

# Paw Prints

WINTER 2026 NEWSLETTER | HALORESCUE.ORG

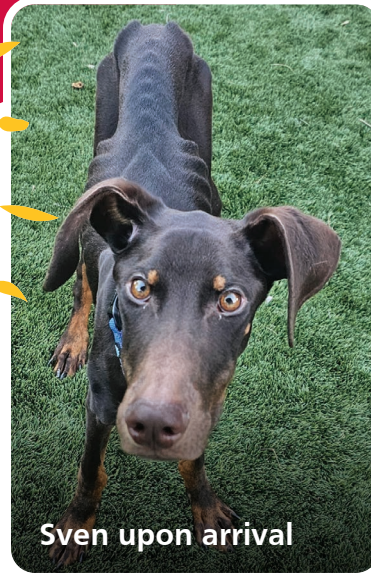


## Because of You, Sven is Thriving

**Your generosity helped transform a starving puppy into a picture of health.**

When Sven, an eight-month-old Doberman puppy, arrived at HALO, he weighed just 28 pounds — less than half of what a healthy dog his age should weigh. The sight was heartbreaking. His former owner provided inconsistent information about his feeding routine, but it was clear that Sven had suffered from severe malnutrition and needed urgent care.

Thanks to your compassion and generosity, we were able to say yes immediately to bringing Sven into our care. Your support funded critical medical tests to rule out underlying illnesses such as Tick Fever and Valley Fever, and provided the resources to begin a safe, structured refeeding program using nutritious meals from our partner, Purina.



Sven upon arrival



Sven, after three months of good nutrition

***“Because of caring donors like you, Sven was given the chance to heal — and now he’s thriving.”***

Today, Sven has regained his health and spirit. He’s strong, energetic, and enjoying the happy life every dog deserves. His story is a testament to the impact your donations make every single day. He enjoys spending time with his new canine brother and sister and cuddling his favorite humans on the couch, mom and dad.

**Thank you for giving Sven, and so many others like him, the second chance they deserve.**

Learn More About a Few of Our Amazing Rescues Inside!



Athena



Mackinac



Oscar



# Letter from the President

As we reflect on 2025, I am filled with immense gratitude for the compassion that fuels HALO Animal Rescue's mission every single day. This past year, you helped save and transform the lives of thousands of dogs and cats — animals who might not be here today without your support.

Because of you, frightened strays received comfort and care, neglected pets found safety and medical treatment, and families discovered new best friends through adoption. Your generosity empowered our team to say "yes" when animals needed us most — no matter how challenging the situation.

Behind every wagging tail and contented purr is a story of hope that began with you. Your belief in HALO's no-kill mission continues to drive our work forward, inspiring us to do more, reach farther, and save as many lives as possible.

Thank you for being the heart of HALO Animal Rescue. Together, we're not only saving lives — we're building a more compassionate community for all animals.

With heartfelt appreciation,



Heather Allen,  
President  
and CEO



## Volunteer to the Rescue

When forty-year-old cast iron plumbing beneath our shelter finally gave out, it left us facing a mountain of laundry and no working sewer line for over a week. While plumbers worked tirelessly to install a new system, our dedicated volunteers jumped into action to keep things running smoothly!

One of those amazing HALO angels was Barb L., who spent countless hours washing load after load of laundry at the laundromat so our furry friends could stay cozy in clean bedding. When asked why she takes on such a tough task, Barb shared, *"One day, I decided to follow my passion and help animals. I had driven past HALO, and its logo caught my eye. I was amazed at the specific care the dogs and cats received. While at HALO, they are safe, catered to, and loved while waiting for their forever homes. I am thanked constantly for my help by all the hard-working staff members. It is all so rewarding!"*

Barb's compassion — and yours — make all the difference. Thanks to your ongoing support, we can continue saving lives, spreading kindness, and warming the hearts of both animals and people in our community.



# Because of You, Athena and Charles Found Healing Together

When you support HALO, you make second chances like this possible — not just for pets, but for the people who love them.

Athena came to HALO after her family could no longer provide for her. Thanks to the compassion of donors like you, she didn't lose her chance at happiness — she gained a fresh start.

That's when Charles and his daughter walked through our doors. After the loss of their beloved dog, they were finally ready to open their hearts again. As a military veteran, Charles was hoping to find a loyal companion to help ease his anxiety and depression.

He remembers the moment he first saw Athena — calmly waiting, "being a good girl," as he put it. The connection was instant.

**Because of your generosity, Athena has a home, and Charles has a renewed sense of purpose and joy. Thank you for Helping Animals Live On — and for giving both pets and people the gift of healing.**

Athena with her new dad, Charles



*"Ever since I brought home Athena, both of our lives have changed for the better every single day. We have learned each other's ways and have a great routine. Thank you, HALO Rescue, for doing what you do and giving pets and people another chance at the best part of life. I say people because having Athena has made me a better person and happy again."*

# Mackinac Has a Second Chance at Life, Thanks to You



When you look at Mackinac's bright eyes and soft fur, it's hard to imagine how much she's overcome. Behind that sweet face is a story of survival — and of the compassion donors like you make possible every day.

Mackinac and her seven siblings were born to a feral mother doing her best to raise them outdoors. A kind senior woman took them in, but when she was diagnosed with cancer, her greatest worry wasn't for herself — it was for the kittens' safety and care.

That's when HALO Animal Rescue — and supporters like you — stepped in. Because of your kindness, HALO welcomed all eight kittens and provided the medical care, food, and love they needed to heal and grow strong.

Today, Mackinac has found her forever family — a home filled with warmth and safety. Thanks to you, she will never have to face life on the streets again.

# Oscar Finally Has a Home

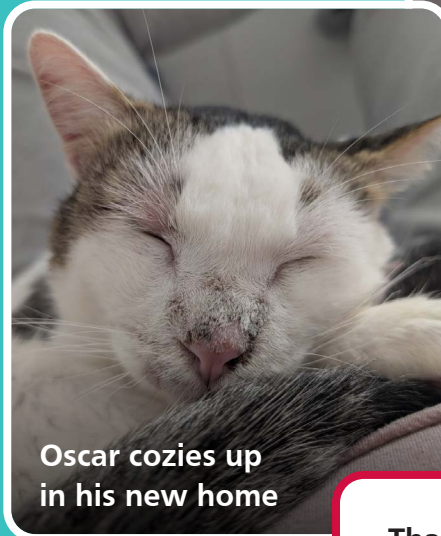
It was clear that Oscar had lived a hard life on the streets. He was thin and weak, battling fleas, worms, ear mites, a painful upper respiratory infection, and severe tooth decay. Yet even in his fragile state, Oscar's gentle spirit shone through — he chirped softly and made biscuits whenever someone stopped to show him kindness.

Thanks to you, Oscar got the second chance he so desperately needed. Your generous support made it possible for HALO Animal Rescue to provide the medical care, nourishment, and love he needed to heal. Over six weeks, Oscar grew stronger, his bright eyes returned, and his purr grew louder each day.

Today, Oscar is safe, healthy, and adored by his new mom, who is helping him leave his difficult past behind with a new home and a new name, Zangoose. Because of your compassion, his story now has a happy ending — one filled with comfort, warmth, and love.



Oscar at the shelter



Oscar cozies up in his new home

Thank you for giving this loverboy, and so many animals like him, the chance to heal and thrive. Your kindness truly changes lives.



Owen



Regina



Jackson



## From Abandoned to Adopted

The summers in Phoenix are some of the most brutal temperatures on Earth, and that's precisely when these gorgeous pups found themselves in the middle of a sparsely populated desert area with no protection. Luckily, they had some guardian angels out there who found them in time and called HALO for help.



# Supporting HALO- Now and for the Future

Right now, our resources are stretched thin, and homeless animals are counting on angels like you. The things we could do a year or two ago are double or triple the cost now. There are many ways to give that can help the animals today and in the future, while not depleting your cash on hand.

Visit our website for more details. [Halorescue.org](https://halorescue.org)



## Donor-Advised Funds (DAF)

DAFs are quickly becoming a preferred giving method for many donors! Set up your DAF with an initial gift to a sponsoring org, and as your fund grows over time (tax-free!), you advise where you want your charitable dollars to go.

## Stocks or Other Securities

Donating non-cash assets often comes with greater tax benefits, allowing you to make a larger impact on homeless pets at lower personal financial costs. When you donate to HALO Animal Rescue, you're investing in a meaningful cause that has the power to bring about positive transformation in our world.

## Smart Giving Through Your IRA

Donations directly to a charity from your IRA can help you avoid taxable income. Enjoy your retirement knowing you're saving animals' lives!



## Friends Forever Planning for Your Pet

Ensure your pets have a safety net in place when you are no longer able to care for them. The Friends Forever program ensures your pet will have a place at our shelter, where we care for them until a new home can be found. Been putting off making a will? You can create one for free by visiting [freewill.com](https://freewill.com).

## Planned Giving

Plan a gift for tomorrow that won't cost you anything today. By leaving a gift to HALO in your will, you are joining others who have chosen to build a legacy of saving lives for many years to come.

## Vehicle Donation

We've made it simple to donate your unwanted car. CARS does all the work for you, and you'll be able to claim fair market value for your vehicle.



# Look at the Oodles of Happy Tails You Made Possible

## Roio

Roio came home to us when he was two years old. He'll be turning 16 this November 28!

His journey hasn't been easy — he was returned three times. But through it all, he's remained as smart and loving as ever.

Roio has a whole vocabulary of his own to express his likes, dislikes, and pure joy. He's sooo smart — truly the best pooch ever!



## Koda

Koda is doing great. He is a wonderful dog and a great fit. We feel lucky we got him!

## Ron

Ron is going great. He really enjoys playing with the other cats and seems fine with our dog. Eating great and our vet said he looked perfect.



## Daryl

I adopted Daryl just a couple of months ago, and he has stolen my heart. He's such a sweet boy. He loves his fruit and vegetable treats, he's learning to play catch, loves to chase the birds in my backyard, and is my snuggle bug.

He's doing great and is settling into his new forever home. Thank you guys!

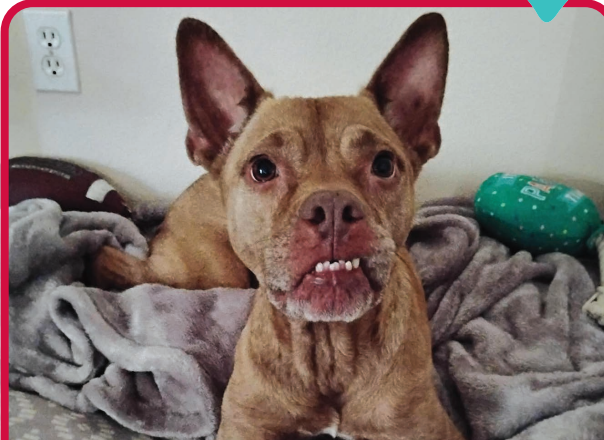






### Carson

“Carson is doing amazing! He already knows how to go in and out of the doggy door. I can tell he is a fast learner. He’s eating well, and so far, gets along well with all the family members and our other two dogs. He fits in great, and we are so grateful to have him!”



### Junie aka Honey

“Junie “Honey” is loving her forever home. Her brother, Deputy Dawg, is teaching her how to be brave. He’s also been teaching her where the treats are and how to ask Dad for treats.”

Junie says, “Ruff, Hi HALO! I miss you guys a whole lot. I’m loving my new home! Thanks a bunch, you guys are the greatest. See ya soon. Ruff.”

### May

“In June, we adopted May, a 10-month-old female kitten. She is doing well and acclimated to our house and now runs it. She eats well and is very active. Thank you!”



### Oleander

“Oleander is loving his new home, and I am loving him. He is not shy at all and is owning the apartment. Thank you!”



### Siren and Ash

“It’s been almost a year in their furever home! They’re doing great and love each other!”



# We're Better Together

Your kindness in 2025 gave each animal that came through our doors individualized care and all the time they needed to heal and find families. Thank you for being their hero!

## Number of Pets Served

Dogs: **1,088**

Cats: **1,487**

## Adoptions

Dogs: **1,061**

Cats: **1,401**

*\*2025 we had a 7% increase in lives saved over 2024*

## Staycation Program

New for 2026, HALO has launched an exciting new Staycation Program to help more dogs — especially large breeds — find their forever homes faster!

Across the country, big dogs are waiting longer in shelters, so we're trying something new. The Staycation Program lets potential adopters take selected dogs (and cats) home for a few weeks to foster them first and see if they're the perfect match.

It's a fun, low-pressure way to foster, fall in love, and maybe even "foster fail" — the happiest kind of success!

Thanks to your support, HALO can keep finding creative ways to help every pet find the loving home they deserve.



We'd like to offer a heartfelt thanks to the wonderful organizations that help support HALO's animals!



To learn more about our life-saving programs, visit our website at [halorescue.org](https://halorescue.org).

**Main Shelter**  
3227 East Bell Road  
Suite D151  
Phoenix, AZ 85032  
(602) 971-9222

**PetSmart Charities Everyday Adoption Center**  
Deer Valley  
2901 West Agua Fria Freeway  
Phoenix, AZ 85027  
(623) 492-9045 Option 9

**Thrift Boutique**  
11649 North Cave Creek Road  
Suite F  
Phoenix, AZ 85020  
(602) 274-3444

