

Client Stories

Lil Bear, an adorable 10 year-old Pomeranian, has lived with his mom, Pamela, since he was a puppy. Pamela, who is disabled, considers Lil Bear her everything, so when he stopped eating, she searched everywhere for help. She found it in Harley's Hope Foundation that not only provided financial assistance, but got her and Lil Bear to the veterinarian the very next day. Lil Bear went into the visit with one impacted tooth, but ended with a much more serious problem - dental disease. He had 18 teeth extracted, and while the experience was traumatic for him, Lil Bear feels much, much better! Dr. Kaufer at St. Francis Animal Hospital conducted the surgery and stated that Lil Bear added years back to his life by getting rid of the decayed teeth. Lil Bear also holds the distinction of being our final recipient for 2011 and the 51st animal to receive care during the past year.



Getting through life is a daily struggle for Dorothy, who survives on disability income. So when her 11 year old mixed-breed dog, Baby, developed a sore on her face, Dorothy didn't know how she was going to afford veterinary care. She was referred to Harley's Hope Foundation, and thanks to generous year-end donations, we were able to get Baby in to be seen at Northwest Animal Hospital. Turns out the sore on her muzzle was from a badly infected tooth - in fact Baby had several bad teeth that needed to come out. But, there was another problem to be addressed - a softball sized lipoma (fatty tumor) under her armpit that affected her ability to walk. Dr. Winn was able to perform both surgeries all in one visit, but Baby ended up spending several days in the hospital until she got her strength back. She didn't get to spend New Year's Day with Dorothy, but fortunately will be with her for many more new years to come.

Catherine is a vivacious 93 year old with a handsome man in her life - Sir Lancelot or Lance as she calls him. This big boy is 14 years old and Catherine's only companion as she has outlived all her human family members. Lance needed to have two teeth removed and the estimate was far more than Catherine could afford on her fixed income. Good friends of hers wrote to Harley's Hope to ask if we could help. Knowing that the holidays can be difficult for seniors living alone, let alone those dealing with a sick pet, we were more than happy to step in. Lance was seen by Dr. Hamann at Yorkshire Veterinary Clinic, who took blood to make sure the cat was healthy enough to undergo anesthesia. Turns out Lance has hyperthyroidism and it was the cause of his recent weight loss. Dr. Hamann placed Lance on a prescription diet to address the condition, and will redo the cat's blood work in January. If all goes well, Lance will have multiple teeth - four or more - removed at that time - and hopefully, share many more years with his Catherine.

