

kali's wish

CANCER FOUNDATION



2023-2024
ANNUAL REPORT

WWW.KALISWISH.ORG

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD CHAIR

This year, we supported over a hundred families across the country, but many from the Calgary area through our community outreach team.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we are honored to present to you the annual report of Kali's Wish Cancer Foundation for 2023-2024. This year has been a testament to the resilience of our community, the strength of the pets and families we serve, and the ongoing commitment to our mission of supporting pet families through the journey of pet cancer and end-of-life care.

As we reflect on the past year, we are deeply moved by the stories of courage, compassion, and love that we have witnessed from the families we've been able to support. Pet cancer is a heartbreaking experience, not just for the animals, but for the people who love them. We understand that pets are family, and that the bond between a pet and their human is irreplaceable. At Kali's Wish, we are committed to helping ease the emotional challenges that often accompanies a pet's cancer diagnosis and end-of-life care.

This year, we supported over a hundred families across the country, but many from the Calgary area through our community outreach team. Through your generous

donations, we have been able to ensure that families are not alone when they are faced with a sick pet and the difficult decisions that come with it. We've also worked closely with veterinarians and pet cancer specialists to spread the word that additional support from a community is available.

The support of our volunteers has been invaluable. Their dedication to our cause is inspiring, and it has allowed us to continue expanding our outreach efforts. Thanks to their hard work and the contributions of our partners, we've been able to raise awareness about pet cancer and reach more families in need. Our educational programs, both online and in-person, have also grown this year, helping pet families better understand what comes after a diagnosis and providing resources to navigate treatment options and end-of-life decisions.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we remain focused on expanding our reach, enhancing the services we offer, and continuing to raise awareness about the impact of pet cancer on families. We are committed to supporting every family that comes to us for help, and we will keep working tirelessly to ensure that no pet family faces this battle alone.

We would like to take a moment to express sincere gratitude to our donors, sponsors, volunteers, board members, and the incredible small but mighty team to make our mission a reality. Your unwavering dedication and compassion are the heart of Kali's Wish, and we could not do this work without you.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire Kali's Wish team, we thank you for your support. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of pets and their families, and we look forward to continuing this journey with all of you.

With deepest appreciation,



Laura Leah English
Board Chair



Kate Smitko
Executive Director



OUR STORY BEGAN WITH KALI

Laura Leah English's "heart dog", Kali, was a Golden Retriever that at just seven years old sadly lost her battle to a blood-borne type of cancer.

Forever cherished.



OUR MISSION & VISION



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Vision

No one faces pet cancer alone.

Mission

We are a network whose mission is to provide Guardians and their families with the resources and emotional supports needed to navigate pet cancer and end-of-life care.

OUR COMMITMENT IS SIMPLE: To support families through pet cancer and end-of-life care with their pet.



2023-2024 A YEAR OF "GRASSROOTS" IMPACT

SUPPORTING OUR SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Working with agencies across Calgary and area to support seniors with aging pets. The loss of a pet is often the devastating for a senior because it is the last pet they will likely have in their lifetime. We worked with partnering agencies to provide seminars on how navigate end-of-life care with a beloved pet.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES PROVIDED

“Kali Kares” Care Packages

If you are facing pet cancer, we want to help. Any pet guardian can request a free care package that is filled with items to give some love to your pet and relieve stress for the entire family.

Buddy Support

Peer support by connecting pet guardians with a “Buddy” – another guardian who has faced pet cancer or loss. We’re building a community of support who is here to help you!

Community Outreach & Education

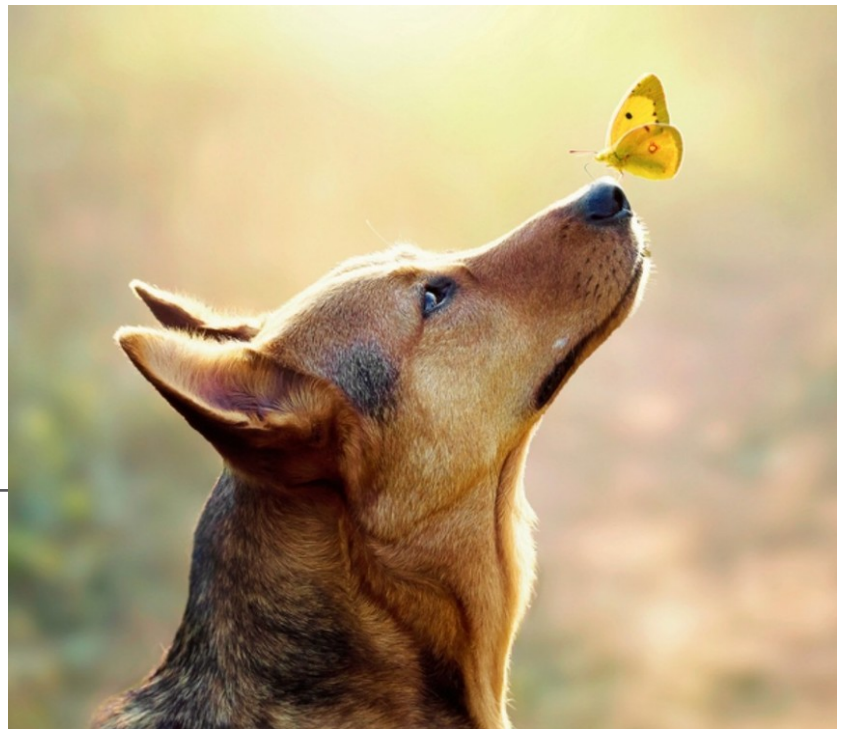
Outreach Manager, Holly Smith Pashniak at the

- Calgary Seniors Show
- Day of the Dog – Petapolooza
- Parkdale Petfest



KALI'S WISH BUTTERFLY RELEASE EVENT

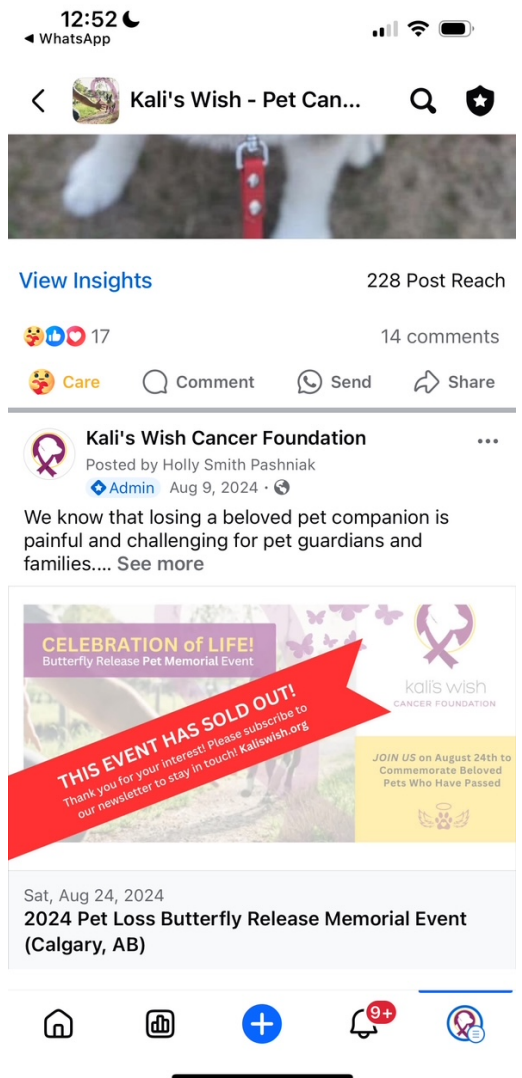
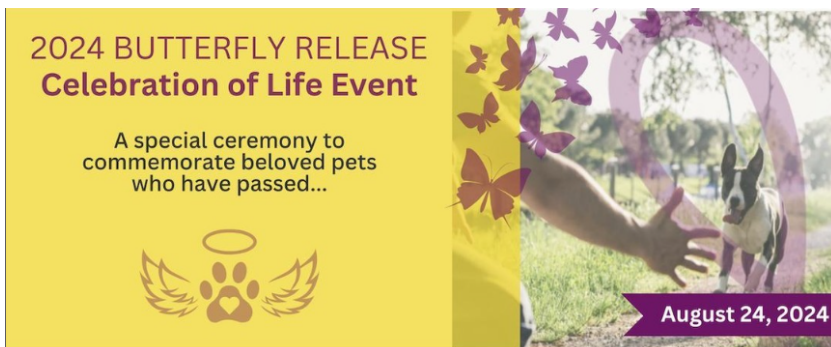
In August 2024, Kali's Wish Cancer Foundation held its second annual Butterfly Release event at North Glenmore Park



A beautiful and meaningful memorial gathering for families who have experienced the loss of a beloved pet. The sold-out event brought together over a dozen families, each with a unique story of love and loss, to honor their pets by releasing a butterfly in their memory.

The event provided a serene and supportive space for families to reflect, share their grief, and celebrate the lives of their pets. As each butterfly took flight, it symbolized the enduring connection between pets and their families, as well as the hope that one day, they will all meet again at the Rainbow Bridge.

This year's event was an overwhelming success, and we were touched by the outpouring of love and support from our community. We are incredibly grateful to the families who joined us, and we look forward to continuing this special tradition in the years to come, helping families through their healing journey after the loss of their cherished pets.



WHAT WE'RE HEARING FROM OUR GUARDIANS



Kali's Wish - Pet Cancer Support Group

Dave Evanoff · 3d · 🌐

Received our Care package today and Max is very excited! Thanks to everyone who makes these care packages possible - having a group that thinks about the stress and pain for families going through this, it's heartwarming.

Max is almost 3 and when we found a small lump on his left hind leg in November, we were heart broken to learn it was a high grade, mast cell tumor. Max is going for his 4th Chemo treatment later this week and is just such a happy and loving boy! He'll be bringing his new blanket with him on the road trips!!



David Cha

Jun 1, 2024 · 🌐

Thank you to Kali's Wish for Buddy's care package, he was very happy today. Also, thank you very much to all the people who gave advice on the post regarding his prostate cancer and incontinence, we've switched to reusable belly bands and it has been much easier to manage with less waste involved.



12:50 🌙



Kali's Wish - Pet Can...



Aug 25, 2024 · 🌐

We received our care package a few days ago however, we were waiting for the perfect, sunny day to give it to our sweet Nala. She was diagnosed with Histiocytic Sarcoma and we've been told we have 3-5 weeks left with her.

She has her good days and her not-so-good days. It seems like the sunny day aligned with a 'good' day and so, we set aside a nice spot outside to open her package.

I'd say, by the sheer delight on her face - and the fact her body was buzzing with excitement, she absolutely loves her gift!

Thank you so much Kali's Wish! You have not only brought Nala something to help her on her journey but, you have also brought comfort and support to us



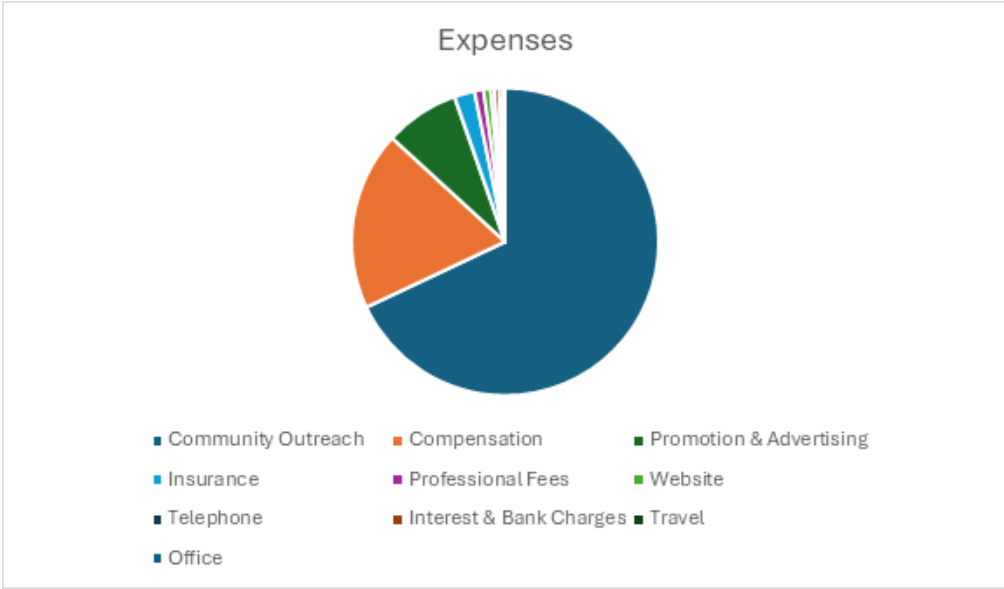
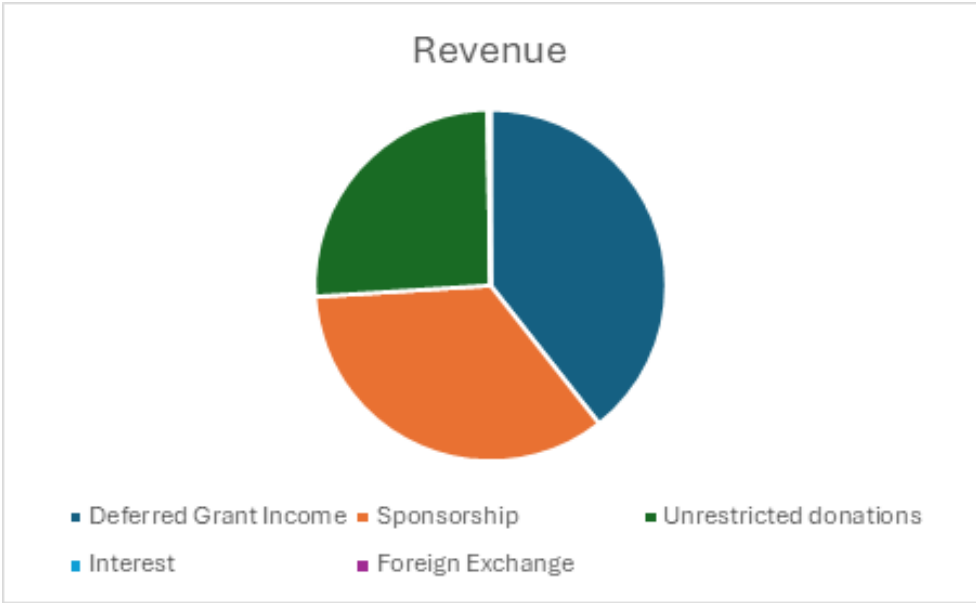
2023-2024 FINANCIALS

Year End

Revenue _____ \$59,783
 Expenses _____ \$105,091

Other Income

Deferred Grant Revenue _____ \$39,033
 Foreign Exchange _____ \$165
 (Loss or Gain)
 Interest _____ \$88
 Total Revenue over
 Expenditures _____ (\$6,022)



THANK YOU



OUR FUNDERS

THE CALGARY FOUNDATION

Supporting our Community Outreach Manager position through the Community Grants program. This position is moving forward our work in building sector partnerships in the non-profit community to better support the Calgary community through pet cancer and end-of-life care with their pets.

OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting our community outreach initiatives. Because of their sponsorship, we're able to be out at events and give seminars in local communities on how to work through pet cancer and the loss of a pet.

PLATINUM: Pet Planet

GOLD: Instinct

SILVER: Petcurean, Wellness,
Champion Pet Foods

BRONZE: Jay's Tasty
Adventures



LOOKING AHEAD



Our Next Steps

Our work will continue under these strategic pillars. We will continue to expand our services to more families; to enhance our educational resources, and to strengthen our fundraising efforts.

STRATEGIC PILLARS

Our work is intentional in achieving our goal.

Leverage Our Work

Drive our current programmatic initiatives further into the community to achieve more inbound clients

Extend Our Reach

Touch new communities

HOW YOU CAN HELP

To continue our community support, and run our free programs to families facing pet cancer and loss, we are always looking for:

- Donation opportunities
- Volunteers
- Corporate sponsorships and partnerships

We run all our programs off a small budget through fundraised dollars and community grants. A little goes a long way in keeping our operations going. Please email our Executive Director, Kate Smitko, with any interest: kate@kaliswish.org



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