



Options Veterinary Care Nonprofit Clinic
Washoe County Animal Services
Advisory Board Meeting – April 22, 2022

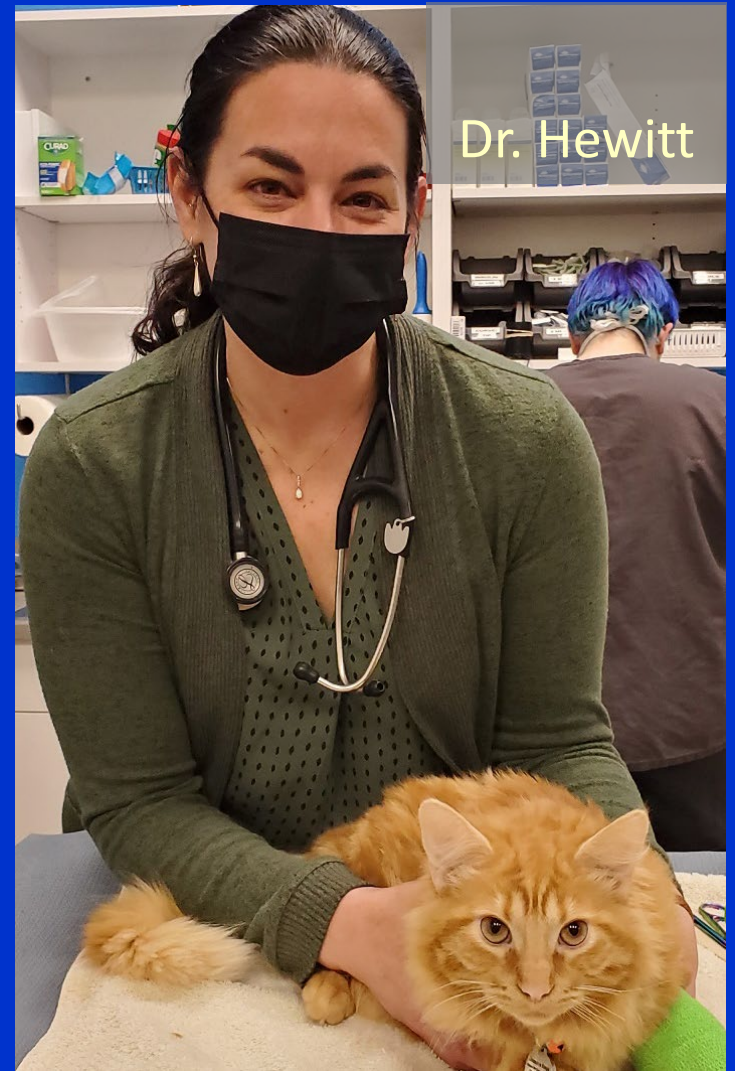
Introductions

Options Veterinary Care is a nonprofit, affordable, high-quality clinic

Options Mission:

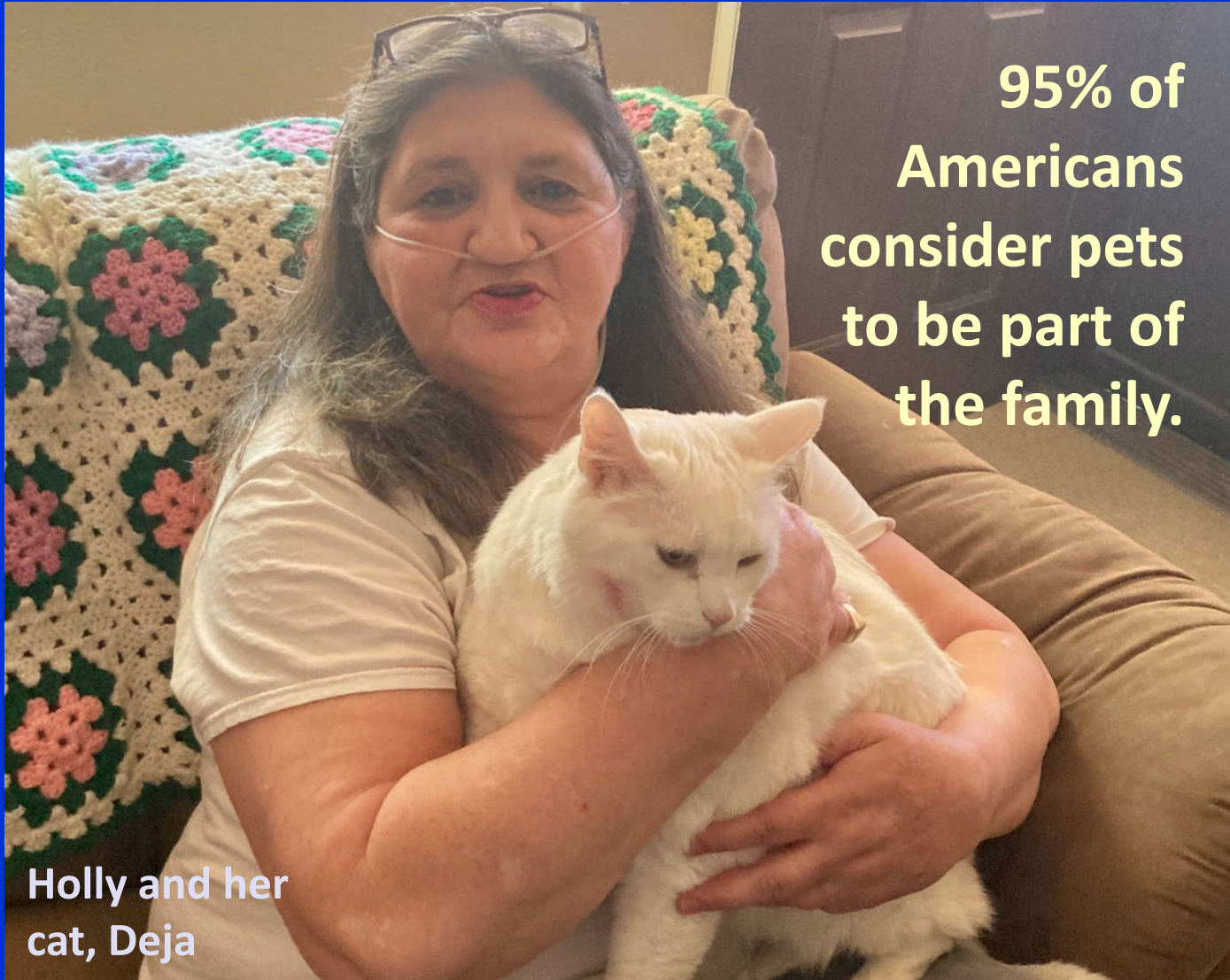
To provide veterinary care to pets in Northern Nevada who would otherwise suffer without it.

Donations from the public and relationships with WCRAS and other community organizations help to make sure that no pet in need goes without veterinary care for financial reasons.



Options Veterinary Care

Why Options Is Needed



**95% of
Americans
consider pets
to be part of
the family.**

**Holly and her
cat, Deja**

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Why Options Is Needed

“Almost 40% of American adults wouldn’t be able to cover a \$400 emergency with cash, savings or a credit-card charge that they could quickly pay off.”
— Federal Reserve survey 2019



Debbie and her dog, KC Renegade Thompson

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Why Options Is Needed

Cleo and
Dr. Jeannie



**Nationwide:
Lack of access
to veterinary
care results in
surrenders of
beloved pets to
shelters and
“economic
euthanasia.”**

“Our estimate is that over 50 million pets are not getting much or any vet care.”

– PetSmart Charities

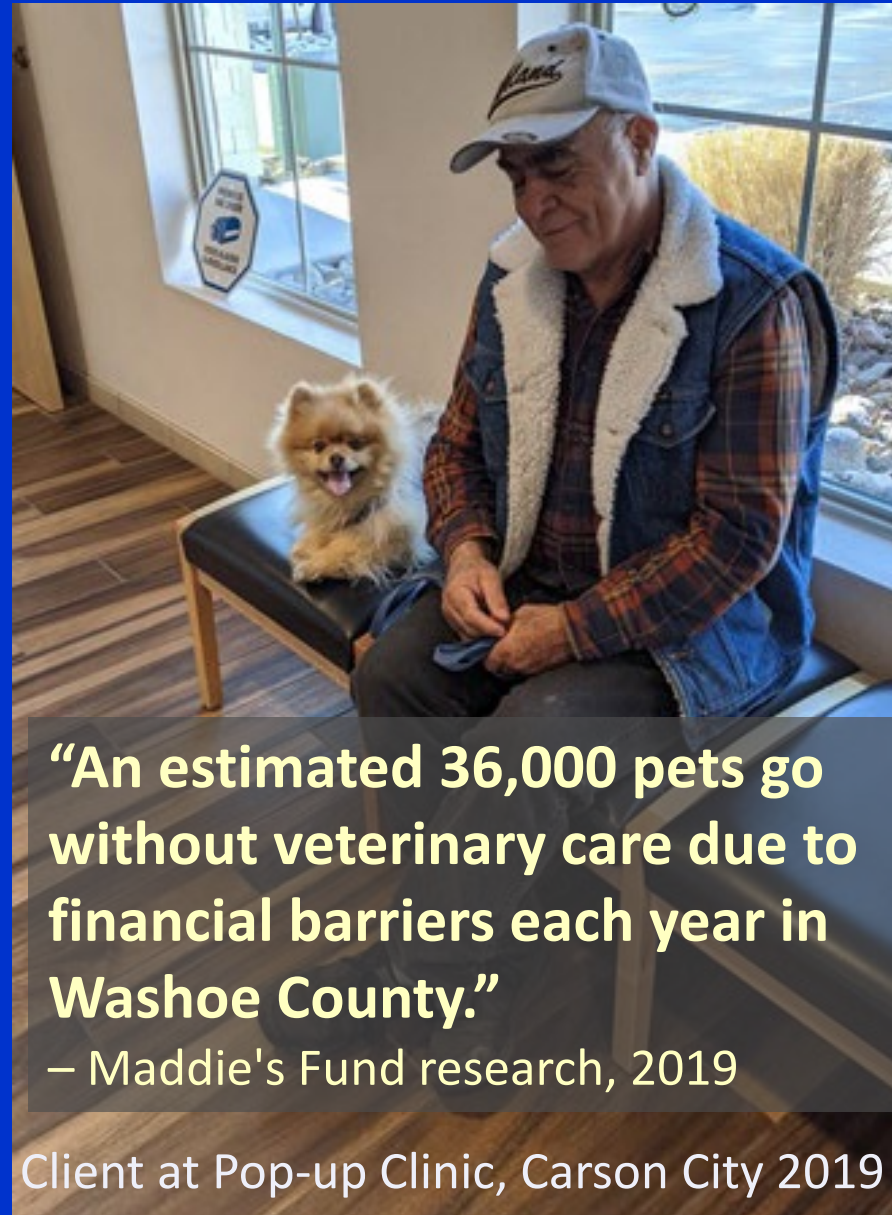
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Why Options Is Needed

“Over 50% have not taken their pet to a vet because they cannot afford it.”

“62% report having had difficulty providing vet care for their pet because of the cost.”

— Wakefield Research survey of Nevadans, 2018

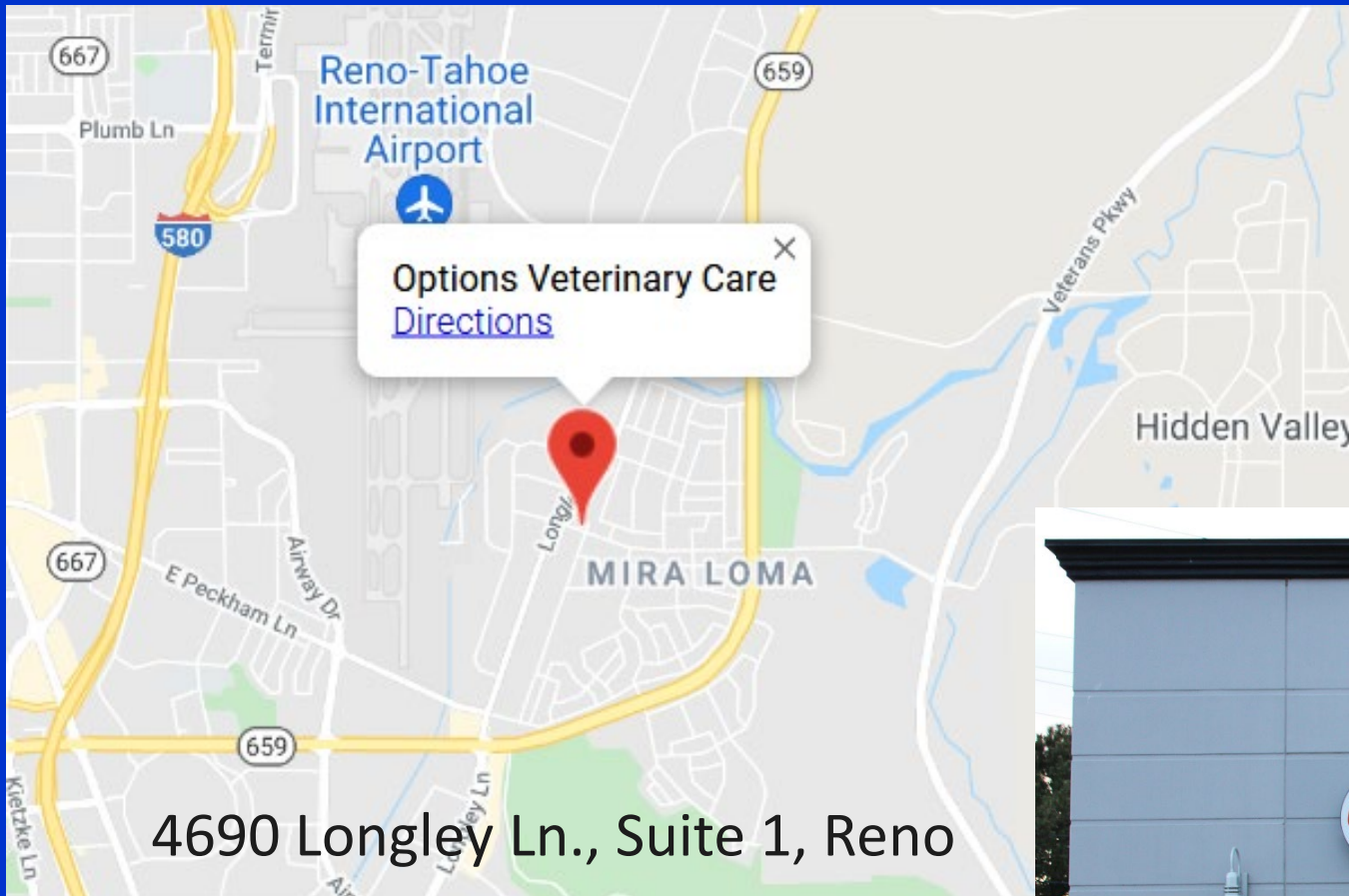


“An estimated 36,000 pets go without veterinary care due to financial barriers each year in Washoe County.”

— Maddie's Fund research, 2019

Client at Pop-up Clinic, Carson City 2019

Options Veterinary Care



Current Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 am to 5:30 pm



Options Veterinary Care is a

- Nonprofit, affordable, high-quality clinic
- Program of Humane Network

Options Veterinary Care

Full Service Clinic

Options provides:

- Wellness care
- General medicine
- Diagnostics (in-house lab work, digital X-ray, ultrasound)
- Surgery (soft tissue surgeries, spay/neuter)
- Dental care

Animals:

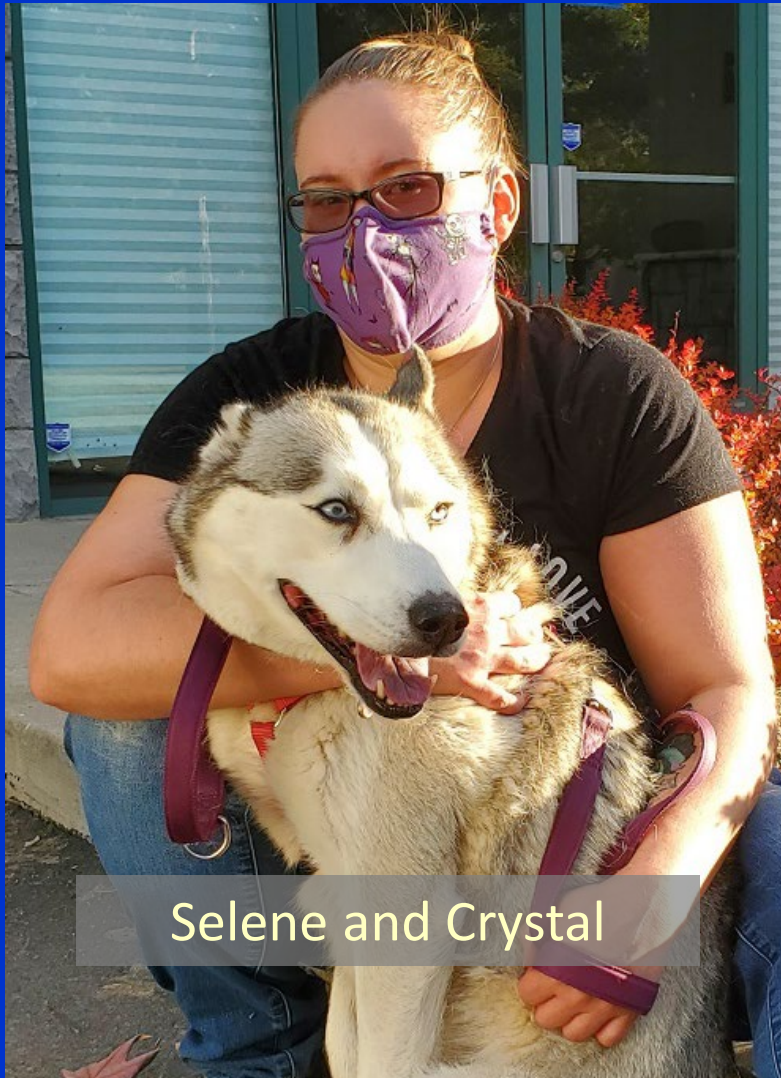
- Primarily dogs and cats



Client at Pop-up Clinic,
Hungry Valley 2019

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How Options is able to help



Selene and Crystal

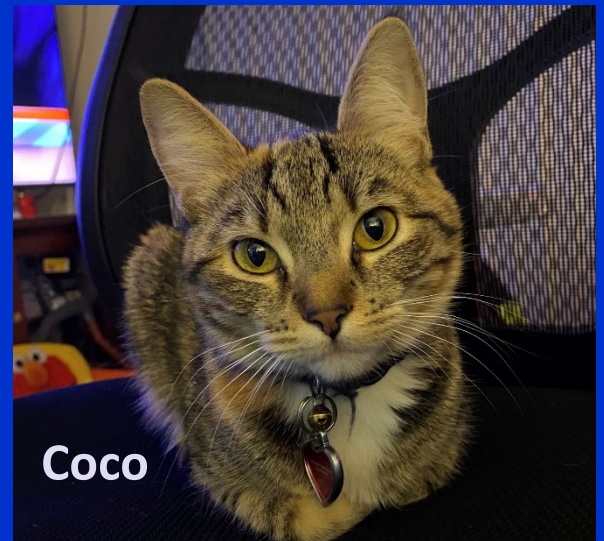
Options provides care to pets whose people cannot afford veterinary care by:

- Using incremental care strategies
- Working with partner organizations that cover costs for some clients
- Grants
- Donations from individuals and local businesses

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How Options Is Able to Help Incremental Veterinary Care

- Experience-based medicine, problem-solving approach to achieve the best outcomes in context of limited resources.
 - Utilizes clinical judgment of the veterinarian to develop a tiered diagnostic and therapeutic approach.
 - “In situations where gold standard care is not possible because of financial constraints, it’s a viable alternative to being unable to help the patient.”
 - In the past called “empirical medicine.”
- University of Tennessee, Program for Pet Health Equity



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Partnerships

Local Animal Welfare

- Washoe County Regional Animal Services
- SPCA of Northern Nevada
- Shakespeare Animal Fund
- Pets of the Homeless
- Inez Fund
- WARF
- Mikey's Animal Outreach

National

- AlignCare, Program for Pet Health Equity, University of Tennessee - program has temporary funding issues

Volunteer Programs

- AARP Foundation SCSEP (Jobs for Senior's program)



Local Human Services

- Our Place
- Northern Nevada Hopes
- Eddy House
- Catholic Charities
- Awaken Reno
- Safe Camp
- Cares Campus

Rural Rescue Groups

- ARGONN
- FAWG
- Lo-Cats
- Pawsibilities
- Precious Paws (Fernley)
- CAPS (Fallon)

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Magoo

- Emergency bladder blockage
- No transportation or money
- Removed bladder stones
- Contributions from WCRAS and SPCA of NN and

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Puppy

- Two-months old
- Broken leg
- Amputation
- Contributions from WCRAS, SPCA of NN and donors

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Meece

- Mass on his face
- Owner on disability
- Mass removal
- WCRAS helped cover cost

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Rosie

- Attacked by two dogs
- Owners on disability, low-wage work
- Multiple bites and lacerations
- WCRAS contributed

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Judah

- Beloved by his person
- Attacked by a dog resulting in eye lacerations
- Owner lives on SS
- Enucleation needed (removal of eye)
- WCRAS contributed

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options



Star

- Broken leg
- Owner has very limited income
- WCRAS contributed

Some of the animals helped by WCRAS at Options

Mona

- Beloved best pal to her people
- Limited income
- Unable to eat
- Needed multiple dental extractions
- WCRAS contributed toward her care



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Options Clients



Surprise had surgery to remove a mammary tumor

- 45% senior citizens
- 30% work in low-wage jobs
- 15% disabled (including veterans)
- 10% other including:
 - Rescue groups
 - Feral/community cat caregivers

Options prevents surrenders to shelters and “economic euthanasia.”

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Options Clients



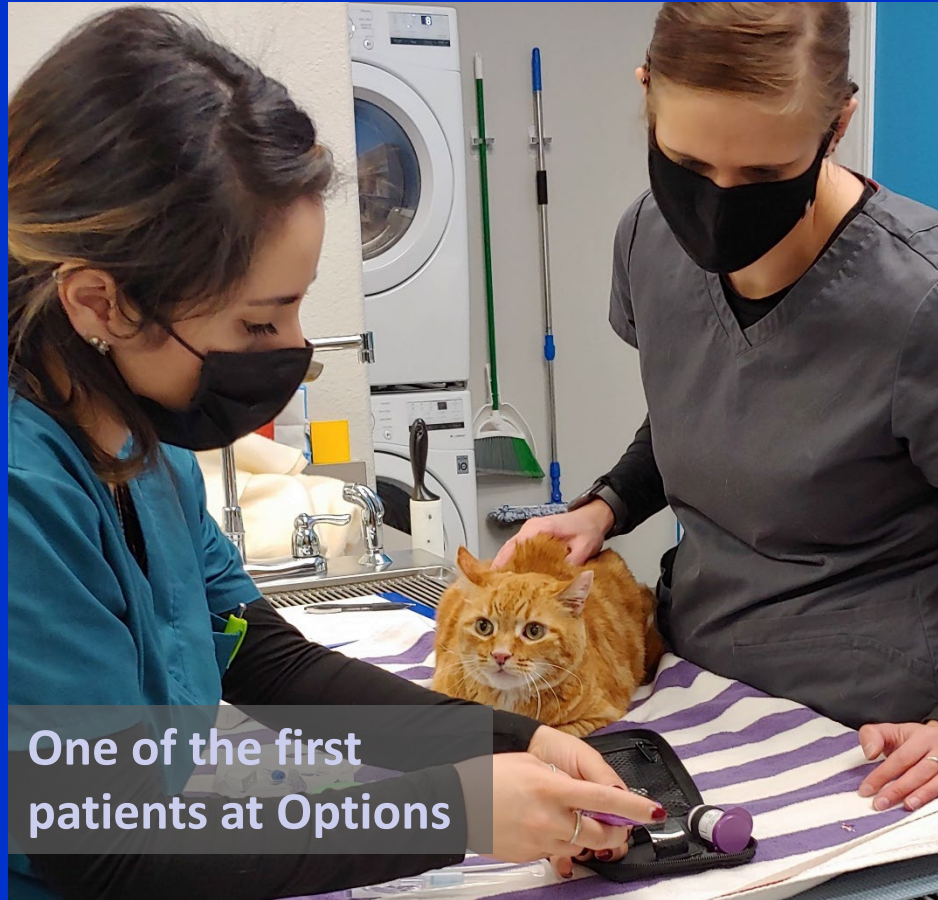
Gayle and her dog, Rosie

Ability to pay:

- 30% cannot afford to pay anything and don't qualify for credit programs
- 30% can pay something but need a payment plan over time

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Options Clients



One of the first patients at Options

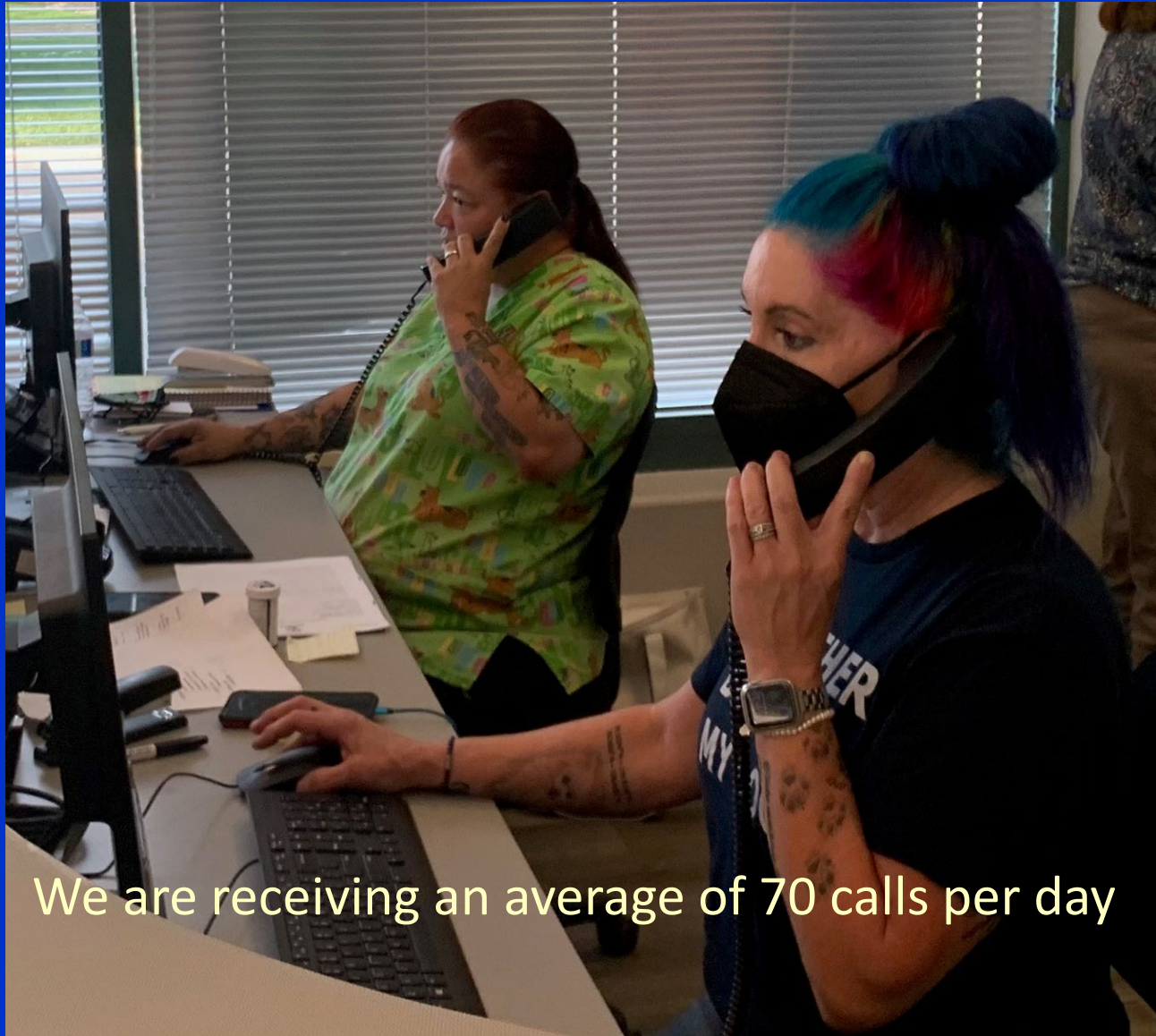
Where they live:

- Predominantly Washoe County
- Across Northern Nevada
- Susanville, Doyle, Chilcoot and Portola in California

Many, many clients express gratitude and relief after being able to get care for their beloved pet.

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Challenges



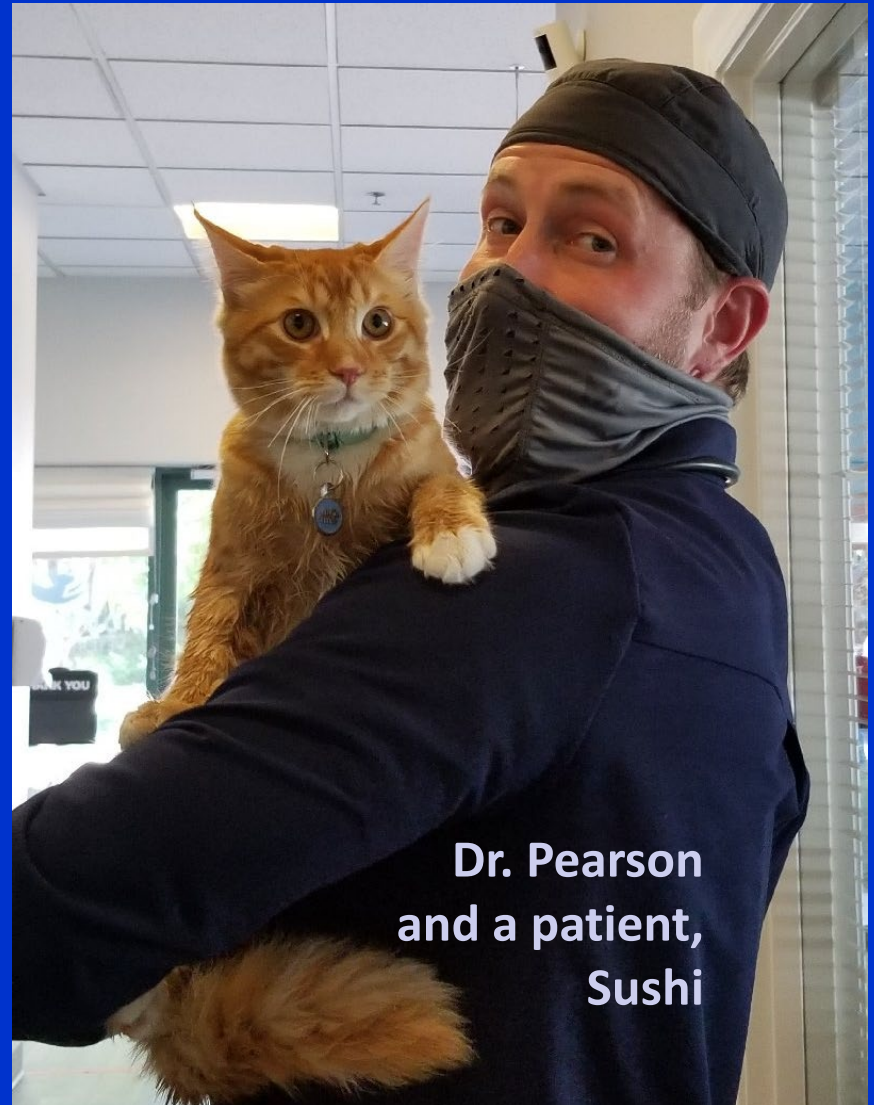
We are receiving an average of 70 calls per day

Options Veterinary Care

Care Provided

In the first year
Options has provided
care to over 7,000
animals.

Options now averages
670 patients each
month.



Dr. Pearson
and a patient,
Sushi

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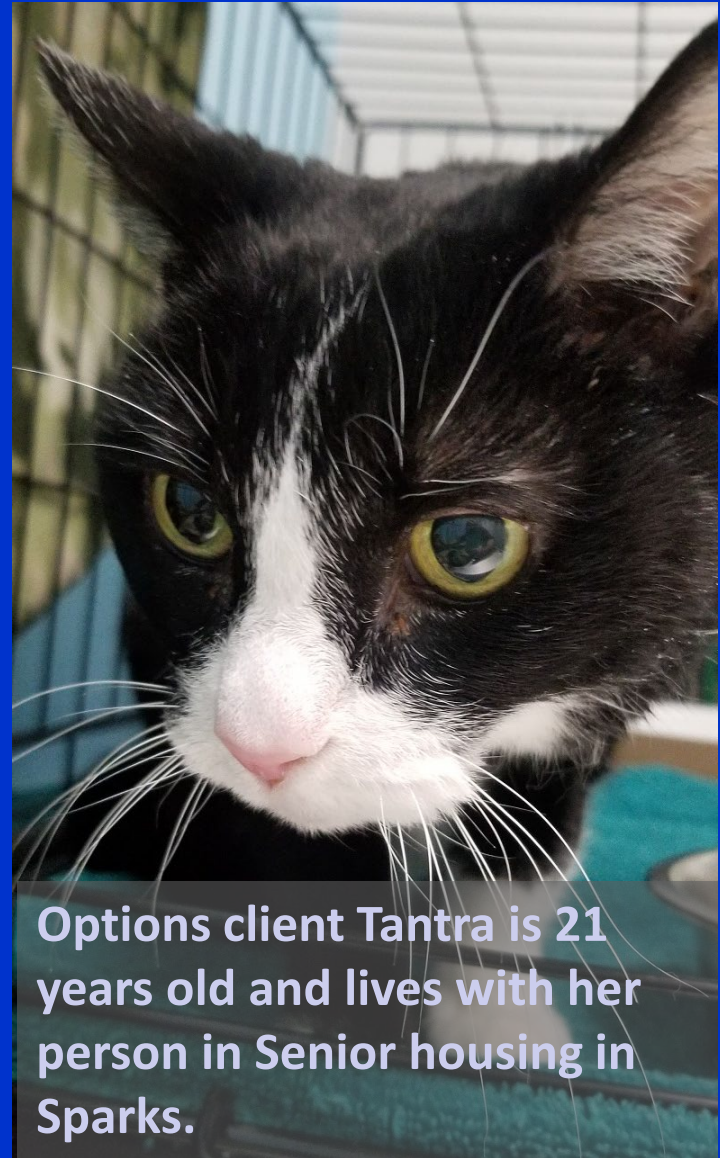


People and Pets Helped at Options

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Learn more about Options:

- Follow Options on Facebook
- Sign up for Options e-news on the Options website
- Sign up for Amazon Smile to support Humane Network/Options
- WCRAS Advisory Board members may request a behind-the-scenes tour of Options.



Options client Tantra is 21 years old and lives with her person in Senior housing in Sparks.

Options Veterinary Care



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facebook.com/optionsveterinarycare