

News Release

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HOPE IS ALIVE, WELL, AND ADOPTED

(Newbury Park, CA) The Human Society of the United States estimates that up to four million dogs enter shelters every year and nearly half of those are euthanized. At least one of these potentially sad stories is ending well right here in our own backyard.

For Hope, a cuddly, three-month-old Multi-Poo (Maltese and Poodle mix), her short life had been extremely painful, as she was suffering from a condition called Entropion, which caused her eyelashes to turn in and mar her cornea. A volunteer from the East Valley Animal Shelter discovered Hope in the trunk of a car of someone selling an entire litter of pups.

Hope was immediately taken to the shelter for sanctuary and contact was made with Kelli Hopper from S.A.F.E. Animal Rescue, which specializes in helping severely injured dogs. Even though scared little Hope couldn't see her saviors, she found herself in good hands. Hopper had already saved over 400 dogs needing medical attention and found homes for them, so she knew the ropes.

Hopper said, "There are many sick, injured, overlooked and forgotten dogs like Hope in this world. With some effort, medical attention, and lots of love, they can live long and happy lives. Our job is to help make that happen."

To save Hope's eyesight, Hopper took her to Dr. Daniel Slaton of Westlake Village Animal Hospital. Known as the area's "rescue vet," he performed corrective surgery on Hope. Just a

few weeks later, Hope was healthy, could see perfectly well, and was adopted by a loving family in the area.

Dr. Slaton and Hopper have worked on many such cases in the past several years and they both have a long and productive relationship with Lifeline 4 Paws, which sponsored the surgery. Operated by the Hogan Family Foundation in Newbury Park, Lifeline 4 Paws is a rescue support organization headed by Christine Hogan, who notes, “It was a perfect storm of good intentions that gave us Hope back. Even though we see this kind of heart-felt cooperation between groups such as ours every day, much more has to be done to take care of the tremendous numbers of helpless, needy animals.”

And more help appears to be on the way. With the recent opening of The Barkley Pet Hotel & Spa and the new Westlake Animal Hospital at 31166 Via Colinas in Westlake Village, the large, state-of-the-art facilities have promised to hold fundraising events such as they did at their October 23-24 Grand Opening throughout the year to aid more animals such as Hope. They already support numerous animal charity groups throughout the area, including Lifeline 4 Paws, S.A.F.E. Animal Rescue, D Cups Saving Teacups, K9 Compassion, and Brittany Foundation.

For more information on the S.A.F.E. Animal Rescue, go to www.safeanimalrescue.com and, for Lifeline 4 Paws rescue support program, go online to www.lifeline4paws.org.

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