

# IMPACT REPORT 2023



In 2023, CAMP (Community Animal Medicine Project) helped over 84,000 dogs and cats, saving lives and keeping families together. CAMP's mission is to substantially reduce animal shelter euthanasia and intake by providing high quality, low-cost veterinary services to historically excluded communities in Los Angeles. Thanks to your support and compassion, together we stayed true to our mission and made a difference!



*Dear Friends,*

*Looking back on the strides we made in 2023, as the Executive Director of CAMP, I am amazed by how much we have accomplished since our inception seventeen years ago. In this time, we have touched the lives of countless families across Los Angeles, extending vital access to veterinary care to hundreds of thousands of cats and dogs in need. The ripple effect of our work within our community is nothing short of transformative.*

*Our mission to provide access to care with compassion and innovation is central to our identity. At CAMP, we're dedicated to fostering comprehensive well-being for both animals and their families. The welfare of animals is intrinsically linked with pressing issues such as equity, economic stability, housing security and environmental sustainability. With this understanding, we are working daily to ensure no family is compelled to surrender their beloved pet to an overcrowded animal shelter due to barriers to receiving veterinary care.*

*With great pride, I share our work from the past year with you. Your continued support of CAMP not only sustains our operations but also nurtures the spirit of compassion that lies at the core of our community-building efforts.*

*Thank you for helping CAMP to extend a helping hand so every cat and dog can enjoy a happy, healthy life with their cherished family.*

*With heartfelt thanks,*

Zoey Knittel  
Executive Director, CAMP

# what's new 2023

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## Expanding Access & Removing Barriers

A foundational goal at CAMP is to make veterinary care affordable and accessible to all Angelenos. One way to achieve this is by expanding our service offerings and footprint. In 2023 CAMP celebrated two big expansion efforts that help bring more veterinary care to the community. In April, we were thrilled to open the doors to a new community medicine clinic in San Pedro, and in November we started hitting the streets with our new state-of-the-art veterinary clinic on wheels, the *Wellness Waggin'*.

Along with removing barriers for clients, CAMP also strives to remove barriers for veterinarians seeking to expand their knowledge of high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter and community medicine. In 2023 CAMP's Veterinary Training Project was honored to receive a generous grant to support these barrier breaking efforts.

Read on to learn more about these developments and all the ways CAMP uplifts community.



# lifesaving programs 2023

By providing high-volume veterinary clinics in targeted, historically excluded communities, staffed by veterinary professionals with expertise and sensitivity, we can reach the goal of reducing shelter intake and eliminating the euthanasia of adoptable animals. CAMP's comprehensive approach to animal welfare consists of five key program areas.

## 01 — HIGH VOLUME SPAY & NEUTER

When CAMP was founded in 2007, over 15,000 cats and dogs were euthanized in LA City shelters each year. Thanks to efforts from CAMP and other like-minded organizations, the LA Animal Services save rate increased from 57.7% in 2011 to 89.2% in 2021.

23,108  
pets  
spayed/  
neutered

CAMP continues to contribute to this impressive trajectory by offering affordable spay and neuter in Los Angeles. In 2023 alone, CAMP veterinarians performed 23,108 spay/neuter surgeries. Since we opened our doors sixteen years ago, we are excited to report that we have fixed nearly 300,000 dogs and cats, helping to prevent the needless euthanasia of millions of cats and dogs in our community.



# lifesaving programs 2023

## 02 — COMMUNITY MEDICINE & ACCESS TO CARE

Nearly 50% of pets in the U.S. do not receive adequate veterinary care. Of those families that report challenges accessing care, approximately 70% say it is due to financial constraints. Without access to affordable veterinary care, it's possible that hundreds of local families would be forced to relinquish their pets to shelters in desperation. CAMP charges approximately 80% less than the fees a private veterinarian would charge, opening doors for so many.

CAMP's community animal medicine clinics performed thousands of quality of life services and lifesaving medical surgeries in 2023. Our veterinarians treat a wide range of health problems, such as infections, allergies, wound care, mass removals as well as dental services and surgical procedures, all at highly reduced rates.

In April 2023 we proudly opened the doors to our new San Pedro community medicine clinic. By December, we had already helped 2172 cats and dogs receive the medical care they needed and may not have otherwise been able to access and afford. Thanks to CAMP, now even more Los Angeles families have a safety net for their furry family members in times of need.

## 03 — LOW COST VACCINE CLINICS

Vaccinating dogs and cats against infectious and life-threatening diseases is one of the most effective ways to help them live long, healthy lives. CAMP provides free and low-cost vaccinations at our four stationary clinic locations and by bringing these essential services directly to people who need it most via our CAMP mobile vaccine clinics. In 2023 we administered 93,820 life-saving vaccines to dogs and cats in our community. In addition to vaccines, CAMP mobile clinics also provide other basic wellness services such as microchipping, deworming and flea/tick treatment.

5,246  
wellness  
exams

93,820  
vaccines  
given

# lifesaving programs 2023

## 04 — ANIMAL WELFARE ADVOCACY

Transportation is a barrier for many of the families we serve. CAMP's low cost mobile vaccine clinics bring preventative medicine and advocacy directly into historically excluded communities, helping the people and pets who need it most. CAMP's bilingual staff members help to facilitate follow-up appointments at our stationary clinics and provide information on financial aid. They also educate families on the importance of spay/neuter and providing continued health and preventive care for the lifetime of their pet.

**8,093**  
pets  
microchipped

At all CAMP locations, our highly trained staff provides outreach and educates families about the benefits of preventative health care, including the value of microchipping your pets. In 2023 alone, 8,093 pets were microchipped across our stationary and mobile clinics. Microchips help families find lost pets and also help animal shelters return pets to their rightful owners efficiently and quickly, reducing shelter overcrowding and stress levels for all animals in the shelter.

### ON A ROLL! camp mobile clinics

*For many LA pets, a visit to a CAMP mobile clinic is often the very first time they will receive medical care, and in 2023 we made great strides to expand the breadth and reach of what is offered.*

*CAMP's Wellness Waggin', a state-of-the-art veterinary clinic on wheels, hit the streets in November, bringing expanded services directly to the community! The hard working CAMP mobile team accelerated planned offerings in order to meet an urgent need from Long Beach Animal Care Services by providing regular spay/neuter support. The team is also increasing spay/neuter services to support LA City shelters and offering regular public community medicine days.*

**14,224**  
pets  
served

# lifesaving programs 2023

## 05 —VETERINARY TRAINING PROJECT

34  
vets  
trained

The Veterinary Training Project (VTP) provides veterinary professionals the opportunity to train in high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter (HQHVSN) surgical and clinical techniques. Accredited by the California Veterinary Medical Board, veterinarians also receive CE (Continuing Education) credit required annually in order to maintain their veterinary license. The skill set of HQHVSN is underrepresented in both the private and nonprofit veterinary communities and is essential in the quest to help curb the overpopulation of cats and dogs in shelters and to help prevent the unnecessary euthanasia of healthy animals.

Since we piloted the program in late 2022, many VTP graduates have gone on to serve as relief vets at CAMP or work at other nonprofits and shelters. In 2023 we trained 34 veterinarians and spayed/neutered 2141 dogs and cats during the training sessions.

Thanks to generous funding from California for All Animals we were able to start offering valuable scholarships to qualified veterinary professionals in 2023. We look forward to removing more barriers and furthering expansion and access to the VTP into 2024 and beyond.



# community impact 2023

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## KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

Every day in our clinics we meet families in need of urgent veterinary care for their beloved pets. In 2023 we met Baby, a very special dog...



*Baby is a sweet tempered eight year old pit bull who came to CAMP in dire shape with a life-threatening bacterial infection of the uterus called pyometra. Baby's human dad was unhoused and not in a position to cover the costs, so CAMP stepped up and covered all the expenses for her emergency life saving surgery. After ensuring a safe recovery, Baby was reunited with her best friend and provided medication, food and bedding at no charge. Once healed, Baby returned to CAMP for her vaccines and we are happy to report she is thriving...For people facing housing or food insecurity, their pet may be one of their only sources of joy and stability. CAMP helps make a difference in people's lives.*

**CAMP is about  
community – providing  
access to affordable  
veterinary services in  
historically excluded areas  
and helping to keep pets  
and their people together,  
where they belong.**





# thank you!

**We deeply appreciate the many donors and following major contributors who have made CAMP's life-saving programs possible.**

Banfield Foundation

Best Friends Animal Society / NKLA

CA Community Foundation

California for All Animals

Consumer Portfolio Services, Inc.

Ethel Frends Foundation

Glide Foundation

Mary Jo & Hank Greenberg Animal Welfare Foundation

Hyla Morrow Trust

Maddie's Fund

Michelson Found Animals Foundation

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Pet Care Foundation

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