



# LANGE FOUNDATION

November, 2017

Dear Friend of Lange Foundation:

In 1974, I accompanied a friend to East Valley Animal Shelter to look for his lost dog. I will always remember the misery I saw that day and although I didn't know it at the time, it was the day my life changed. In 1975 I founded the first non-profit organization in California...and probably the United States..with the mission of rescuing and rehoming hopeless impounded pets. At that time over 90% of shelter animals were euthanized in L.A.County's 25 shelters... around 250,000 a year. Everyone knew what was going on, but no one wanted to talk about it. It was too painful a subject to discuss.

To-day, 42 years later, there has been a dramatic decrease in the numbers, and about 70% are now adopted by the public or the many animal rescue groups that now exist. But even a decline this monumental is of little solace to the 30% who will not be chosen for rescue. Some are victims of uncaring owners and arrive at the shelter filthy, with sores, parasites, burned by acid, starving, abused and so many who need immediate medical attention. Our hearts and our efforts are with that 30%, and for the past 4 years we have concentrated on rescuing as many pets from shelter hospital rooms as possible.

We have also tried to do all we can to keep owners from surrendering their pets to the shelters in the first place. We are under contract with L.A.County Animal Care and Control to manage their Safety Net (Intervention)Program, and to date have prevented well over 1000 pets from entering the Lancaster and Palmdale Shelters by providing medical care, including surgeries, food, supplies, temporary boarding, dog training and interception. Our efforts have had a huge impact on the number of pets impounded and subsequently euthanized in the Antelope Valley.

We desperately need your help to continue our work. We usually have at least 250 cats, dogs and horses at our two facilities and including our Safety Net staff have 23 full and part time employees to look after our pets. Our remarkable staff and 2 kennels provide the infrastructure for Lange Foundation to continue its mission for years to come, but this year we have had to use our savings for 20% of our operating budget and the future of St. Bonnie's Sanctuary is in grave jeopardy. We are so grateful to you for your help in the past and ask for your help again until the day comes when there are no longer 30% left behind.

Sincerely,

*Lillian Lange*