part of all the action, not sitting in the stands.

Corgan started his first tour since Augustus came into the world. And he seems to be in a place of professional grace. “It’s been nearly 19 years since James, Jimmy, and I recorded together, so we’ve just completed eight songs with producer Rick Rubin,” he said. “Off the heels of that we’ll be doing our first tour in 18 years, so it’s probably one of the sweetest times in the band’s long, winding history. For time has certainly shown me the deep appreciation I have for our friendships and musical family.”

He is eager to see how Augustus takes to the road. As to be expected, he’s been exposed to the music scene since infancy, going to his dad’s shows when he was too young to know what was happening. “He watches my music videos every day now, so I’m excited to see how he adapts to tour buses and arenas full of people,” Corgan said. But he has a feeling the apple hasn’t fallen very far from the tree. “My guess is he’ll very much want to come on stage to say hello or sing.”

While his father has been writing the next chapter of his music history, Augustus’ mother has been busy launching a creative enterprise of her own. Commuting frequently to New York City with Augustus by her side, Mendel is blending her family’s age old craft with a fresh and more inclusive approach to appeal to the modern shopper. Maison Atia, Chloe’s new luxury faux fur collection, launched in November 2017, building upon the fine crafting and expertise of the House of Mendel, of which Chloe is the sixth generation, but shifting from real to faux fur.

“I loved how my parents included me in their day-to-day lives, and I want Augustus to experience that with me,” Mendel said. “One isn’t exclusive to the other. Everything is integrated, and I think the best lessons in life are learned through experience and observation. Hopefully he will see what we do, and only improve it one day!”

“We are very family oriented, and I love that Augustus can be a part of my work-life and his father’s,” Mendel said. “Not many babies go to fabric stores in the day, then music studios at night.”

It is still far too early to tell if Augustus will be generation seven, taking the fashion world by storm, or perhaps follow his father’s footsteps on stage, performing in front of adoring fans. But we know one thing for sure: Augustus will carry forth his parents’ animal-loving traditions.



Find tour dates at  
[SMASHINGPUMPKINS.COM](http://SMASHINGPUMPKINS.COM)

# CORGAN & PAWS CHICAGO — UNITED IN SAVING PETS

Throughout much of PAWS Chicago's 20-year history, dating back to the formative days as a volunteer-run storefront adoption center on Clark Street, William (Billy) Corgan has embraced PAWS Chicago and its No Kill mission. As the budding rescue grew, so did William's role as an activist for animal rights and a member of the PAWS family.

These days, living with his partner, fashion designer Chloe Mendel, their two-year-old son Augustus Juppiter Corgan, two dogs and two PAWS cats, William is particularly moved by PAWS' work.

When he's in town, William likes to stop by the PAWS adoption center in Highland Park. He goes in to thank volunteers for their work and stays to watch as adopters meet the animals they will take home, to love and care for as members of their family.

William considers PAWS the "gold standard" among charitable organizations, and a uniquely Chicago institution: "PAWS is built around the ideas that hard work and volunteers can make a difference." He points to the number of young people drawn to volunteering for PAWS as an indicator that the organization is speaking to those who see a different future.

To William, PAWS' philosophy and programs are "noble and honorable pursuits" that, at their foundation, are about saving lives. In particular, PAWS challenges perceptions of shelter animals as inferior or damaged and have educated the public on the importance of spay/neuter in reducing overpopulation and homelessness.

"Animals can't communicate intellectually," he said. "They need people and groups to act as translators, to get their message out." Advocates for animal rights can help to build a "bridge that can link people to a new way of seeing animals."

William is particularly moved when he sees this work pay off. "There's nothing more special," he says, than meeting people who've adopted from PAWS: "I see a lot of people at the tea house, and through wrestling and music, and then I meet a family that has rescued an animal from PAWS and there's nothing more humbling."



*Congratulating adopters and adoptees*



*With Paula Fasseas at the Lincoln Park Adoption Center*



*PAWS magazine cover with Sammi and Mr. Thom*

**“Animals can’t communicate intellectually; they need people and groups to act as translators, to get their message out. Advocates for animal rights can help to build a bridge that can link people to a new way of seeing animals”**

– William Corgan

### **A TRAUMATIC INTRODUCTION TO PET HOMELESSNESS**

While looking to adopt his first cats in 2004, William was exposed to the horrible conditions in which animals lived and died in open-admissions shelters. His experience mirrored that of Paula and Alexis Fasseas, whose experience in witnessing the terrible conditions at both public (city pound) and private (humane society) open-admissions, high-kill shelters in 1997 became the catalyst for starting PAWS Chicago.

William’s first visit was to a large private open-admission, high-kill shelter in the city. He recalls that “the cages were ancient, the animals were not cared for, and the people were indifferent to adopters.”

The worst part was that William felt his decision about which cat to take was one of “life and death for the others.” It felt wrong and he left, calling the experience traumatizing and terrifying. And even now, when he drives past this facility, “those emotions still return.”

A friend suggested that he consider adopting from PAWS Chicago.

### **FINDING SAMMI AND MR. THOM**

William’s search for the kittens that would become his beloved companions and muses took him to PAWS’ first storefront shelter at 2337 North Clark Street.

“The difference at PAWS was night and day,” William says. “There was a special feeling in the place -- you felt the love of the staff toward the animals. It is what a shelter should feel like.” The volunteers he met were “personal and attentive. They did not use guilt but emphasized the importance of this decision and made me realize the incredible responsibility I was taking on

for another life. Their questions made me think through the decision. They helped me with what to consider.”

William fell in love with a litter of four stunning sleek black kittens. After they were spayed and neutered, Sammi and Mr. Thom went home with him, while William’s sound engineer, Bjorn Thorsrud, adopted the other two kittens and named them Isis and Darko.

When either William or Bjorn was traveling, the cats would stay at the other person’s home. The siblings acted like strangers each time they met, but by the end of the week, they “would be sleeping together intertwined as if they were kittens again,” William recalled.

### **LIFE-CHANGING COMPANIONS**

William said that although he didn’t know it at that time, adopting Sammi and Mr. Thom had a profound impact on him: “Making that commitment and taking that leap to take someone home and give them a better life is an experience that is rewarded a thousand times over. What I learned from them changed my life.”

For William, relating to the kittens was more “pure in its essence.” It was not messy or complicated by celebrity, money or status. Instead, “simply watching them play -- jumping up onto the table and dancing around can be profound because it is so pure. It can force you to have perspective,” he said.

And the cats’ intuition required no language and demanded no quid pro quo. For example, while Sammi was generally standoffish, when William was in pain, she would know he needed comfort, and would “come and sit on my chest.”

## BECOMING A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

Over the years, as Corgan's interest in animal rights and the No Kill movement have deepened, he has spent hours with PAWS Chicago founders Paula and Alexis Fasseas discussing the organization's philosophy and initiatives. One conversation that stuck with him was about the love people have for their animals, regardless of their financial situations. "A lot of people can't afford spay/neuter without some assistance. PAWS helps, they don't judge."

William says he likes to tell people who ask about PAWS about a dog that was unable to use his hind legs. "This story sums up PAWS in one anecdote," he says. "PAWS worked with this dog for three-and-a-half years. Their commitment to animals whose lives would otherwise be snuffed out is complete. They are true believers in the power of this work – they live it and walk the walk."

William says PAWS has never asked anything of him. But he is inspired by the Fasseases' commitment to "being all in." This positive message extends to all aspects of the organization. "Paula sets this tone for the community that everyone can come to the table and help by contributing what they can -- it's truly a community thing," he says. "The organization does not rely on preachiness or guilt to get people aboard. If what they are doing is attractive to you, you will join them."

For William, charity means more than giving money to get your name on a donor list. "It's about helping to change the social construct. All of us feel we are helping change the world."

"William's involvement has always gone far beyond the financial. He has embraced No Kill, and fights like we do to help animals that others would just abandon," Paula said. While he has raised and given large donations to PAWS, Paula points to his work speaking out and inspiring others. "William uses the platforms he has developed in the public sphere as an advocate on behalf of PAWS and its mission," she says. "Spreading that message is crucial to saving animals across the country." ■



## ANGELFACE + DIAMOND BABY – THE NEXT FELINE GENERATION

In May 2015, Corgan stopped by PAWS Chicago's Glenn L. Felner North Shore Adoption Center in Highland Park and fell in love with two kittens who had each faced challenges in their young lives. Diamond Baby needed hernia surgery before adoption, and was a bit "scruffy" when William met her. Calico Angelface and her littermates arrived at PAWS in a dirty cardboard box. She was sick with an upper respiratory infection. She was also a bit fearful of people, having lived on the streets.

Angelface and Diamond Baby have now grown up. The scared, sickly little kittens are now content, well-adjusted members of the household and William couldn't be happier: "To watch their transformation has been humbling and brings tears to my eyes," he says.

FIND YOUR ANGEL OR BABY  
[PAWSCHICAGO.ORG/ADOPT](https://pawschicago.org/adopt)



## Chloe Mendel's Faux Fur Business Supporting PAWS Chicago

Chloe Mendel grew up surrounded by fashion and fur. As the 6th generation family member in the haute couture house of Mendel, she wanted to start a company that would pay homage to the tradition of finely crafted, luxurious fur coats. From that vision, Maison Atia, Chloe's new luxury faux fur collection was launched in New York in November.

Chloe's decision to work with faux fur and to remove animal products from her collection was not political, she says, emphasizing that she is not taking sides in this contentious debate.

Instead, she's trying to modernize traditional fur fashion to appeal to a new generation of consumers. Younger buyers are seeking a fresh style but they also value fine design and meticulous construction. "I was looking for a way to take the craft that's in my DNA and bring it to people today in a fun, inclusive way," she says. The "fur" used in Chloe's collection is so well made that buyers often think it's real.

### WORKING WITH PAWS CHICAGO

Chloe committed from the start to integrate a charitable component into her business and she chose to support PAWS Chicago. Her partner, William (Billy) Corgan, introduced her to the organization and she shares his zeal for its mission.

"I know that what PAWS does is real -- it has integrity," Chloe said. When you enter one of the adoption centers, "you feel happy -- there's natural light, open space and the volunteers are smiling. Every decision at PAWS is made in the best interests of the pets and the community," she says.

Chloe also has a more personal connection to PAWS. "The organization is part of our daily lives. PAWS helped us find our cats, our companions, and we are so grateful for that."



For every coat sold, Maison Atia will provide a homeless pet transport from a high kill shelter to PAWS Chicago. The "Buy a Coat, Save a Puppy" tagline is a hit! "People want to know what exactly they are giving to. When I tell women about the impact they are making, some even cry," Chloe said. Funding is used to help kittens and adult pets, as well as puppies.



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# Raising Babies and Pets Together

## Prepare your pet for the new arrival

by William Kearney



The nurse held my newborn son confidently in one arm while wiping him clean with the other.

“Can I keep it?” I asked.

She looked confused.

“Sorry, I know I get to keep the kid. But can I also keep that cloth? It’s for my dogs.”

That didn’t really clear things up for her, but the nurse dutifully handed me the fabric. The day before we brought Lincoln home I presented the hospital wrap to my two Rhodesian Ridgebacks. It was their first sniff of their little brother.

Like many people, I wanted to make sure I did everything in my power to make the addition of a two-legged family member harmonious for our four-legged family. Did the cloth make any difference?

“Giving your dog an introductory blanket to sniff is a great idea,” says Joan Harris, PAWS Chicago’s Director of

Training and Canine Behavior. “But the work with your dogs should begin long before then. Ideally, as soon as you know you’re bringing a baby into the family.”

Joan recommends brushing up on obedience and manners training to make the transition easier for everyone.

**“Change is stressful for all animals, so the more we do to make that change seamless for our dogs, the happier everyone will be,”** Joan says. Another way to ease stress is to set up your crib/nursery early so your dogs get used to the new layout. And no need to wait for baby to break out the stroller. Practice walks with the stroller will help your dog feel comfortable with the new routine ahead of time.

Will your neighbors think you’re crazy for walking an empty stroller? Mine sure did, but they may have had the opinion beforehand. Either way, you’ll be glad to have your dog prepared.

# PAWS Training Tips for Pets & Babies

## But what if you have a cat?

Erin Mayes, PAWS Chicago's Animal Care and Feline Behavior Manager, recommends acclimating your cat through a series of deliberate but incremental steps.

"One option is to play recordings of babies crying, and when the cat responds, reward her with her favorite treats," Erin says. "Coupling what your cat loves with sounds, smells and objects that represent your baby can help countercondition instinctive fear responses."

Pet allergies are another major concern for many first-time parents. Emily, my wife, worried what would happen if Lincoln was allergic to dogs. "Don't worry," I said. "We can't make another dog, but we can make another kid. I'm sure Lincoln would be happy living with his grandparents."

Emily was not amused. Fortunately, she found the latest scientific data a bit more reassuring. Like most airborne allergens, pet allergies generally don't present until closer to a child's second birthday. In fact, recent studies suggest a pet in the home might prevent allergies from developing in the first place.

"Exposures to certain pet-associated microbes, especially in the neonatal period, appear to be able to dramatically alter how a child's immune system develops and this in turn reduces the risk of allergic sensitization and disease," writes Dr. Dennis Ownby, an allergist-immunologist, in his paper "Recent Understandings of Pet Allergies."

But there are no guarantees for pet allergies or attitudes when it comes to a new baby. Every animal and every circumstance is unique. The only guarantee is that with thoughtful foresight and training you can make the experience more enjoyable for your entire family.

Nurturing the relationship between children and pets is not always easy, but the worthwhile things in life rarely are.

And when you see the child you love and the pets you love happy together, you will know a joy that is more than worth the effort.



**DO** introduce changes incrementally. Prepare your pet as far ahead of time as you can.



**DO** have a designated space where your pet can comfortably retreat if overwhelmed.



**DO** have a friend/family member or service available to take care of your pets while you're at the hospital.



**DON'T** dramatically change your pet's routine, if possible.



**DON'T** force interactions. When your pet is calm, allow them to sniff the baby's feet, and reward them with a treat.



**DON'T** leave babies and pets unsupervised together.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
PETS AND BABIES**

[pawschicago.org/baby](http://pawschicago.org/baby)



# A NEW HOPE TO SAVE CATS FROM DEADLY DISEASE

**PAWS SUPPORTER PHIL RASKIN  
FUNDS THE FIGHT**

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is often called the most dreaded disease in veterinary medicine. It is fatal, and until recently, there has been little hope for its victims. Even identifying the disease is difficult since early symptoms are common to a wide variety of conditions. This deadly virus cannot be prevented, treated or cured.

Long-time PAWS Chicago supporter and adopter Phil Raskin intends to change that.

In 2014 Phil suddenly lost Maddie, his beloved 15-year-old cat, to FIP. Unable to stop the rapid progression of the disease, Phil felt helpless.

But even as he mourned his loss, Phil decided the best way to honor Maddie's memory was to support FIP research. He now leads the charge to develop a treatment for FIP, and to ultimately find a cure for this cruel disease.

Thanks in part to Phil's generous efforts, researchers from UC Davis and Kansas State University have achieved a number of significant breakthroughs in treating FIP. Most notably, they were able to stop the progression of FIP in the lab using modern antiviral drugs.

**“This is the first attempt in veterinary medicine to attack a fatal systemic viral disease using modern anti-viral drug technology, such as that used in HIV-AIDS therapy and in treating Hepatitis C in humans,” said Dr. Niels Pedersen, who leads the UC Davis research team.**

And in September 2017, researchers announced the development of a new drug which allows most cats affected by FIP to go into remission. This experimental antiviral offers the best – and currently only – hope for cats with FIP, but it will be years before it can be properly tested and approved by the FDA.

Phil doesn’t intend to spend that time waiting. He knows so many animals need help right now.

That’s why Phil continues his commitment to the most vulnerable animals by funding clinical care and medical research.

PAWS Chicago is honored to partner with Phil to establish the Raskin Specialized Medical Endowment for Puppies and Kittens. The Endowment covers the costs of treating younger pets in need of life-saving medical interventions. Because Phil knows our best friends need the best care.

And when the best care falls short? It’s up to us to make that care better. With his efforts on behalf of animals today, and his commitment to researching solutions for animals in the future, Phil Raskin does exactly that.

In the end, Maddie’s legacy will not be that she succumbed to FIP. It will be that she helped cure it.



**Interested in honoring your pet with a special donation?  
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### **PHIL RASKIN WAS IN HIS FORTIES WHEN HE HAD A “PET AWAKENING.”**

A successful marketing career led Phil all over the globe, but nothing changed his outlook on life as much as adding pets to his life did. Raskin credits his pets for teaching him to embrace patience, acceptance and love in entirely new ways.

“They give me a real sense of purpose, requiring an emotional commitment I had never experienced,” Raskin said.

As eagerly as he embraced his own shelter animals, Phil Raskin embraced the No Kill cause. His philanthropic contributions to PAWS Chicago include being the founding donor for the Raskin Treatment Center and the establishment of the Raskin Specialized Medical Endowment.

“We’re around for such a short time,” said Raskin. “We spend a good chunk of our life acquiring. Then, if you’re lucky, you have the chance to give back and do something meaningful. I am blessed. I take great delight that after years of work I can now do some good.”



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# PAWS CHICAGO FUR BALL

Nearly 200 dogs and more than 800 human guests attended the 16th annual PAWS Chicago Fur Ball in November 2017 at the elegant Drake Hotel. They walked the red carpet, danced to live music, and enjoyed delicious food and drinks — the dogs even had their own buffet to dine from during the evening. The Fur Ball is the most important evening for Chicago's homeless animals, raising a significant percentage of the annual funds required to operate PAWS Chicago's adoption and subsidized spay/neuter programs. Co-Chaired by Sarah Tyler-Phipps and Heather and Mark Yeager, alongside Honorary Co-Chairs Anne Marie and Murray Peretz, the event raised more than \$1.3 million to help fund PAWS' life-saving programs for animals. The evening was presented by A. Marek Fine Jewelry, Scoutahead, and The Drake Hotel. We cannot thank our supporters enough for making the Fur Ball such a success.



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- 2 Melissa Canning with Dean & Jennifer Popish
- 3 Pam & Ed Carey with Auburn
- 4 Maia Mosillo & Pat Welch with Willow & Taz
- 5 Char Whitaker & Cheri Lawrence
- 6 Judy & Howard Tullman
- 7 Renata & Godiva Block at the Dog Buffet
- 8 2017 Fur Ball Co-Chairs Mark & Heather Yeager and Sarah Tyler-Phipps
- 9 2017 Fur Ball Presenting Sponsors, Robert Sherman & Barbara Bradford of A. Marek Fine Jewlery
- 10 Dina & Paul Harvey Jr.
- 11 2017 Fur Ball Honorary Chairs Murray & Anne Marie Peretz
- 12 Colin Donnell & Patti Murin are joined by homeless pups on stage
- 13 Michael & Nancy Timmers
- 14 Marius Karrer & Juan Acevedo with Pepper, Karma & Tango

**SAVE THE DATE**

17th Annual Fur Ball  
November 9, 2018

# ANIMAL MAGNETISM



Hundreds of animal lovers and their canine companions celebrated homeless pets at the 12th annual PAWS Chicago Animal Magnetism event on March 16th at Morgan Manufacturing. This dog friendly evening was presented by Meta Modern Health and proceeds raised help fund critical life-saving programs for homeless animals. Animal Magnetism was co-chaired by PAWS Chicago Professional Board members Paige Krueger, Stephanie Mariduena, Nikki Mazza, Mitchell Staloch, and Alison Victoria, and emceed by FOX 32's Good Day Chicago's Jake Hamilton and Brittney Payton.

- 1 Emcees Brittney Payton & Jake Hamilton with homeless pup Svetlana
- 2 Tom Holl & Paco
- 3 Susanna Homan & Gus
- 4 Co-Chairs: Paige Krueger, Nikki Mazza, Stephanie Mariduena, Mitchell Staloch & Alison Victoria
- 5 Jennifer Dahl, Frances Chiovari, Jennifer Popish, Tracie Sadoff, Sheryl Lesch, Melissa Canning & Laura Lowderman
- 6 Alexis Fasseas, Clifford Perry, Anna Morrison-Ricordati, Anita Mauro, Gillian Lindsay, Aaron Charfoos & Paula Fasseas

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## PAWS CHICAGO ANIMAL WELFARE LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS



As PAWS grows, so too does our need for legal guidance. From the purchase of the Lincoln Park Adoption Center, to non-profit structuring, to contract work, a group of dedicated attorneys provides PAWS and our animals with invaluable professional counsel.

In honor of their tireless efforts on behalf of our animals, we were thrilled to present the 2018 PAWS Chicago Animal Welfare Leadership Award to:

**Anna Morrison-Ricordati, AMR Law Group, LLC**  
**Anita Mauro, Thompson Coburn LLP**  
**Gillian Lindsay, Golan/Christie/Taglia**  
**Clifford Perry, Laner Muchin, Ltd.**  
**Aaron Charfoos, JONES DAY® - One Firm Worldwide;**  
**Kevin Morris, Kirkland & Ellis LLP (Not pictured)**

Thanks to their advocacy and commitment, PAWS has the ability to protect the legal rights of animals and give voice to those who cannot speak for themselves.



Thousands of people and their canine companions participated in the 18th annual PAWS Chicago 5K Walk/Run on June 3, 2018. This event was named one of Chicago's Top 100 Events in 2016 and 2017, and Top 10 Athletic Events in 2017 by BizBash. Thank you to VCA for presenting the event and to all the participants and fundraisers who made this event such a success.

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Nearly 400 animal lovers and their dogs boarded the Castaways ship deck on July 19, 2018, for the 16th annual Beach Party. Guests soaked up the sun, danced the night away and raised money to save homeless pets. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, guests, donors, volunteers and vendors, the event raised critical funds needed to continue the PAWS Chicago mission to make Chicago a No Kill City. A special thank you to our event co-chairs Erica Kelly, Melissa Todd and Jeff Hall.



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# Memorials & Tributes

IN MEMORY OF **GREG BERGEN**



Over the past 6 years since his retirement, Greg found a family at PAWS Chicago and so much joy in working with both the dogs and the people. Greg was a great family man, having raised two beautiful children and he extended those skills to PAWS. He was a great cook, making weekly muffins not only for his family and friends, but for the staff and volunteers at PAWS. He was the family photographer, and over the past few years his camera phone was filled with videos and pictures of adorable PAWS puppies. He enjoyed driving the transport van, being an adoption counselor (even cats!), and all the other tasks that he did at PAWS. He had many stories about the dogs and the family that he worked with at PAWS. Greg is survived by his wife of 35 years, Mary Pat, and two children, Ann Post and Brian Bergen.

*Greg Bergen made an incredible difference at PAWS Chicago, giving 760 volunteer hours in 2017; he is greatly missed.*

IN MEMORY OF **CHRISTOPHER KLOKKENG**



IN MEMORY OF **LLOYD AND JUDY SHORE**



IN MEMORY OF **STEVEN J FACTOR**



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IN MEMORY OF  
**TRAMP TULLMAN**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**MADDY HALSTED**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**SPENCIE RINELLA**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**CHABON PERETZ**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**PETEY DEMARS**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**DAISY CALLAHAN**



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IN MEMORY OF  
**DAPHNE HELLER**



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IN MEMORY OF  
**BAZINGA GREENSPAHN**



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IN MEMORY OF  
**TUXEDO SCHULFER-FISHER**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**DUKE FELNER**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**BUSH GARRIDO**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**EMILY LESCH**



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**SEBASTIAN RASKIN**



Sebastian, beloved buddy of Phil Raskin, passed away on October 25, 2017, just short of his 16th birthday. Sebastian suffered from chronic kidney disease and, after many years of regular fluid treatments (which he never once complained about), his little body finally gave out. But never his will. To his last breath, Sebastian remained sweet and loving, purring deeply even when he was held for the final time.

In fact, it was Sebastian who first reached out to Phil. Sebastian was one of several cats up for adoption, when Phil arrived as a volunteer to clean cages. Picking up Sebastian to empty his litter box, Sebastian

climbed on his shoulder, purred loudly and promptly went to sleep.

Not wanting to upset his already adopted family of three cats, Phil made a pact with himself. He would leave Sebastian at the facility for a week. When he came back, if Sebastian had not yet been adopted, Phil knew it was fate that they should be together. One week later, Sebastian was still waiting and thus began a sixteen year relationship overflowing with love and companionship.

Sebastian was a handsome cat—all black, with the exception of four white toes and a small patch of white on his belly. He had big soulful eyes and soft fur, like mink. He loved the outdoors. He would lounge in the cool dirt of the garden. He always wanted to be where the human action was; eschewing cat play and toys.

Sebastian adored everyone. And everyone adored him. He demanded to be held; preferring to be carried rather than walking himself. If someone was in a chair or standing

at a counter or waiting by a door, Sebastian would wander up, meow and expect to be picked up.. immediately! Sebastian didn't want to be alone. He would follow you from room to room. And every night, Phil would call out his name and he would run into the bedroom, jump into bed and fall asleep, with at least one toe always touching Phil. It was their special connection.

Sebastian was love.

It was inconceivable that the day would come when he would leave us. First his sister Maddie passed. Then Zach. And more recently his great cat pal Charlie. Each loss devastating. When the decision had to be made to finally let him go, the grief was searing. Every day of his life he was told how much he was loved. And now every hour. And then every minute. Could he understand the magnitude of the impact he had on us? Hopefully. He was a beautiful gift whose blessings he bestowed on us every day of his life.

Rest in peace, sweet Sebastian.  
And thank you.

---

IN MEMORY OF **BEBE AND SUGAR VANDENBERG**



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Call **773.475.4242** or visit [pawschicago.org/tributes](https://pawschicago.org/tributes)

---

IN MEMORY OF  
**BINGO WATTS**



To the volunteers at PAWS who worked with Bingo —It's my deepest regret to inform you of the passing of the world's best three-legged wonderdog. After an emergency splenectomy in January, the vets said he only had two months to live. He doubled that, of course.

When I first came to PAWS, it was because a therapist had told me it might help with some traumatic and violent experiences I'd been struggling with. It was the lowest point in my life. Then I saw Bingo.

He was laying on the floor at PAWS and he lifted his head up when I walked past. I didn't know he was 7, I didn't see he was missing a leg, and I didn't know he'd had an equally crappy past. But I knew we were supposed to find each other the minute he looked at me. The past two years I've had with Bingo have been the best of my life. Bingo saved me.

When he died, it was with his head in my hands.

I hope it brings you comfort to know how loved he was. He spent his last years eating cheeseburgers, racing around open fields and dog parks, climbing mountains, and receiving a near-continuous supply of pets, cuddles and praise (although he never thought it was enough). When I traveled, Bingo was right there with me. That dog had so many adventures in just two short years!

He never heard a harsh word, never kenneled, or went hungry, or worried about being left alone

again. Every hand was gentle, and every promise kept. He slept every night by my side, and woke up every morning ready for a good belly rub and to see his friends at the park. He spent almost every minute of those two years glued to my leg and I was honored to have him there. I'm so grateful for that time, and to you for giving us that time.

Many of you knew and loved Bingo during his time at PAWS. I know he felt the same way about you. I've never seen him greet anyone other than myself the way he did when we came back to film a promo video and he jumped into the arms of one of your volunteers. Thank you again for everything you did for Bingo, and to all the animals at PAWS.

Bingo was the most loving dog I've ever seen, despite his past. There will never be a dog like him.



---

IN MEMORY OF  
**QUEENIE WIRTZ**

Is it coincidence the Blackhawks won their first Stanley Cup in 50 years only after Queenie stepped onto the ice at the United Center? We think not. It takes the efforts of an entire organization to win a championship. At the heart of the Blackhawks organization is the Wirtz family, and at the heart of the Wirtz family was Queenie. Queenie, along with her four-legged brother Bernie, were front and center everywhere they went. Whether on the PAWS calendar or in the Blackhawks locker room, Queenie was universally loved. We lift a cup – the cup – in honor of our champion, Queenie.

IN MEMORY OF **SUGAR MATLIN**



"PAWS will always have a very special place in my heart." said Marc, one of PAWS Chicago's earliest adopters. Marc met Sugar at the second annual Angels with Tails event in May of 1999 and the rest was history. Sugar led a great life and was "well-traveled" after a number of family vacations. Unfortunately, Sugar passed away last March after seventeen years together. We really miss her, and think of her every single day." ■

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Thank you to our wonderful photo contributors who helped make this 20th Anniversary Edition so special. The photos collected from years past document the priceless memories of PAWS Chicago.

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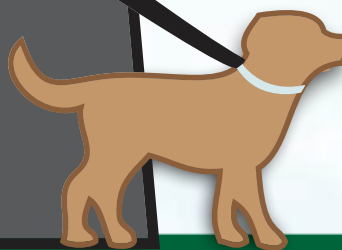
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