

MAJOR GRANTS



The Bishop-Parker Foundation funded the construction of our Working Cat Building. Our Working Cat Program places healthy cats that aren't suitable as house pets in environments where they can thrive. In exchange for food and care, these cats help control pest and rodent populations. They are placed with families or businesses that have barns, farms, or outbuildings.



Caspersen Foundation generously funded the expansion of our cat room, allowing our cats to enjoy the cool breezes and sunshine during our spring and fall weather. Additionally, their support made our beautiful courtyard project a reality. This outdoor gathering space provides a welcoming environment for our volunteers, potential adopters, and donors to learn about our animals and programs.



Community Foundation of Sarasota County provided funding for our annual veterinary care expenses.



Nike Fund funded our capital campaign feasibility study with Carter Consulting, a national philanthropic consulting firm.

BENTLEY

Three-year-old Bentley had bounced between homes and rescues due to recurring urinary blockages and health issues. Recently surrendered to a local veterinarian, Satchel's was contacted for assistance. With appropriate medical care, we believed Bentley could lead a happy life, so he underwent a life-changing perineal urethrostomy (PU) surgery to widen his urethra and reduce future blockages. Bentley also tested positive for FeLV, meaning he needs to be either the only cat in a household or with other FeLV-positive cats. After losing their beloved cat, Marissa's family was eager to adopt. Upon meeting the resilient Bentley, they knew he would be a perfect addition to their family.



DREAM WITH US

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SACHEL'S LAST RESORT

Satchel's leadership and Board has developed a bold plan for 2025 and beyond: a complete redesign of our 12-acre site via our Dream with Us

CAMPAIGN WILL INCLUDE:

WELCOME CENTER- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & ANIMAL CARE SPACE

A formal entry building to welcome visitors, volunteers, and staff. This facility will also offer designated spaces for the ongoing care and treatment of the animals, on-site veterinary care, and pharmaceuticals storage.



A NEW DOG KENNEL BUILDING

Complete with air conditioning and covered, light-filled indoor play yards to offer our dogs plenty of space to roam and play. **Capacity will increase from 50 to 90 dogs.**

A NEW CAT BUILDING/CLINIC

Featuring free-roaming 'pods' for maximum socialization in both indoor and outdoor 'catio' settings. **Capacity will increase from 30 to 60 cats.**



SITE IMPROVEMENTS

To accommodate this important expansion project, site improvements will include new perimeter fencing and lighting for the full 12-acre property, and covered walkways.

ANIMAL ENRICHMENT

Much-needed animal enrichment elements will include a new, central "meet and greet" courtyard, play yards, inground splash pad, long and winding paths on which to walk the dogs, and a regulation dock diving pool.

Satchel's

Last Resort

2024 IMPACT REPORT



MUZZLE OUTREACH PROGRAM

In 2024
19 dogs
successfully completed
our program
alongside their owners,
contributing to a
94% pet
retention rate.

We continue to expand our Muzzle Outreach Program, which offers complimentary behavior and muzzle acclimation training for families with dogs facing behavioral challenges. By equipping families with the tools and knowledge to safely manage and modify their pets' behavior, we enhance the likelihood of positive outcomes, ultimately reducing the risk of unnecessary surrenders.

WE HELP KEEP BELOVED PETS IN THEIR HOMES



HELPING HAND PROGRAM

In 2024
10 cats and dogs
were helped through the program.

In June 2024, we launched Satchel's Helping Hand Program, providing financial assistance to families needing emergency veterinary care for their beloved pets. This needs-based program aims to prevent the heartbreaking decision of surrendering pets due to financial constraints, ensuring that families and their pets can stay together.



APRIL (MEDICAL)

In May 2024, April was surrendered to Satchels with a large, cancerous mass cell tumor on her back right leg, making removal challenging. Thankfully, she found a dedicated foster who supported her through a complicated healing process, as the shelter was not ideal for her calm recovery. After months of treatment and multiple sedations for incision repairs, the pathology report confirmed that the tumor was completely excised with clean margins. Following this lengthy journey, her foster parents chose to adopt her, giving April the happy ending she deserved.

OUR RESCUE.REHAB.REHOME PROGRAM

HELPS CATS
AND DOGS
WITH
NOWHERE
ELSE TO GO

In 2024
307 cats and dogs
entered our program
186 of these intakes
were local cats and dogs who entered our program
through the surrender process.



THUNDER (MEDICAL)

Thunder was the most beautiful Maine Coon cat that went to the vet for euthanasia. He had urinary issues and had repeatedly become blocked. His prior home had determined that this was more than they could afford, and now that Thunder had blocked again, they had no choice. Thankfully, the veterinarian contacted us and asked if we could take over his medical care. We gladly accepted.

Thunder underwent a life-changing operation called a Perineal urethrostomy (PU). This surgical procedure widens the urethra, making it less likely for the cat to block. While Thunder was still more prone to urinary stones than most other cats, he would fully recover and live a long, happy life along with a consistent prescription diet. Shortly after he arrived at the shelter, he found a loving home committed to continuing care and feeding him only his prescribed urinary diet.



RHAEGAR (BEHAVIORAL)

Behavioral issues are particularly challenging in shelters. When Satchel's Last Resort received Rhaegar's surrender application, we anticipated his struggle to adapt. Having experienced little socialization, Rhaegar was kept at home by his previous owner since puppyhood, without leash walks, vet visits, or interactions with dogs or people. At one year old and 75 pounds, his owners could no longer manage him due to their busy lifestyles and inability to afford training.

Before Rhaegar arrived at Satchels, we secured a trainer for immediate support and arranged for vet intake. Rhaegar thrived in training, learning to walk on a leash and socialize despite his sheltered past. Our trainer continued to foster him while we searched for a home.

When a potential adopter applied, our trainer facilitated the process to ensure a smooth transition. The adopter had social dogs, whose proper introduction was crucial for Rhaegar's confidence. With the trainer's guidance, Rhaegar found the perfect home and now lives a happy, fulfilled life.



COTTAGE

SHELTER LIFE ENRICHMENT FOR OUR RESIDENTS

COTTAGE

Our cottage provides a home-like setting for our dogs to enjoy with our volunteers. They can lounge on soft rugs, play with toys, or stretch out on the sofa for a nap, giving them a brief and comfortable respite from kennel life.

DOG PLAYGROUPS

Our dog playgroup program was created with the help of a Dogs Playing For Life-trained instructor. Dog playgroups help build dogs' confidence, reduce their anxiety, and enhance their social skills. They also allow shelter staff to better understand each dog's personality.

CAT PORCH EXTENSION

20-30 cats use our open cat room, which includes the expanded porch, on average every day.

The porch extension of our cat room effectively doubles the living space for our resident cats, allowing them to enjoy outdoor experiences while staying within the safe confines of our screened-in porch. Cats love basking in the sun or napping on a high perch of a cat tower, swayed by gentle, warm breezes. All cats have indoor and outdoor access at all times.



CAT PORCH EXTENSION



DOG PLAYGROUPS

Enrichment is essential for shelter pets, as it helps prevent boredom, stimulates their minds, and enhances their overall well-being. Providing dogs and cats with mental and physical stimulation through Kongs, peanut butter frisbees, laser toys, puzzles, and socialization reduces stress and increases their chances of adoption by showcasing their true personalities.

WOOF PACK PROGRAM

26 volunteers were a part of the program in 2024
34 dogs went through our program in 2024

The Woof Pack Program aims to provide every dog at Satchel's with personalized human companionship and training to enhance their adoptability and ensure the best quality of life possible. Each Woof Pack dog is paired with an experienced volunteer who is expected to work with their assigned dog at least three times a week. This program has fostered an incredibly supportive and engaged volunteer community and has prepared dogs who have been at Satchel's for years for adoption.

VOLUNTEERS

Our unique mission has inspired the active involvement of over 300 animal lovers in our community who regularly volunteer their time and energy to support Satchel's efforts and graciously provide indispensable care, love, and attention to the animals. Many of our volunteers play a vital role in the daily operations of our facility, taking on responsibilities typically held by paid staff.



WOLF PACK PROGRAM



VOLUNTEERS